

Rev Simon Drew
Poplar Fell, Nantwich Road
Middlewich CW10 9HG

Tel: 01606 833440

simon.drew@middlewichparishchurch.org.uk



Personal Background:

I was born in 1968 and grew up in Devon. I am now married to Katy and we have three grown up daughters. Prior to ordination I trained and worked as a Chartered Civil Engineer. I worked for a local authority and my area of expertise was sewers and flood defence work!

I went to train for ministry in the Church of England at St John's College, Nottingham in 1996. I was ordained in 1999 and served my curacy Torquay (Exeter Diocese) before moving to a rural first incumbency at Marshfield (Nr Bath in Bristol Diocese) in 2003. We then moved to Middlewich in 2011, and I am currently the Rector of St Michael's Church Middlewich, and St John's Church Byley.

I regard myself as an independent open evangelical, committed to scripture, the church and compassionate mission within the community.

Ministry & Community:

Alongside the day to day ministry of an Anglican parish I have also taken on several other roles. In Bristol Diocese I was for many years the Diocesan Chaplain for the Mothers Union. I also worked as a local tutor for the Southern Theological Education & Training Scheme (based at Sarum College in Salisbury).

Here in Middlewich I have been a community governor at Middlewich High School. I am the chair of trustees for Middlewich & District Foodbank, and also the chair of the local Street Pastors group. I am also actively engaged in the strong ecumenical partnership we have with the other churches in our town.

Rural Dean & Diocese:

I have been the Rural Dean of Middlewich Deanery since 2012. I also joined Diocesan Synod in 2012 and I am currently a member of the following groups/committees:

- Bishop's Council
- Diocesan HR Committee
- Chester Cathedral Council
- Foxhill Management Group

Why General Synod?

I want to join General Synod to help maintain the integrity and unity of the Church of England, and to encourage a focus on local mission and ministry, through local churches. I want to contribute to developing an effective and supporting national structure to enable this.

General Synod is an important legislative body, giving oversight to the wider church. It is also a national forum which draws matters of social and Christian concern to the attention of the national Government and the media.

Some Issues We Face:

The Church of England faces many issues at this time which I believe the Synod must address:

- Declining attendance – How can we be an effective missional body while still being the established church?
- Financial stresses - How can we maintain our presence as a witness in every community across this nation?
- Vision & Strategy Initiative (being led by Archbishop of York) – What changes are really necessary both locally and nationally?
- Climate Change - Can the church meet the carbon neutral target of 2030 which the Synod has already set?

If elected I will seek to represent the views of all clergy within Chester Diocese. I will be available to provide feedback to, and hear the views, of clergy. So please let me represent you on General Synod and give me your preference vote.

Simon Drew (General Synod Elections - September 2021)