

OXFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD

Saturday 7 March 2026 at 10.15am – 3:30pm including lunch

Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7HN

AGENDA

Please see the notes at the end of the agenda for further information about the meeting

| Item | Time | Item | Mins |
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| 1. | 10:15 | Welcome and Opening Worship | 20 |
| 2. | 10:35 | Notices Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 15 November 2025 (link to the minutes is in the covering email) Questions under SO70 A written response will be available if questions are received | 10 |
| 3. | 10:45 | General Synod report The Venerable Jonathan Chaffey, Archdeacon of Oxford will report back on the February 2026 General Synod sessions | 7 |
| 4. | 10:52 | Presidential address The Bishop of Oxford | 38 |
| | 11:30 | Coffee | 20 |
| 5. | 11:50 | Children and young people ODS 26.1 Presentation by Revd Canon Andrew Blyth, Director of Mission and Ministry and Simon Hill, Head of Children and Youth Ministry followed by a table discussion and questions to a panel. | 60 |
| 6. | 12:50 | Finance: year-end outturn Sir Hector Sants, Chair of the Board of Finance, will give a verbal update on the financial outturn for the year ended 31st December 2025 | 10 |
| | 13:00 | Lunch | 60 |

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| 7. | 14:00 | Vacancy-in-See Committee update Revd Canon Geoff Bayliss, Chair of the Vacancy-in-See Committee, will give a verbal update and respond to any questions on the process to date | 15 |
| 8. | 14:15 | Discipleship and evangelism ODS 26.2 Short presentation by Revd Canon Andrew Blyth, Director of Mission and Ministry with an invitation to reflect on the on-going work of 'Everyday Disciples' through table discussion and plenary | 45 |
| 9. | 15:00 | Address by Vice-Presidents in appreciation of Bishop Steven and response (Bishop Steven) | 25 |
| 10. | 15:25 | Blessing (Bishop Steven) | 5 |
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NOTES:

1. **Please reply to the link in the email sent to all Synod members on 13 February** to indicate whether or not you will be able to attend the meeting and any dietary requirements. If you have not received this email please contact the Clerk of the Synod: synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org. We may not be able to accommodate any dietary requirements received after 25 February.
2. **Joining Instructions**

The Synod will be held in person at Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7HN on Saturday 7 March 2026.

Please arrive from 9.30am for a 10.15 start. The Synod will finish at 3:30pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Travel to Didcot Civic Hall
 - In line with Diocesan environmental principles, attendees are requested to please consider all available options for travel:

By public transport

 - Didcot Civic Hall is located a short walk from Didcot Parkway station, with regular train services from Oxford and Reading.
 - Buses serve Didcot from locations including Abingdon, Newbury, Oxford and Wantage. Further information is available via [this link](#). Most bus fares are capped at £3 per journey.

By car

 - Car parking is available at the Civic Hall.

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| 3. | <p><u>Meeting Procedures</u></p> <p>The attention of members is drawn to the fact that under the Synod's Standing Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the period of notice for new business has expired, save for urgent or other especially important business included by direction of the President. b) notice of motions arising out of the business on the agenda and of amendments to motions must be received by the Secretary of the Synod (the Diocesan Secretary) by Friday 27 February 2026. c) notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod by Friday 27 February 2026. <p>Email: diosec@oxford.anglican.org copied to synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org. Please ensure any amendments raised or questions have been acknowledged as received safely.</p> |
| 4. | <p>Being mindful that this is a formal gathering of the Synod and Standing Orders apply, when wishing to speak, members are asked to raise their hand. Please give your name and number if known, or Deanery or relevant position. The Chair will invite members to speak in order and determine length of speech.</p> <p>Only Synod members are permitted to speak except by permission of the Chair. Members are asked to keep contributions brief to maximise the number of people who can speak.</p> |