



St Albans Diocesan Synod

Saturday 13 June 2026

Online – via Zoom

President: The Bishop of Bedford
Acting Bishop of St Albans

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A meeting of the Diocesan Synod will be held via Zoom on Saturday 13 June 2026. The meeting link will be sent out directly to members of Synod on Wednesday 3 June.

The Session will commence at 0930 and is expected to finish at around 1300.

Please have available this Agenda and supporting papers during the meeting.

Members will be requested to sign in via the chat window when joining the meeting. Anyone wishing to attend who is not a member must contact Ruth Carl (on ruth.carl@stalbandsdiocese.org or 01727 818131) in advance in order to receive the meeting link.

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 5 June** 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
22 May 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/ for copies of Synod Agendas and accompanying paperwork, dates of future Synods and other information.

AGENDA

1. PRAYERS

To be led by Jill Hempleman, Cheshunt Deanery.

2. OPENING ADDRESS by the Very Revd Jo Kelly-Moore, Dean of St Albans

3. To confirm the MINUTES of the last meeting held on 14 March 2026 (enclosed).

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS & BUSINESS ITEMS

5. PROCLAMATION OF ACT OF SYNOD

With the Chair's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr David White, Diocesan Secretary will proclaim Amending Canon No. 44 as an Act of Synod. Paper **(DS/26/04)** is enclosed.

10:00

6. ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR 2025

With the Chair's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr Jez Hirst – Diocesan Safeguarding Officer and Mr Seb Smith, Chair, Diocesan Safeguarding Panel, will introduce the Annual Safeguarding Report for 2025. There will be an opportunity for members to ask questions. Paper **(DS/26/05)** is enclosed.

7. ANNUAL REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES FOR 2025

With the Chair's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr David White, Diocesan Secretary will introduce the Annual Reports for 2025. There will be an opportunity for members to ask questions.

The following Motion will then be moved from the Chair: "*That the Annual Reports of the Boards and Committees of the Diocese for 2025 be now received*". Paper **(DS/26/06)**

8. DBF ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2025

Dr Tim Coulson, Chair of the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance, will introduce the Report. There will be an opportunity for questions. Dr Coulson will then move, on behalf of the Board: *"That the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year 2025 be now received"*. Papers **(DS/26/07)** and **(DS/26/08)** are enclosed. The full accounts were approved by the Diocesan Board of Finance on Monday 18 May 2026.

9. QUESTIONS 1

Questions should have been submitted by 29 May, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice. Questions received by that date will be circulated as paper **DSQ/26/02**.

11:00 – 11:10 COFFEE BREAK

10. VISITING FROM THE CHURCH OF BANGLADESH

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Revd Rachel Wakefield will introduce and interview the Revd Suchitra Behera, Visiting Associate Minister in the Radlett Team.

11. CHURCH REVITALISATION AND PLANTING

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Archdeacon of St Albans will give a short presentation. Paper **DS/26/09** is attached.

11:45

12. SINGLE FRIENDLY CHURCH

On behalf of the Bishop's Council the Archdeacon of Hertford will introduce a presentation by Liz Dunbar of the Single Friendly Church Network. This will include an opportunity for all members to feedback on questions posed at the March Synod, followed by a presentation and an opportunity for discussion in break-out groups.

13. QUESTIONS 2 – if required

Questions should have been submitted by 29 May, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice. Questions received by that date will be circulated as paper DSQ/26/02.

Synod should finish no later than 1300

Dates for Synods in 2026 and 2027

Saturday 17 October 2026
King's House, Bedford

Saturday 13 March, 2027
Saturday 12 June, 2027
Saturday 16 October, 2027

(2027 venues to be confirmed)