

Reverend Tristan Mitchell

Curate in the Chase Team, Malvern

Who Am I?

I'm a recently-ordained deacon, serving my curacy in a team of three churches in Malvern – All Saints Wyche and Wells, St Andrew's Poolbrook, and St Mary's Pickersleigh. I'm 47, married for 22 years to Jan and we have three daughters aged 11, 14 and 16. I spent the last twenty years working in the IT industry during which time I gained an MBA in Leadership and Management and, following a call to ordained ministry, I trained part-time at Trinity College, Bristol for a diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission.



I love watching films, whether at the cinema or at home, on my own or with friends and family. I also enjoy running and run as part of the Malvern Buzzards running club. I've competed in several half and full marathons and recently completed my longest ever race running 70 miles from Carlisle to Newcastle.

Why am I standing for election to General Synod?

I believe the Church of England is at an important moment. There are issues and debates which threaten to cause significant division within the church and the next Synod will shape how we move forward together. I'm standing because I care passionately about church unity. Jesus prayed that we, his disciples, would be brought to complete unity so that the world would know that he had been sent by the Father. Unity and mission are inextricably linked and my prayer is that we can be a united, hopeful presence in our communities and across our nation. I'm convinced that the priority for parish churches must remain outward-focused mission: serving our neighbours and speaking hope into communities in need of an encounter with Christ's love.

A particular passion of mine is engaging younger generations. As a father of three daughters, I want the church to be a place where young people can find faith that feels honest and authentic, a faith that enables them to flourish. That doesn't mean chasing cultural trends, but it does mean asking how we communicate the good news with clarity, finding authentic ways to invite them into faith, and creating a space where they feel welcome and can belong. Gen Z and Gen Alpha are not only the church of the future; they're the church of

today and we need to include them fully in the life of our church, allowing them to contribute to worship and mission as much as any other member of our congregations.

What experience do I bring?

Having spent two decades in business, with the last seven years as a Company Director, I have learned an enormous amount about how to listen carefully and to make decisions that serve people well. I'm a firm believer that when God calls people into ordained ministry, he is calling them with all of their previous experience for a reason. My prayer is that God will use the skills I developed in business for his glory. I believe those skills can support Synod's work.

What will I do if elected?

If elected, I hope to be able to listen carefully to others, representing our diocese to the wider church governance, seeking common ground where possible and working prayerfully towards unity. Whatever our differences, I want us to be a church that keeps pointing to Jesus, serving communities and inviting the generations to come to encounter Christ for themselves so that they too can grow as Kingdom People.