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## WHAT IS THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL?

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### **Why have one?**

It is your parish church's register of electors; it is the list of those qualified to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where the elections take place for

- (a) the Parochial Church Council
- (b) the parish's representatives on the Deanery Synod.

Any person entitled to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting may raise any question of parochial or general church interest.

### **What difference does it make?**

By enrolling you become a voting member of the Church of England and so help to ensure all the synodical councils of the church – the Parochial Church Council, the Deanery Synod, the Diocesan Synod and the General Synod – are fully representative of its members.

Synodical government gives an opportunity for partnership between bishops, clergy and laity in the life of the Church:

Firstly, the system is intended to enable church people at every level to be in touch with the Church as a whole and to play their part in decision-making.

Secondly, the system is intended to ensure that the laity have their place in every aspect of church life, including its doctrine and services.

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## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHURCH MEMBER?

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Within the body of Christ, Christians in general accept:

- ✚ A commitment to belonging in love, unity and forgiveness to all other Christians, beginning with the members of their own local congregation;
- ✚ A commitment to regular, corporate renewing worship;
- ✚ A commitment to learning the Christian faith so that there is deepening confidence in what they believe and why;
- ✚ A commitment to putting the Christian faith into action both in general and in the particular circumstances of their own life and work;
- ✚ A commitment to service within the Church and in the wider community;
- ✚ A commitment to growth in holiness.

# APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OF THE PARISH OF SAINT BARNABAS, LENTON ABBEY

Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

I declare that

1. I am baptised and am aged 16 or over, (or, become 16\* on \_\_\_\_\_)

2. a. I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am resident in the parish.

OR

b. I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

OR

c. I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish.

Signed

Date

\* Those who become 16 during the next 12 months may complete the form, and become eligible to be entered on the roll on their sixteenth birthday.

\*\* Tick one only of boxes 2a b or c

### NOTES

1 The only Churches at present in communion with the Church of England are other Anglican Churches and certain foreign Churches.

2 Membership of the electoral roll is also open to members in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, where those members are also prepared to declare themselves to be members of the Church of England.

3 Every six years a new roll is prepared and those on the previous roll are informed so they can re-apply. If you are not resident in the parish but were on the previous roll as an habitual worshipper, and have been prevented by sickness or absence or other essential reason from worshipping for the past six months, you may write would before 'have habitually attended' on the form and add 'but was prevented from doing so because...' and then state the reason.

4 If you have any problems over this form, please approach clergy or lay people responsible for the parish, who will be pleased to help you.

5 In this form 'parish' means ecclesiastical parish.