

Rev'd Andrew Burrell MA, MSc - Standing for General Synod House of Clergy – Seeking to Represent the Diocese of Carlisle

Core Convictions

I hold two core convictions that shape my understanding of the Church and would guide my contribution if elected to General Synod. If elected to General Synod, I would seek to apply these convictions to shape how I listen, speak, discern and serve.

A broad and generous Church

I passionately believe in the breadth of the Church of England. I see that breadth as a strength, not a weakness: a sign to the world that the Church can hold together many ways of understanding, worshipping God, and living out God's love. For me, this reflects the spirit of 1 Corinthians 12, where Paul describes the many parts of the one body.

A life shaped by love

The second conviction is the call to love the Lord our God with every fibre of our being, and to love our neighbour as ourselves, following the model of Christ's love for us.



Key Priorities

- ◆ Working towards how the Church can respond to the world with love, reflecting the ultimate and foundational image of God present across humanity – demonstrating how we are called to journey together
- ◆ Supporting how the Church can function faithfully and sustainably in rural communities, especially where several communities are held together within one benefice
- ◆ In my role as a Priest I work to ensuring that the church better understands and supports the concept of cure of souls – from leading Occasional Offices to youth work and beyond
- ◆ To better understand how the church can respond to and influence the huge technological advances we face

Current Roles - In the Diocese of Carlisle

- Priest-in-Charge - Heart of Eden Benefice.
- Anglican Chaplain to Appleby Horse Fair.
- Serve on the Bishop's working group considering the future shape of the diocese in regard to the LGBTQ+ community.
- Member Diocesan Racial Justice Group
- Member of Inclusive Church
- Deanery & Diocesan Synod
- Director for Restore
- Treasurer to Cumbria Engaging Theology
- Treasurer for the Carlisle Chapter of Society of Catholic Priests

Unity, Diversity and Rural Ministry

Unity without uniformity

I am saddened when the Church affirms that each person is made uniquely in the image of God, yet then acts as though everyone must conform. Even to the extreme of pushing groups out of God's out of Church.



Unity is not the same as uniformity. Unity enables us to stand together while honouring our differences; uniformity demands that everyone think, speak and act alike. As the Church, we are called to challenge the world’s assumptions and dismantle the barriers people build around gender, neurodiversity and essentially what it means to be fully human. Always seeking the image of God within one another.

The witness of rural churches

Rural churches offer a distinctive model of what it means to live as the Church and to serve small communities faithfully. As both a priest and someone who grew up in the rural community where I now minister, I understand deeply the continuing importance of the Church in rural life. This role of the local church must always have at its heart the unity that God calls us to in the Church’s Mission

That calling requires us both to honour the traditions that give communities their shape and identity, and yet to encourage the transformation needed for the Church to remain faithful, to the Love of God.

Experience and Formation	Professional, Academic and Personal Background
My experience of the Church is broad from a rural Cumbrian Church to large London churches. Deeply Passionate about working ecumenically, as an Anglican and Roman Catholic with many demonisations. I am rooted in Word and Sacrament, both fundamental to my understanding of Church. My journey began in the Church of England at the age of ten, when I joined my local choir in Applby. Then, as a young person I served on a PCC, Deanery Synod, and represented the Church of England for an international pre-Lambeth youth conference. At twenty-five, I became a Roman Catholic driven by the spiritual and sacramental side of the Roman Catholic Church. I explored a vocation to priesthood, before recognising that this was not where God was calling me. Four years ago, I was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church.	Alongside ministry, I bring professional and academic experience from retail and international banking, with 21 years working internationally for a US corporation, mainly in data analytics. For 1 year I lived in France in a L’Arche community, which helped shape my understanding of Christian community, vulnerability and shared life. I hold an MA in Theology of Religion from Heythrop College, University of London, and an MSc in Digital Transformation from the University of Hull. Outside formal ministry, I enjoy walking with my dogs, swimming and cycling, and I value the grounding that comes from everyday life, friendship and community.

I want my Synod participation to focus on the Church as a journey: towards God’s kingdom, through change and challenge, and together in God’s loving presence in a world that urgently needs it.

Old Covenant

God making us in God’s image.
Gen1:26
God promising to offer the covenant to the world through his chosen people. Gen 22:17
God’s desire to bring light (understanding and kindness) to the world. Isaiah 42:16



New Covenant

Showing us how to love. 13:34-35.
That love is the core of who we are and how we act 1 John 4:16
That we are to go out into the world to take God’s love out to the world. Matt 28:19