

JOSHUA ETHERIDGE

*Proposer – Mrs Sarah Holt, Nottingham South Deanery
Second – Mrs Diana Payne, Nottingham South Deanery*



ABOUT ME

My name is Joshua Etheridge; I am 18 and have always lived in Nottingham, attending St Nicholas' Church. Alongside my family, I have served in an array of roles, ranging from children's ministry to Audio Visual tech. In September this year, I will be starting University in London, where I will read Medicine.

Over the last five years, in both lower school and sixth form, I have led two school Christian Unions alongside peers. Over this time, I have been encouraged into other positions of responsibility by Church leaders, and attended National gatherings for young leaders in the Church. For over a year, I have been part of the team which runs a Christian website, called 'The Bridge', which provides blogs and teaching for Christian young people. My role is to write and coordinate written content, intended to challenge, inspire and grow young believers. Being involved in 24/7 prayer events has led me to appreciate the wonder of different backgrounds and denominations, all coming together to worship God. I have enjoyed and been challenged through my participation in evangelistic flash-mobs across various cities in the UK. It has been a privilege to be involved with the 'Nottingham Citizens' campaign, where I have made my voice heard by our local and national politicians, regarding social justice issues that face us in today's society. It has been hugely encouraging to see changes taking place for the better, thanks to the voice of myself and those lobbying alongside me.

WHY I AM STANDING

The national Church has always been of great interest to me, and I am excited to see the role that today's Church plays in our contemporary society. It would be a privilege for me to serve the wider church as a lay member of General Synod. I would approach the responsibility with enthusiasm, due to the importance of the role that Synod plays. A particular passion of mine is the input of the Church of England in primary and secondary education. During my time in schooling, I have seen the diminishment of the hours of religious education in the curriculum, as more time is allocated for other subjects. This is a worrying trend. I want to speak in national debates helping to address this issue, and would love to see a change in the decline we're seeing. This next Quinquennium is one that is hugely important and hugely exciting. I want to be a part of the decision making, that continues to guide the Church, particularly regarding key issues such as homosexuality and the Church – an area that I know is so relevant to so many, particularly a multitude of my young peers. As a young adult myself, I am passionate about representing my age group in Church leadership, in order to best make the views of the whole Church heard in discussions. To be a voice for young people will be a role of great responsibility, but is one that I would be excited and honoured to hold.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions, then I'd love to hear from you. Feel free to contact me
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