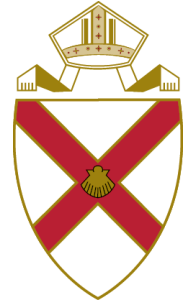


## **THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER**

The Right Revd James Langstaff



Beneficed and Licensed Clergy  
Clergy with Permission to Officiate  
Licensed/Authorised Lay Ministers  
Diocesan and Cathedral Staff  
Churchwardens in the Archdeaconry of Rochester  
PCC Secretaries in the Archdeaconry of Rochester  
Bishop's Council

1<sup>st</sup> August, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters

### **Archdeaconry of Rochester**

I am very pleased to announce that I have invited The Revd Andrew Wooding Jones to be the next Archdeacon of Rochester. Andrew came to live in Kent in 2014 since when he has worked in various consultancy and interim roles locally and nationally.

In discerning God's calling for Andrew's appointment to this post, I was greatly assisted by an Advisory Group chaired by Philip French, Lay Chair of our Diocesan Synod, and including ordained and lay representation from the Archdeaconry of Rochester and wider Diocese. Also involved were our two continuing archdeacons and the Archdeacon of Maidstone in his capacity as regional representative of the Archdeacons' Forum. I am very grateful to all who were involved for their careful and prayerful engagement.

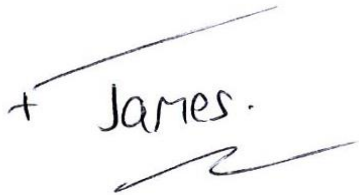
Ordained in 1991, Andrew served in parochial roles in Welling and Sheffield before being Resident Director of Ashburnham Place from 2000 to 2012. He then moved to Birmingham for two years, where he was Chief Executive of the World Prayer Centre, living as part of the Lee Abbey Small Missional Community in Aston. During this time he also assisted at Aston Parish Church and with the Birmingham Diocesan 'Transforming Church' programme.

Andrew is married to Margaret. In 2014 they made the decision to move to Kent in order to be the main carers for Margaret's elderly parents. This meant Andrew taking the difficult decision to be without a substantive appointment for a number of years. Andrew has wide experience of organisational and project management in a Christian context, skills which he has been using in local and national consultancy roles since 2014. This has included managing the establishment of the St Benedict's Centre at Malling Abbey and giving consultancy support to the Lee Abbey movement. For a time Andrew has also acted as Interim Co-ordinator for IME2 and CMD in our diocese.

I am delighted that, as Archdeacon of Rochester, Andrew's gifts and experience will once again be used fruitfully within the mainstream of the church's life. Within the Rochester Archdeaconry we have a number of significant mission initiatives for establishing or re-shaping Christian presence in particular places. Andrew's strategic mission and pastoral gifts will be especially relevant in these areas, alongside the other aspects of ministry as an archdeacon.

I much look forward to Andrew's contributions within my Leadership Team. The intention is for him to take up his new responsibilities by the end of September, and further details will follow in due course. In the meantime, please hold Andrew and Margaret in your prayers as they approach a period of transition.

With my prayers and good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ James." The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning and a flourish at the end.

**James, Bishop of Rochester**