

Election Address

The Reverend **Kenson Li** SCP
Assistant Curate – Manchester Cathedral
Born 1997; Deaconed 2025, Priested 2026

Proposed by: The Reverend Canon **Grace Thomas**
Chair, House of Clergy; Canon Missioner, Manchester Cathedral

Seconded by: The Reverend Canon **Daniel Burton** SCP
Acting Area Dean, Deanery of Oldham and Ashton; Rector, Oldham Parish Church



Dear colleagues in the diocese,

I have been part of this diocesan family for the past 11 years, ever since I moved to Manchester to study Music at University. As a lay person, an ordinand, a deacon and a priest, I have experienced first-hand and contributed to the diverse ministries the Diocese offers to a wide variety of people.

I am seeking re-election to the General Synod, having previously served in the House of Laity (2022-2025). At synod, I combined my clear convictions with proven record of turning them into constructive action, often working across profound disagreement.

Drawing on these experience, I put myself forward as a candidate who is committed to the flourishing of Manchester, as someone who has found a home here in the city and in the Church.

My experience and track record on General Synod

- I spoke at debates on the topics of **gender equality**, **LGBTQIA+ rights**, **racial justice**, and **youth involvement** in the Church
- In February 2025, I moved a motion to **strengthen the representation of younger voices** in Synod; I am still involved in this work currently.
- I have consistently voted for the **proper resourcing of residential ordination training and parish ministry**
- I have been said to be **a respected and measured voice in debates**, and a valued member who **facilitates dialogues across differences**
- At the dissolution of the last General Synod, **I was one of five members who were younger than 30**
- From 2024 until its dissolution, I was a **member of the Living in Love and Faith working group**. I contributed directly to the shaping of different proposals, in particular, **the abolition of the document *Issues in Human Sexuality***.

*You can watch my speeches by scanning the QR code
or visiting the link: <https://beacons.ai/kenson1997>*



What I continue to stand for

I am particularly passionate about inclusion in the Church of England because I believe the Church must above all be a **place of welcome for all**, and that radical Christian inclusion is the only way we can stay faithful to the Gospel we proclaim, therefore: I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of age, gender, disability, ethnicity, socio-economic status, mental health or sexuality.

If elected, I will work to ensure that the Church will:

- **Embrace people of all sexualities**; working towards **equal marriage**
- **Give our young people a voice** on all matters in the life of the Church
- **Encourage vocations** to lay or ordained ministry, especially in people from **GMH backgrounds**
- **Support the ministry of women** and call out all forms of misogyny which continues to fester in our Church
- **Value, prioritise and properly resource parish ministry**
- **Uphold the highest standards of Safeguarding**, and ensure the Church's safeguarding policies will **put survivors first**
- **Ensure the Church of England's structures are open, transparent and inclusive at all levels**, especially in appointment processes, and that people of different protected characteristics are well represented in all levels of governance and participation

More about me

- I am a trustee of **USPG**: as part of my role I scrutinise different mission projects across the world, assessing their financial sustainability, legality and feasibility. I am also their **designated trustee for safeguarding**.
- I am the Communications Officer for the **Society of Catholic Priests**.
- I am finishing a doctorate in philosophy, which is on the idea of forgiveness in the work of Emmanuel Levinas.
- I trained for ministry at Westcott House and The College of the Resurrection, Mirfield
- I am an organist; I am also a keen reader, traveller and concert goer

Thank you very much for reading my address. I would be very grateful if you would consider giving me your **First Preference Vote**.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at kenson1997@gmail.com if you would like to know more about me or to discuss my candidature. Thank you!