

**General Synod Elections 2010**  
**Election Address for**  
**Mrs Margaret Tilley**

Proposed by:  
Christopher Gabriel  
Lay Chair of Sittingbourne Deanery  
& a fellow member of Archbishop's Council

Seconded by:  
Ann Carey  
Member of Sandwich Deanery Synod



Margaret speaking at York Synod in July 2010  
on Women in the Episcopate  
Courtesy of "The Church Times"

Parish Reader - St Andrew's, Deal  
Deanery Adviser for Ospringe Deanery  
Admitted as a Reader in June 1976

Current Diocesan Involvement  
Critical Incident Chaplain  
Sandwich Deanery Synod  
Diocesan Synod  
General Synod 2000 - 2010  
Archbishop's Council for the last sixteen years,  
serving as a panel member for election disputes

Editor of Canterbury Diocesan Intercessions

**Mrs Margaret Tilley**  
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Dear Elector

I look forward to being re-elected to serve for a third term as one of your lay representatives. One of my reasons for standing again is that many of you have urged me to do so.

The work of General Synod is stimulating and rewarding. The experience gained with time is helpful, in particular in preparing for sessions.

The insights gained at national level, help in the diocese when looking at the wider strategic picture, especially as we look for viable ways of providing Ministerial resources for the Diocese and encouraging the vocations of all our members.

Yours in Christ

*Margaret*

Previous Synodical experience  
Diocese of Rochester  
Board of Finance  
Board of Education  
Parish Education Committee  
Diocesan Synod  
Gillingham Deanery Synod  
Diocese of Canterbury  
Diocesan Pastoral Committee & Group  
Board of Education  
Chair of Stipends Review Group

National Chair of the College of Readers

Oblate of West Malling Abbey

Trustee and Treasurer of Pollard Trust,  
a Charity which exists to help clergy widows

In the wider Community  
Member of the National Assembly of Victim  
Support, representing the South East Region.

Treasurer for local Residents Association

The joy of the Church of England is that every home in England lies within one of our parishes and everyone abides within our care, regardless of their faith or lack of it. We exist not for those who call themselves Anglicans, but for all. We exist not just for those who are the committed members of our congregations, but for those who are outside. This is also a challenge that we are financing a national structure and caring for a large percentage of the nation's historic buildings. We need further help from the State in maintaining these historic gems.

Another of our joys is the breadth of the Church of England in terms of churchmanship and tradition, we want to be an inclusive church, open and available to all, but if we do not honour the differences that give us such a diverse appeal then the Church of England will be further impoverished in numbers and finances.

For instance, whilst wanting to proceed with the ordination of women to the episcopate, we cannot afford to do so at the loss to the Church of England family of traditional Catholics or conservative evangelicals. We must learn to live together in love; surely this is but a small reflection of the Love of God in Christ for His world.

We will be increasingly challenged by finances in the years to come. At all levels in the church we need to ensure that financial policies are such that the burden on our parishes is not too heavy. At the same time we do need to encourage our congregations to give realistically, within their means.

We need a church committed to mission and outreach. We exist not for ourselves but for those to whom we are called to serve. I want to move forward in faith to pass onto future generations a church that is rich in its traditions and values and proclaims the Christian faith.

My career started as a Computer Programmer for Blue Circle Cement. Following which I spent 26 years in Further Education, as a lecturer and manager, culminating as Head of School of Business Studies at Brighton College of Technology. I have held various examinerships and moderated Business Studies at home and abroad. I was a tutor for the Open University for 15 years.

For ten years I worked as an Adviser for the Bishop of London. I coordinated and moderated Reader Ministry across the diocese, as well as working with parishes in the Cities of London and Westminster.

#### **Publications**

Business Maths & Statistics

Published by Edward Arnold

Contribution to the Rochester Statement on Education

Regulations & Guidelines for Reader Ministry  
In the Diocese of London



Margaret speaking on Criminal Justice  
at the York Synod in July 2004  
Courtesy of "The Church Times"

You are welcome to contact me and I look forward to meeting you at one of the Hustings.

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Canterbury

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Maidstone

Margaret Tilley

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