

# APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL of the Parish of St Thomas, Lancaster

Surname			
First Name			
Address			
District			
Town		Post Code	
telephone	If you wish to remain ex-directory, write "ex".		

**DECLARATION** (Please tick the box. See notes overleaf)

I declare that I am baptised and am aged 16 or over or become 16\* on .....

I declare one of the following (a) or (b) or (c) (tick *one* box only).

(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 .....

Electoral Roll members are on our address list which is used by St Thomas's personnel. Please do not give us your telephone number if you wish to remain ex-directory. IF YOU ARE A STUDENT:- Please enter in the box the year you expect to graduate.

## NOTES

\*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.

- 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 that they can re-apply. If you are not resident in the parish but were on the 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 the clergy or lay people responsible for the parish, who will be pleased to help you.
- 5 In this form 'parish' means ecclesiastical parish.

### **What is the Church Electoral Roll?**

It is your parish church's register of electors; it is the list of those qualified to attend and to 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.

Renewal of the electoral roll takes place in 2002 and every 6 years thereafter. In a year of renewal no names are carried over from the old roll and everyone must make a new application to be included on the new roll.

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

By enrolling you become a voting member of the Church of England and so help to ensure that all the synodical councils of the Church - the parochial church council, the deanery synod, and the General Synod - are fully representative of its members.

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

First, the system is intended to enable church people at every level to be in touch with the Church as 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.