



St Albans Diocesan Synod

Saturday 14 March 2026

Putteridge Bury

President: The Bishop of Bedford
Acting Bishop of St Albans

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A meeting of the Diocesan Synod will be held at Putteridge Bury Conference Centre, Hitchin Road, Luton, LU2 8LE on Saturday, 14 March 2026. There is parking within the grounds, but members are encouraged to share cars where possible.

The Session will commence at 0930 and is expected to finish between 1230 and 1300. Coffee will be available from 0900 – please complete the online form [here](#) to confirm your attendance.

Members will be requested to sign an attendance sheet on arrival. Anyone wishing to attend who is not a member must contact Ruth Carl (on ruth.carl@stalbandsdiocese.org or 01727 818131) in advance so their name can be added to the list of attendees.

If you wish to move any amendment to the specified resolutions, at least 7 days' notice must be given. Any amendment must, therefore, reach the Secretary to the Synod at Holywell Lodge, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans on or before **Friday 6 March** and it will be circulated among members at the opening of the Synod. If such notice is not given, an amendment may then only be moved under the provisions of Standing Orders 21, 22 and 42 – 48. Standing Orders can be viewed [on our website](#).

David White
Diocesan Secretary
20 February 2026

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41 Holywell Hill
ST ALBANS
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Please refer to the **Diocesan Synod** webpage
[:stalbandsdiocese.org/about-us/governance/synods-boards-and-committees/diocesan-synod/](http://stalbandsdiocese.org/about-us/governance/synods-boards-and-committees/diocesan-synod/) for copies of Synod Agendas and accompanying paperwork, dates of future Synods and other information.

REVISED AGENDA

(Timings are indicative rather than fixed)

1. PRAYERS

To be led by The Revd Jane Bannister, Berkhamsted Deanery.

2. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS by the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford.

3. To confirm the MINUTES of the last meeting held on 11 October 2025 (enclosed).

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS & BUSINESS ITEMS

10:00

5. INSPIRATION FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Ven Dave Middlebrook, Archdeacon of Bedford, will introduce three short films.

6. VACANCY IN SEE UPDATE

With the Chair's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr David White - Diocesan Secretary - will give an update.

7. SESQUICENTENNIAL (150TH) ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIOCESE

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Very Revd Jo Kelly-Moore, Dean of St Albans Cathedral, will introduce this item.

8. LLF UPDATE

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford, will give an update.

10:35

9. QUESTIONS – SESSION 1

Questions should have been submitted by 27 February, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice. Questions received by that date are circulated as paper **DSQ/26/01**. Questions 1 – 7 will be considered during this item.

11:00 – 11:20 COFFEE

10. SINGLE FRIENDLY CHURCH

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Ven Janet Mackenzie, Archdeacon of Hertford, will introduce this item. A set of questions for consideration in parishes prior to a substantive item at the June meeting of Synod is attached as paper **DS/26/01**.

11. STRATEGIC MISSION AND MINISTRY INVESTMENT BOARD BID UPDATE

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Rt Revd Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford, will give an update. Paper **DS/26/02** is attached.

11:45

12. RELEASING THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD – DISCIPLESHIP AND VOCATIONS

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Rt Revd Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford, will introduce this item. Paper **DS/26/03** is attached.

The Rt Revd Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford, will then move:

“That this Synod affirms our collective commitment to cultivating a culture of discipleship and vocations among the whole people of God; supports the continued development of diverse and sustainable lay and ordained pathways; and encourages parishes and deaneries to participate actively in this shared endeavour.”

12:45

13. QUESTIONS – SESSION 2

Questions should have been submitted by 27 February, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice. Questions received by that date are circulated as paper **DSQ/26/01**. Questions 8 – 14 will be considered during this item.

Synod should finish no later than 1300

Dates for Synods in 2026

Saturday 14 March 2026

Saturday 13 June 2026 (online)

Saturday 17 October 2026

Venues to be confirmed