

The Bishop of Dover has oversight for Canterbury Diocese which stretches from Maidstone southwards and includes the Weald, Romney Marsh, Ashford, Dover, Thanet, Faversham, Sittingbourne and the Isle of Sheppey and includes 288 parish churches.

Biography of the Right Reverend Trevor Willmott

Bishop Trevor, who in his own words was “given the gift of faith” as a teenager by an inspiring Christian family, studied for ordained ministry at Westcott House, Cambridge after a first degree in Theology at St Peter’s College, Oxford. Following a curacy at St George’s Norton in St Alban’s Diocese, Bishop Trevor worked in Chaplaincy roles in Oslo then Naples in the Diocese of Europe, and as Officiating Chaplain to H.M. and American Forces in Southern Europe, before returning to England as Rector of Ecton and Warden of Peterborough Diocesan Retreat House; a role he held from 1983-1989.

From 1986 to 1997 Bishop Trevor was Peterborough Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Diocesan Director of Post Ordination Training. He was made Canon Residentiary and Precentor of Peterborough Cathedral in 1989. In 1997 he became Archdeacon of Durham and Canon Residentiary of Durham Cathedral, and in 2002 was consecrated as Bishop of Basingstoke.

During his seven years as the suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke, Bishop Trevor took the lead in the areas of social reform, criminal justice and rural affairs, as well as taking particular pastoral responsibility for churches in the North of the Diocese of Winchester. He was a founding Trustee of the social welfare charity Hampshire Community Foundation and a founding Trustee of Emmaus Hampshire – a charity that cares for the homeless. Bishop Trevor is also the Co-editor of ‘Re-shaping Rural Ministry – a Theological and Practical Handbook’ – which was published in 2009 by SCM.

Bishop Trevor has many national church responsibilities and was elected to the Upper House of the Convocation in the Province of Canterbury in 2005 and is a member of the Business Committee of the Church of England's General Synod.

Bishop Trevor is married to Margaret, who works as a school finance consultant. They have one grown up daughter, Elizabeth, a Hydrogeologist who lives in Bristol.

Bishop Trevor, describes himself as “a real foodie who enjoys cooking”. His other interests include gardening, rugby and cricket.

Bishop of Dover

The title, ‘Bishop of Dover’, was created under King Henry VIII by an act of 1534. His main function is to assist the Archbishop of Canterbury in the business of the diocese.

In more recent years, due to the increased worldwide responsibilities of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Dover is the pro-Diocesan Bishop. This is signified by the deed of delegation received from the Archbishop at the investiture of the Bishop of Dover.