

## Join a nomination group

The groups participating in the church election are called nomination groups. They roughly correspond to parties in the general elections. You can join a nomination group that is already active or create a new nomination group together with people who wish to work with the same issues as you do.

Get in touch with your diocese to find out which nomination groups are represented in the Parish Assembly where you live. Your diocese can also assist if you instead want to get involved at diocesan level or in the General Synod.

If you want to stand in a nomination group, contact them directly. They will be able to tell you more about how to stand in the election with them. A nomination group must register its candidates no later than 15 April 2025.

## Form a new nomination group

Forming a new nomination group requires a number of supporters who are willing to back your registration. You will also need candidates who wish to stand for, and are eligible for, election. The supporters must be entitled to vote in the election that the registration application concerns. You need the following numbers of supporters to be able to form a new nomination group:

- local elections – at least 10 supporters
- the Diocesan Council – at least 100 supporters
- the General Synod – at least 300 supporters

Apply to form a nomination group by registering your group name, supporters and representatives by 15 March for groups planning to stand for election to the General Synod, and by 15 April 2025 for groups planning to stand in other elections.



### More information:

Find out more about how to stand as a candidate in the church election at [svenskakyrkan.se/kyrkoval/stall-upp](https://svenskakyrkan.se/kyrkoval/stall-upp) (in Swedish).

# You can *influence* your church!

## Stand in the 2025 church election

## Stand in the church election

Do you want to help make a difference? If so, the role of elected representative in the Church of Sweden may be right for you!

The election in the Church of Sweden will be held on Sunday 21 September 2025. Last time, in 2021, around 27,000 people stood as candidates and 23,000 were elected to at least one post. This information explains how to stand in the 2025 church election.

The church elections are important, because the Church of Sweden is a democratic church that is open to everyone. The Church of Sweden depends on people's involvement, and the church elections offer an opportunity for you and others to have your say.

## How the Church of Sweden is run

In the church election, you elect people at three levels:

### Local – election to the Parish Assembly

The Parish Assembly determines the framework for the activities in your local area.

For example, which activities the parish will have for children, young people and senior parishioners, or what music activities will be organised.

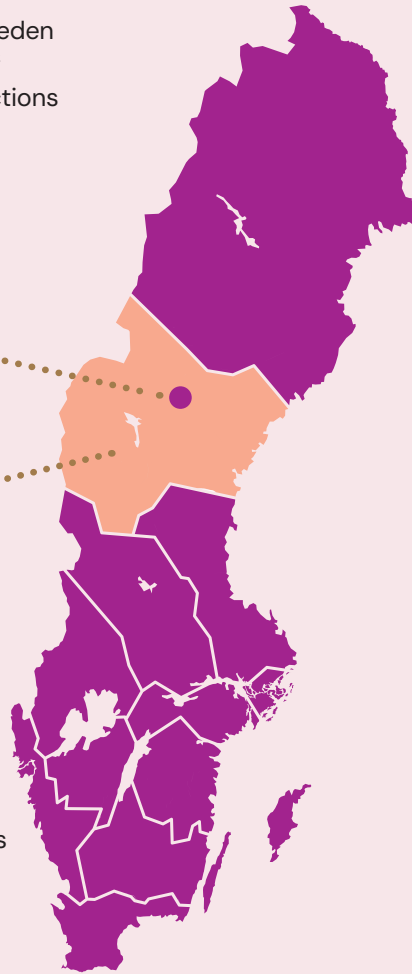
### Regional – election to the Diocesan Council

The Church of Sweden is divided into 13 dioceses. The Diocesan Council is the highest decision-making body in a diocese. The main task of the diocese is to support the parishes in their activities and management. For example, if a church is to be renovated, the diocese may be able to offer property-related expertise.

### National – election to the General Synod

The General Synod is the Church of Sweden's highest decision-making body. The General Synod's 251 members make decisions on the joint and overarching matters of the church, including everything from how the Church should work on climate issues to which hymns to include in the hymnal.

The Church of Sweden is made up of 1,288 parishes, 13 dioceses and roughly 5.5 million members.



## Criteria to become a candidate

If you want to stand as a candidate in the church election, you must:

- be a member of the Church of Sweden
- have been baptised in the Church of Sweden or another Christian faith community, or have previously been an elected representative in the Church of Sweden
- be at least 18 years old on polling day
- be registered in the church register in the area for which the election is being held.

## If you are elected

As an elected representative in the Church of Sweden, you take part in deciding what the Church should do in the next four years. This above all concerns three areas:

- What the Church should do – its strategic direction.
- What costs are permitted – the budget and allocation of resources.
- Following up and evaluating the basic task of the parish: holding services of worship, teaching and informing people about the Christian faith, as well as meeting and helping vulnerable people.

If you are elected, you will keep your post for the full term of office, which is four years. This is the period until the next election. And even if you are not elected on election day, you might be appointed as a member or deputy at a later date, for example, to replace someone who has moved.

