

The Anatomy of Ecclesiastical Forms of Address

Honorific ¹		Personal			Office/Position
Style(s)	Title(s)	Name	Postnominals		
Archbishops of York & Canterbury: His Grace <p style="text-align: center;">Prefixed to the below</p>	Awarded: the Lord ⁶ Sir ⁷ Dame Doctor Professor	Formal (Dignitaries): Exclude personals and add “the” before position. E.g. “the Dean of Westminster”	Order of Preference: Crown Honours Crown Appointments Queen’s Council University Degrees Religious Orders Medical Qualifications Fellowships and Societies Member of Parliament UK Armed Forces	Jurisdictional Examples⁹: Archbishop of Canterbury Primate of all England Primate of England Bishop of London Bishop of Durham Dean of Westminster Dean of Canterbury Archdeacon of Westminster Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the South Suffragan Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the South Dean/President of Trinity School for Ministry Abbot of Anywhere Archbishop Emeritus of the Anglican Church in North America	
Archbishops²: The Most Reverend Bishops: The Right Reverend Mitered Abbots: The Right Reverend Deans³: The Very Reverend Abbot/Prior⁴: The Very Reverend Abbess/Prioress: The Reverend Archdeacons: The Venerable Priests: The Reverend Deacons: The Reverend <u>or</u> The Reverend Deacon Deaconess: None	+	+	+	+	
<p style="text-align: center;">the above plus</p> Privy Council (UK)⁵: and Right Honourable	Orders: Canon Prebendary Father Mother [Superior] Dom Deaconess Prelate ⁸	Standard: Full Name <u>or</u> First/Middle Initials & Last <p style="text-align: center;">Church of England Bishops & Archbishops</p> Formal: Exclude personals, include “the Lord” Personal: Exclude “the Lord” and include personals.	<p style="text-align: center;">Church of England Bishop & Archbishops</p> Formal: Exclude Personal: Include	Other titles for non-jurisdictional offices such as for rectors, vicars, canons, etc. can be used, but are not traditionally part of a full style and title.	

Notes:

1. “The” always is included before style (unless otherwise noted). “The Reverend” is the default for all Deacons and Priests, and “The Right Reverend” for Bishops. All honorific styles and titles that are conferred due to position should not be used after departure from office unless specifically granted by appropriate authority (bishop, statutes, college, cathedral, etc.) normally by conferring “Emeritus” or “Honorary” status. For example, archdeacons, deans, and canons should revert to “The Reverend” and Archbishops revert to “The Right Reverend” (as they do in England) upon departure of office. In the ACNA, the first Archbishop was conferred “Emeritus” status and is still rightfully addressed as Archbishop and styled “The Most Reverend”.
2. Includes Presiding Bishops and Moderator Bishops, as well as The Bishop of Meath and Kildare (Ireland) for historical reasons.
3. Includes other heads of collegiate bodies of cathedrals, collegiate churches, and academic colleges such as Wardens, Provosts, Masters, Presidents. Does not normally include what are known as “Area Deans” or “Rural Deans” who historically do not have a special style.
4. Styles and title customs vary greatly by order and house, it is best to consult the religious house.
5. The Archbishops of York & Canterbury, and the Bishop of London.
6. All active Church of England bishops may be called “the Lord Bishop [Archbishop] of [See]”, the only bishops who should be referred to as “the Lord [Surname] of _____” are those who hold or are given life peerage, such as former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams: “The Right Reverend and Right Honourable the Lord Williams of Oystermouth”. Female bishops are still “Lord” and not “Lady”.
7. Not used for those knighted after ordination (Postnominals may be used) but may be used if knighted before. Female clergy may use “Dame” regardless.
8. In verbal or written communication in Parliament, Bishops in the House of Lords are “The Right Reverend Prelate the Lord Bishop of [See]”. “Prelate” is otherwise not used in forms of address.
9. When personal names are not used, “the” should precede office title, e.g. “The Very Reverend the Dean of Westminster”. Comma is not used in this case as the office title is being used in lieu of the name. When name is used, the personal name and post nominals is followed by a comma, e.g. “The Very Reverend Dr. David M. Hoyle, MBE, the Dean of Westminster”.