



WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

The Election

by the College of Canons

of The Right Reverend Philip Ian Mounstephen

as Ninety-eighth Bishop of Winchester

followed by Choral Evensong

Tuesday 12th September 2023, 4.45pm

THE COLLEGE OF CANONS

Canon Sarah Boothman
The Venerable Richard Brand
The Venerable Jean Burgess
Canon Mark Byford
Canon Gary Carpenter
The Reverend Canon Mark Collinson
Canon Alison Coulter
The Reverend Canon Christine Dale
Canon Alison Evans
The Reverend Canon Fiona Gibbs
The Right Reverend Dom Giles Hill
The Reverend Canon Dr Tess Kuin Lawton
Canon Alan Lovell
The Reverend Canon Dodie Marsden
The Reverend Canon Andy McPherson
The Reverend Canon Andrew Micklefield
The Reverend Canon Angi Nutt
The Very Reverend Catherine Ogle
The Reverend Canon Dr Frog Orr-Ewing
The Reverend Canon Gary Philbrick
The Reverend Canon Mike Powis
The Reverend Canon Marion de Quidt
The Reverend Canon Dr Roland Riem
The Reverend Canon Dr Erica Roberts
The Reverend Canon Linda Scard
The Right Reverend Debbie Sellin
The Reverend Canon Michael Smith
The Reverend Canon Charles Stewart
The Reverend Canon Professor Liz Stuart
The Reverend Canon Andy Trenier
The Reverend Canon Brian Wakelin
The Reverend Canon Thomas Wharton
The Right Reverend David Williams
The Reverend Canon Jeff Williams
The Reverend Canon Howard Wright

HISTORICAL NOTE

Since the 4th century there has been an interplay in the choosing of diocesan bishops between the local church and the province. Throughout that time the need for consent expressed on behalf of the local church has been a fundamental principle. For more than a thousand years, this consent has been expressed formally in the Church in the election 'made and celebrated' by the Chapter of the Cathedral Church.

Only rarely has this consent involved 'free election' or a choice between alternatives. By the 11th century *electio* was a procedure for giving legal validity to a decision which had been taken elsewhere. Election is also a biblical term referring to the divine choice or calling which may be discerned through human processes and institutions, and thus remains an appropriate term for this solemn expression of consent.

Today's election will be confirmed on the Archbishop's behalf and in his presence by the Vicar General at a provincial ceremony in London in which representatives of the Chapter participate.

At the end of that ceremony, Bishop Philip will be given his mandate to continue the mission entrusted to the Church in the Diocese of Winchester.

PROCEDURE AT THE ELECTION OF THE NEW BISHOP

Having robed, members of the College of Canons enter the Lady Chapel informally, each member going to her or his appointed place.

The ship's bell is struck and the Chapel is locked.

Stand. The Dean says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Sit. The Dean says

May I take it that the College will appoint Julian Edward Michael Hartwell, Clerk at Law to Winchester Cathedral, as clerk of this meeting and Susan Elizabeth de Candole, Notary Ecclesias and Joint Registrar of the Diocese of Winchester, to act as witness to the Election?"

Let all the Canons and Honorary Canons having a part in the Election be called and their names recorded.

The Clerk at Law will call the names of the College of Canon. Each will reply in the customary way; standing and stating 'Aye'.

If any members of the College are absent, the Dean will say;-

Let the names of any Canons absent from this meeting be called again.

The Clerk at Law calls the names.

The Dean says

I shall read the First Schedule.

The Dean reads and afterwards signs the First Schedule.

The Dean says

I shall read the Second Schedule.

The Dean reads and afterwards signs the Second Schedule.

The Dean says

I pronounce that the Canons here present constitute a full College for the purposes of this Election.

The Dean then says

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

James 1:5

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, guide with your heavenly wisdom those who are to elect the chief pastor of this diocese, that we may receive one who will speak your word and serve your people according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Dean continues

Let the Congé d'élire and His Majesty The King's Letter Missive now be read.

The Joint Registrar of the Diocese of Winchester reads these documents.

The Dean then requests the Canons to stand and elect by acclamation, saying:

Those in favour of the election of the Right Reverend Philip Ian Mounstephen to be Bishop of the Diocese of Winchester say "Aye".

The College of Canons responds "Aye".

The Dean and Canons having performed the Election, the Dean then says:

I call upon the College of Canons to agree that I shall now publish and declare to the Clergy and People the Election of the Right Reverend Philip Ian Mounstephen and that the College will appoint as its Proctor the Clerk at Law Julian Edward Michael Hartwell and, to act with him in a joint and several capacity, the Joint Registrar of the Diocese of Winchester Susan Elizabeth de Candole, to certify the Election of the Lord Bishop Elect, requesting his consent, to His Majesty the King and to the Most Reverend and Right Honourable the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury.

I call upon the Chapter of this Cathedral to resolve in accordance with the Constitution that the Seal be affixed to the Appointment of the Proctors and to the Certificates of this Election for delivery to His Majesty the King, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Bishop Elect.

Will those members of Chapter in favour say "Aye".

And the Chapter so resolves

The Cathedral Seal is then affixed (being witnessed by the Dean and the Vice-Dean) to each of the following documents:

- *Proxy to the Proctors to certify the Election*
- *Certificate to His Majesty the King*
- *Certificate to the Archbishop of Canterbury*
- *Certificate to the Bishop Elect*

The Dean also signs formal Notices of the Election to be placed:

- *One on each of the doors of the Cathedral*
- *One in the Bishop's Stall*

The Dean then reads and signs the Third Schedule.

The Dean then prays for the Bishop elect.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for Philip, our Bishop-Elect and for all your faithful people; that in their vocation and ministry each may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All say together

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.

The Chapel is unlocked.

*The choir leads the College from the Lady Chapel to the Quire singing
Te Deum Laudamus.*

“Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you;
consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.”

Hebrews 13:7