

The Rt Rev'd Dr Stephen Platten

Master of the Stationers' Company

Stephen Platten was educated at the Stationers' Company's School and then successively, at the University of London and Trinity College, Oxford, having worked for three years initially for Shell International at Shell Centre in London.

Stephen trained for the priesthood at Cuddesdon College, Oxford, having trained as a teacher before offering for ordination. Stephen served as a curate in Oxford and moved to be Tutor at Lincoln Theological College, before running diocesan training and selection for ministry as a Residentiary Canon at Portsmouth Cathedral. Thereafter he served as the Archbishop of Canterbury's Foreign Secretary under Robert Runcie, travelling widely throughout the world.

Stephen was appointed Dean of Norwich in 1995, where, amongst other things, he headed up the Cathedral's 900th Anniversary celebrations and initiated the £13 million project to build a new Refectory, Visitor's Centre and choir facilities within the ruins of the mediaeval monastery.

In 2003 he was consecrated Bishop of Wakefield, a diocese covering a large part of West and South Yorkshire including Huddersfield, Halifax, Dewsbury, Barnsley and a cluster of large towns, formerly centres of coal mining and the wool industry. Alongside this, he was Chairman of the Church of England's Liturgical Commission and a member of the Cathedrals' Fabric Commission for England.

Stephen was a director/trustee of Hymns Ancient and Modern (the publishers of the Church Times and owner of SCM and Canterbury Press etc) and then Chairman of the Board for eight years. He was a member of the House of Lords for some six years with specific responsibility to speak for the Church of England on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Education.

He has taught theology throughout this time and published in a variety of areas including writing on church buildings.

He has been a Liveryman of the Company since 2005, served in the office of Renter Warden, was chairman of the Hall & Heritage Committee and latterly of the Foundation Funding Raising Committee. He was a founding member of the Hall Development Executive Committee.