

OXFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD

Saturday 14 November 2026

The meeting will be held on Zoom from 9.15am to 1.00pm

AGENDA

Item	Time	Item	Mins
1.	09:15	Welcome (Bishop Gavin) Opening Worship (incorporating new Dwelling in the Word Romans 8)	20
2.	09:35	Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 13 June 2026 (previously circulated) Notices Proclamation of Act of General Synod: Vacancy in See Committees Regulation Questions under SO70 A written response will be available if questions are received.	10
3.	09:45	Presidential address <i>Verbal</i> The Rt. Revd. Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester and Acting Bishop of Oxford	20
4.	10:05	Hope and Love in action Paper ODS 26.11 Dr Krish Kandiah will introduce the conversation on Christian Nationalism and the challenges presented. There will be opportunity for discussion in breakout rooms on the Hope and Love resource document produced by the Discipleship Team, facilitated by Revd. Kate Stacey (Head of Discipleship) and Hannah Ling (Social Justice Adviser)	45
5.	10:50	Coffee Break	15
6.	11:05	2027 Budget – For approval Paper ODS 26.12 <i>The Chair of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance, Sir Hector Sants to move:</i>	25

		<i>“That this Synod:</i> <i>1. Approves and adopts the 2027 budget as set out below and in the accompanying papers;</i> <i>2. Notes the 2027-31 projections;</i> <i>3. Authorises the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend in 2027, sums not exceeding the following net amounts:</i> <table><tr><th></th><th>AMOUNT (£000s)</th><th>Note</th></tr><tr><td><u>Net Revenue Costs</u></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Resourcing Ministry & Mission</td><td>16,823</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Support for Parish Ministry</td><td>1,164</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Grants</td><td>488</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Support Costs</td><td>2,261</td><td>b</td></tr><tr><td>Transfers to Unrestricted Reserves</td><td>0</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Transfer from Tapered Relief Designated Fund</td><td>-696</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Total Net Revenue Costs</td><td>20,040</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><u>Funded by</u></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Net Parish Share</td><td>20,040</td><td>a</td></tr></table> a) <i>Requests that such expenditure be financed in part by deanery share apportionments for 2027 based on the figure of £20,040K being net of allowances for rebates, vacancy provision and under-collection.</i> b) <i>Support costs previously allocated but now reported separately.”</i>		AMOUNT (£000s)	Note	<u>Net Revenue Costs</u>			Resourcing Ministry & Mission	16,823		Support for Parish Ministry	1,164		Grants	488		Support Costs	2,261	b	Transfers to Unrestricted Reserves	0		Transfer from Tapered Relief Designated Fund	-696		Total Net Revenue Costs	20,040		<u>Funded by</u>			Net Parish Share	20,040	a	
	AMOUNT (£000s)	Note																																		
<u>Net Revenue Costs</u>																																				
Resourcing Ministry & Mission	16,823																																			
Support for Parish Ministry	1,164																																			
Grants	488																																			
Support Costs	2,261	b																																		
Transfers to Unrestricted Reserves	0																																			
Transfer from Tapered Relief Designated Fund	-696																																			
Total Net Revenue Costs	20,040																																			
<u>Funded by</u>																																				
Net Parish Share	20,040	a																																		
7.	11:30	Environment annual update Paper ODS 26.13 The Bishop of Reading, Sophie Orme (Director of Property) and Hannah Mann (Environment Project Manager) to give an update on the Diocese’s environmental work. This will be followed by an opportunity for questions. The Chair to move <i>‘That this Synod notes the update as set out in ODS 26.13’</i>	20																																	
8.	11:50	Developing pathways for Parish-based ministers Paper ODS 26.14 The Revd. Canon Andrew Blyth (Director of Mission and Ministry) and Revd. Dr. Andy Angel (Director of Formation of Ministry) will introduce the item on current and new pathways for parish-based ministry. There will be opportunity for group work and plenary.	40																																	

9.	12:30	Elected Representation from Deaneries on Diocesan Synod 2027 Paper ODS 26.15 Mr John Sykes, Chair of the House of Laity, to move: <i>'That this Synod:</i> <i>(i) adopts the scheme of representation for the House of Clergy as proposed in this paper (ODS 26.15) and for the House of Laity using 2026 electoral roll data (or where not available, the latest available) and;</i> <i>(ii) agrees that the 2027 elections should be conducted by the first past-the-post system rather than by single transferable vote.'</i>	10
10.	12:40	General Synod report The Venerable Jonathan Chaffey, Archdeacon of Oxford will offer a reflection on the July Group of Sessions	10
11.	12:50	Reflection Closing Blessing (Bishop Gavin)	10

NOTES:

1.	Any apologies for absence should be made in advance of the meeting to the Diocesan Secretary via the Clerk of the Synod, Nell Macaulay. Email: synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org
2.	HOW TO JOIN Diocese of Oxford is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. On arrival, please wait to be admitted. The link will be sent by email to all Synod members.
3.	On arrival, members will be asked to wait to be admitted from the waiting room.
4.	The attention of members is drawn to the fact that under the Synod's Standing Orders: 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 6 November 2026. c) notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod by Friday 6 November 2026. Email: diosec@oxford.anglican.org copied to synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org . Please ensure any amendments raised or questions have been acknowledged as received safely.
5.	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 using the 'raise hand'

	function button found in the 'reactions' on the bottom bar. 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. During the meeting the 'chat' function will not be available to communicate with 'everyone' during debate. All questions and comments should be directed through the Chair for the relevant items using the 'raise hand' function as above. Only Synod members are permitted to speak except by permission of the Chair. Members will be kept on mute except when invited to speak and are asked to keep contributions brief to maximise the number of people who can speak.
6.	The 2027 dates for Oxford Diocesan Synod meetings are as follows: • 20 March (In person - Oxford Academy) • 12 June (Zoom) • 13 November (Zoom)