

Martin Sewell

*Whether you place me first or last
Please Vote!*

“Martin has been one of the most active Synod members, regularly asking questions and holding people to account. His legal background and experience gives him knowledge and experience across the widest range of issues. He has, above all, been a constant voice for good practice and improvement, and a tireless advocate for victims and survivors of abuse. Synod needs active, principled members who contribute”.

“Graham” John Smyth survivor.

Gilo Editor “ Letters to a Broken Church”

Dean Martyn Percy

“And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy And walk humbly with your God”



You should probably not be voting for a white male of three score year and ten to represent the Rochester Diocese for the next five years, unless there is very strong reason to do so. I nevertheless ask you to entrust me with one final term of office

When you previously elected me, I was advocating Transparency, and Accountability of the rulers of the Church: I referenced that I had a professional background in Safeguarding, having practiced as a North Kent Child Protection and Family Law Solicitor for 35 years.

Exercising that expertise has defined my time at Synod. I ask the awkward questions.

After I began advocating fair process, I quickly began receiving pleas for support from victims of abuse and our dreadfully incompetent responses to it. I earned their trust and gradually developed a network of contacts across Synod “from the Queer to the Con-Evo” - all working in fellowship for justice and mercy. I am proud of this small group of colleagues ,we do not talk

Other contributions and priorities

- Supporting the Rochester initiative on Anna Chaplaincy
- Early advocacy for resourcing Online Church /Digital outreach
- Advocating for Rochester Cathedral on governance reform
- Inclusive Church regardless of disability, race, age, gender or sexual orientation
- Living in Love and Faith must be focussed on accommodating sincere difference whilst respecting individual conscience and integrity.
- The Church is stronger for being Catholic, Evangelical, Charismatic, and Liberal.
- Intelligent environmental concern, recognising the importance of energy and technology for lifting the living standards of the world's poorest.
- Prioritising outreach to children, young people, families speaking their language.
- Churches must say what they mean and mean what they say.
- Estate Church support

about "Living in Love and Faith" - we get on and do it!

I became the link person between GS members, survivors, clergy in need of CDM support, journalists, lawyers and bloggers. I share information regularly with colleagues and co-ordinate pertinent questions. Some of my GS allies are retiring. Newcomers will need the continuity and historic memory which I am uniquely placed to give so this work can continue.

I drafted the letter to the Charity Commission reporting bad practices; this led to CDM reform. I was a lead advocate for the new Victim Redress scheme giving immediate help to victims and revisiting historically low settlements.

I live and worked in in Gravesend, before retirement. I have been a Reader since 1988,. I have been married to Christine for 48 years; we have two sons, four grandchildren, and three step



grandchildren - not forgetting two Spanish Water dogs, Coco and Mickey Mouse 'the little dogs under the table' who remind me to be persistent.

I love heartland America and rural France where we have restored a farmhouse over 30 years.

I am learning to play Gypsy Jazz guitar.