

Meet Michael Dormandy...

I am...

- ⇒ a priest with PTO at Christ Church, Vienna
- ⇒ a professional academic theologian
- ⇒ 41 years old
- ⇒ resident in Innsbruck, west Austria
- ⇒ a dual national Anglo-Hungarian
- ⇒ keen for you to watch this video I made: [hGps://youtu.be/SDiHhghsx98](https://youtu.be/SDiHhghsx98)
- ⇒ a husband, son, brother and friend
- ⇒ a lover of cake, coffee and all books or films involving spies
- ⇒ a beloved child of God



Me dressed for church

I bring...

◇ **Theological Expertise**

I have a PhD in Theology from Cambridge, working on the earliest Greek manuscripts containing the whole Bible. I was for several years Lecturer in New Testament, at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, during which time I was also an Associate Member of the Oxford University Theology Faculty. Since then, I have been Senior Scientist at the University of Innsbruck, working mostly on theology in the first five hundred years of church history. I love learning and teaching more about the wonderful Christian faith we share and want to thoughtfully and critically follow our ancient heritage. I have used my academic work to argue against antisemitism and deconstruct racist readings of the Bible.

◇ **Diversity of Tradition**

I went through discernment in an evangelical parish, but after training taught at one of the leading liberal catholic theological colleges, Ripon College, Cuddesdon. At Cuddesdon, I gained the respect of ordinands ranging from traditional anglo-catholics, to liberal catholics and conservative evangelicals. The beauty of us living, learning and growing together was formative for me and I want to grow this approach both at synod and through synod in the wider church, however we formally resolve our differences.

◇ **Diversity of Ministry**

As a priest I have served in a benefice of five semi-rural villages in south Oxfordshire and in a large church in a culturally vibrant European capital. On synod, I want to build bridges between traditional Anglican parish ministry and our unique diocese. Family circumstances have taken me to Innsbruck, where there is as yet no Anglican congregation, so I am, at least for now, teaching in a Roman Catholic faculty and developing ecumenical links by worshipping regularly outside the C of E.



Me at work

◆ **Diversity of Life**

I have lived in urban and rural areas, in the UK and Austria and also spent significant time in Germany. I speak German to a professional level and have the basics of French. Outside the church and academia, I have worked as a secondary school teacher, an English-as-foreign-language teacher and for a marketing consultancy firm. My diverse experience shows me the variety of people the church needs to reach and how distant many feel from the church.

I will speak up for...

◆ **Action for Youth**

Prior to ordination I worked as a lay assistant involved in youth work. My job as a university lecturer brings me daily into contact with twenty-somethings. It is clear to me that young people don't want empty, pious clichés, nor do they want a church that simply repeats the slogans of a political party (whether right or left). They want to know the love of God revealed in Jesus and set forth in the Gospel. I will do all I can to help the church keep that central and so win the next generation.

◆ **Action for Learning**

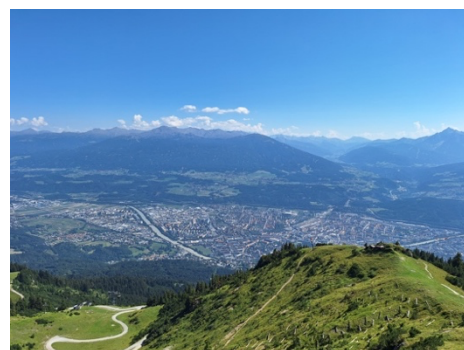
I believe deepening our faith enriches our pastoral care and mission. I will maximise opportunities for everyone to broaden their theological and spiritual understanding. I believe our Diocese's Ministry Experience Scheme and Lay Learning Course are models of excellence for the wider C of E and I will encourage relevant aspects of them to be implemented more broadly. I have taught ordinands in both full-time, residential and part-time training pathways and believe both can positively shape a vocation for a life-time. I shall push for both to be available to those who need them.

◆ **Action for Europe**

Sometimes in our Diocese, it feels like structures designed for an area you can drive across in a couple of hours are imposed on a continent! I will speak up on synod, so people know our Diocese is different.

◆ **Action for Self-Supporting Clergy**

I was ordained on an entirely self-supporting basis at an early and vulnerable stage in my career outside the church. With increasing pressures on stipendiary clergy, I believe SSMs can play a vital role. I will call the church to support SSMs, so SSMs can support the church.



Where I live

◆ **Action on Safeguarding**

I have known personally a number of people named in the Makin report and know the shock and pain when people you respected turn out to have abused or enabled abuse. I cannot even imagine what it must be like for survivors themselves. I will do all I can to promote a church where everyone can be safe, because no-one is above questioning. I know we still have a long way to go!

◆ **Action for Neurodiversity**

I am dyspraxic. The support I received as a dyspraxic ordinand impacted my studies significantly and made all my academic achievements possible. I will do all I can to allow God's neuro-diverse children to thrive in our churches.

◆ **Action for Inclusion**

We are still too far from being a church where anyone can come, receive the love of God in Jesus and learn what it means to follow him. My academic work includes articles challenging Christian antisemitism and undermining racist readings of Scripture. I will do all I can to help us become a church that welcomes everyone.

Do contact me on michael.dormandy@gmail.com with any questions.

If you connect with my priorities, please do give your first preference to me, Michael Dormandy!