

# Archdeacon of Canterbury

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Outline Role  
Profile 2021



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## A word from our Bishop



I became the Bishop of Dover in late 2019 - just a few months before the Covid-19 pandemic completely changed our world, our nation and our lives.

The past two years have seen an extraordinary shift in the ways in which we work, socialise, worship and share together in mission. As a diocesan family, in

the midst of all the harsh realities of the pandemic, we discovered a 'Kairos moment', an amazing opportunity for us as God's Church to listen to God, and to one another, more clearly. We have seen this time as an opportunity for us to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit into a place of renewal and growth.

In my time as part of this wonderful family, I have witnessed the passion that our people have for evangelism and discipleship, for breaking down the boundaries between lay and ordained, for equipping all God's people to step into their vocation. I have seen the desire for us to engage more openly and intentionally with this amazing generation of children and young people, to find new and better ways to reflect the generosity of God in our own living and serving and giving. I have seen our longing to change not only lives

but our world as we strive for justice and peace and as we seek to better care for creation. I have also seen the sacrificial willingness to ask and answer the hard questions that are facing us – and it is perhaps this courage that I am most thankful for.

Our churches are undoubtedly rising to these challenges with creativity. And our amazing archdeacons are playing a key role in helping us to hear and understand more clearly the voices of our parishes, enabling our life as a diocesan family to begin to be reshaped by local learning, mission and priorities. Together we are embarking on a journey to create the kind

of culture that will enable us to build a flourishing and sustainable future. This journey will be marked by our openness to one another and to the Spirit - and by our trust in the God who is bigger than pandemics, who is stronger than financial constraints, and who has plans for us that are greater than we could possibly imagine or hope for. Are you the Archdeacon we need for a time such as this?



+ Rose

*The Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin*  
**Bishop of Dover**

# A message from Dean Robert

The Archdeacon of Canterbury is a hugely significant role, responsible for the Deaneries of Canterbury, Thanet, Reculver, East Bridge and West Bridge, supporting the clergy and communities in their care of God's people.

The Archdeacon is also a Residentiary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral - someone who plays a vital part in the daily life and ministry of this special place and unique community. In appointing a new Archdeacon, we are in no doubt about how important a role this is.

Apart from being a large church which attracts worshippers and pilgrims from many different traditions, Canterbury Cathedral also serves the Archbishop of Canterbury as the cathedral church of his diocese, as his seat as Primate of All England and as his seat as leader of the Anglican Communion. It is seen as the Mother Church of the



worldwide Communion and our new Archdeacon will be a key part of our work to engage effectively with the huge international community who feel a connection with this place.

We are seeking a creative, prayerful and collegiate person who will not only be able to play a full and enthusiastic role in our community, but who will find spiritual and social sustenance from it.

This is an exciting time in the life of our Cathedral as we prepare to welcome the Lambeth Conference in Summer 2022 and to work to shape our worship and mission for the coming years.



*The Very Revd Dr Robert Willis*  
**Dean of Canterbury**



# Diocese of Canterbury

CHANGED LIVES → CHANGING LIVES



334  
churches



3 Archdeaconries  
15 Deaneries  
100 Benefices  
206 Parishes



148 Licensed Clergy  
243 PTO Clergy  
268 Readers

## By God's grace we want to be a people who are...

- ...confident & creative disciples of Jesus Christ
- ...rooted in scripture & drenched in prayer
- ...living gratefully, giving generously, caring for creation & sharing the gospel
- ...growing in number & expectations – of God & ourselves
- ...motivated by justice & love, open to the Spirit & ready for adventure!

## 'Therefore we will...'



Our vision is to serve the people of mid and East Kent which is an area of many contrasts: urban and rural, downland, coastal and marshland, with areas of wealth and others of deprivation. There are also many areas of housing development with two new towns proposed and a number of villages growing, meaning that the population we serve is likely to grow by thousands over the next 15 to 20 years.

**'Therefore we will...'** in our vision statement is a recognition that words without actions are empty. It is a commitment to taking real steps now to make this vision a reality soon.





# CANTERBURY cathedral

Canterbury Cathedral stands as a place where prayer to God has been offered daily for over 1,400 years. Nearly 2,000 services are held each year, as well as countless private prayers from individuals.

With its roots in the Benedictine tradition, the Cathedral offers a warm welcome to all visitors – its mission statement is ‘To show people Jesus’, which we do through the creative life of the community as well as the splendour of the building and the diversity of worship.

Canterbury Cathedral is not only the Cathedral Church of the diocese of Canterbury and the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury - it is also the Mother Church of the worldwide Anglican Communion which gives it a special role in the life of the Communion. This may involve events such as Primates Meetings, gatherings in the Cathedral



Lodge of newly-consecrated Anglican Bishops, or courses for people in training for the Anglican ministry from all over the world.

At present we are preparing to host a Lambeth Conference of the Bishops of the Anglican Communion in Summer 2022.

Founded by St Augustine, following his mission to England in 597 AD, and the scene of the martyrdom of St Thomas Becket in 1170, the Cathedral draws a large regular local congregation, together with thousands of pilgrims and many high-profile visitors every year. Our mission has evolved during the pandemic to include daily online worship to a large - and growing - international audience.

Part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Canterbury Cathedral is also one of Europe’s most popular visitor destinations, recognised around the world as a holy site of immense religious, cultural and historical significance. With a rich creative life, our Cathedral has also been the venue for many concerts, celebrations, school visits and art installations over the years .



# Shaping our Church for mission: our Archdeacons

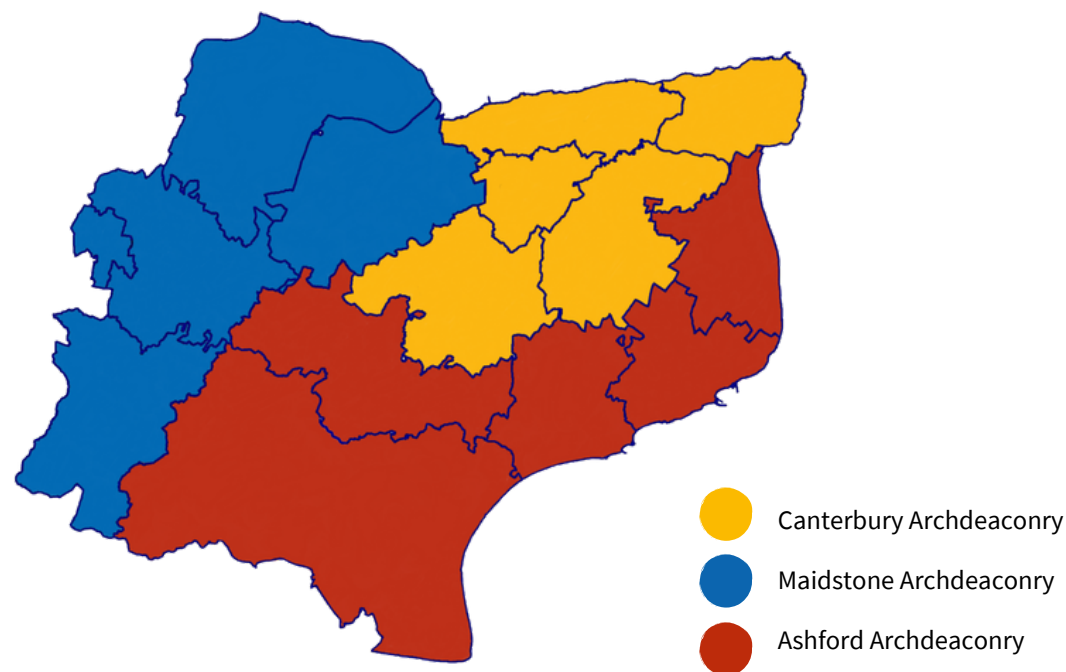
The three Archdeacons play a key role in the leadership of our diocese, working closely with deanery leadership teams in shaping the strategy of the local church, and providing a vital link with strategic support and coordination at a diocesan level. Their statutory role puts them in a unique position to enable and encourage creative mission and ministry, while ensuring that ‘all things are done decently and in order.’

The Archdeacons are often the first point of support, advice and pastoral care for our clergy and other ministers and leaders.

Working closely with our patrons and PCCs, they lead on clergy appointments on behalf of the Bishop. They have particular opportunities to foster healthy, fruitful and safe patterns of church life, encouraging collaboration, dealing well with conflict, and making sure that our churches are safe communities - especially for the young and the vulnerable.


Modelling mutually-supportive teamwork with each other, the Bishop and her wider team, our Archdeacons

are shapers and animators of the church's missionary and pastoral presence in our communities. In their own right and on the Bishop's behalf, they play their part in representing the Church and our diocese to the public and other authorities within their area.



# Principal responsibilities

## As Archdeacon, you will...

- be the Archdeacon responsible for the Deaneries of Canterbury, Thanet, Reculver, East Bridge and West Bridge - supporting the clergy and other ministers in their care of the people of God.
  - meet regularly and work with Area Deans, Lay Chairs and other colleagues to encourage and enable local mission and our diocesan strategy.
  - work closely with our Bishop, the Secretary of the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee, our Area Deans, Lay Chairs and parish representatives in many aspects of the parochial, vacancy and appointments process.
  - sit ex-officio on Diocesan Advisory Committee
  - induct or install newly appointed ministers, supporting them especially in the early part of ministry.
  - alongside the Bishop, care for ministers and their families.
  - at the Archdeacon's annual visitation admit Churchwardens, sidespeople and members of PCCs.
  - undertake Development Reviews (Terms and Conditions of Service) for clergy in the Canterbury Archdeaconry.
  - take appropriate and timely steps to resolve any difficulties or disputes in parishes. Where necessary, act under the Clergy Discipline Measure or other applicable legislation.
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- work closely with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisors to manage any safeguarding issues that arise and to ensure safeguarding is embedded across the diocese and its parishes.
  - participate fully in meetings of the Episcopal Staff Team, the Strategic Programme Board and Archbishop's Council, as well as essential diocesan committees, including the Property Advisory Group, Finance and Assets Committee, Diocesan Advisory Committee and Mission Resources Group.
  - undertake the statutory duties of an archdeacon as laid out in Canon C22 and other ecclesiastical legislation.
  - attend to your own prayer life, study and theological reflection.
  - undertake such other duties as the Bishop may request.
  - specifically as Archdeacon of Canterbury, attend the Enthronements or Installations of new Diocesan Bishops within the Southern Province to induct and install the new Bishop and to place him or her in the Episcopal Seat in the Cathedral Church.

## As a Residentiary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral, you will...

- play a key role in the worshipping and community life of our Cathedral.
- offer hospitality and accommodate meetings and collaborative working in your residence, which will also act as your base for working.
- during the three months of the year that you act as Vice Dean, officiate at daily morning prayers and also at daily Sung Evensong. (When this proves difficult one of the other Canons can cover a particular service).
- during your month of residence as Vice Dean, preach at the Cathedral Eucharist at two of the Sundays.
- embody a life of prayer and a spirituality that is nourished by the daily gathering of our resident clergy for Matins and Evensong
- play an active role in the community life of the Precincts.
- play a key role in re-writing the statutes and constitution to conform to new legislation which forms part of the new Cathedrals' Measure.
- attend full-day Chapter meetings at least six times each year and at other times as necessary.
- stand in for the Dean whenever s/he is unable to be present at any formal service or function.
- act as an ex-officio a Governor, with all the other Residential Canons, of the King's School of the Cathedral Church in Canterbury.



### Team and committee membership

- Episcopal Senior Staff team
- Cathedral Chapter
- Archbishop's Council
- Diocesan Synod
- Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee
- Diocesan Advisory Committee
- Diocesan Finance and Assets Committee
- Diocesan Property Advisory Group
- Co-chair of one of the Framework
- Diocesan Mission resources Group
- Archdeacons' regional and national networks

# The Archdeacon of Canterbury will be someone who...

- Is rooted in disciplines of prayer, study of the scriptures, theological reflection and engagement with society
- Keeps senior leadership close to parishes and communities by building strong working relationships holding the vision and nurturing an understanding of the needs of the wider church
- Has a demonstrably stable home life, and good networks of personal support and friendship
- Is passionate for the gospel and for its potential to transform both individuals and communities
- Is an effective preacher and teacher, gifted as an evangelist, who expounds and applies the faith clearly, convincingly and attractively
- Has the capacity to inspire people and share vision
- Has experience and proven capacity in developing strategic approaches to mission and engagement with communities
- Can work in an organised way under pressure
- Is committed to fostering the gifts and ministries of all God's people, and is known to be an encourager of the gifts of others
- Is a loyal colleague and works well within a team setting, whether as leader or member
- Enjoys the respect of fellow clergy
- Rejoices in the richness of humanity, and relates well to people of different outlooks and backgrounds (theological and other)
- Is willing to work with the local church to enable new initiatives in mission
- Treasures the calling of the Church of England without being uncritical of it
- Has a personal and spiritual resilience to be strong in times of conflict

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## Key relationships

- The Bishop, Archdeacons, Diocesan Secretary and members of our Episcopal Staff Team as well as the Directors of our Frameworks
- The Dean, members of the Cathedral Chapter and the principal members of Cathedral Staff
- Our Diocesan Safeguarding Team
- The Personal Assistant to the Archdeacon of Canterbury
- The Area Deans and Lay Chairs
- National colleagues in the NCIs and Archdeacons' Forum

## Tenure

The Archdeacon serves under Common Tenure (a sample of Statement of Particulars is available on request).

## Oversight and Accountability

The Archdeacon is responsible to the Bishop of Dover as Archdeacon and to the Dean as a Canon Residentiary. In addition to the meetings of the Bishop's Staff Team, Archdeacons meet regularly with the Bishop.

## Stipend and Pension

The Archdeacon receives a stipend at the level recommended by the Central Stipends Authority (subject to annual decision by the Archbishop's Council). Pension contributions are paid by the Diocesan Board of Finance into the Church of England Pension Scheme.

## Housing

The Dean and Chapter provide the house and the stipend of the Archdeacon and also look after the upkeep of the garden.

## Travel

The Archdeacon will need to be willing and able to travel up to 10,000 miles per year for archdeaconry and diocesan work. Candidates will need to demonstrate ability to travel independently around the archdeaconry, some of which is not served well by public transport.

## Office and expenses

Office space is provided in the Archdeaconry. Administrative support is at present 25 hours worked over five days a week. All reasonable expenses of office are reimbursed by the Diocesan Board of Finance.