

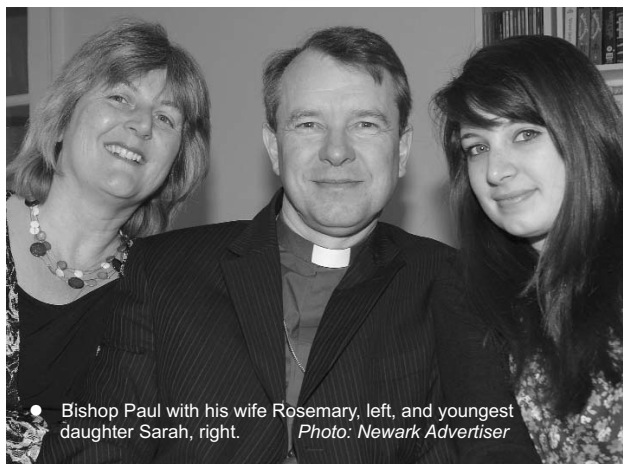
The Right Reverend Paul Butler was ordained and installed as the Bishop of Southampton in June 2004. After being brought up in Chessington in Surrey, he went on to gain a BA in History and English at the University of Nottingham. After graduating in 1977 he stayed in Nottingham working as a social work assistant, with the elderly and families in Beeston and amongst the county's former coalfield communities. He then began working for the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF), for two years when he travelled extensively across the UK and it was during this time that he began to explore his calling to ordination. He went on to train at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, then served his curacy in the London area. In 1987 he became Inner London Evangelist for Scripture Union, helping churches of all denominations develop outreach work with children, young people and families. In 1994 he returned to parish work full-time in Walthamstow, becoming Team Rector of Walthamstow in 1997 until 2004. He said the biggest joy in his time in the parish was seeing people come to and grow in Christian faith, and developing lay involvement on a wide level.

As Bishop of Southampton, Paul has been responsible for the Southern area of Winchester Diocese. He has been out and about in parish and community a great deal, including a regular programme of parish visits and an annual Prayer Walk. He loves preaching and teaching and has led an annual teaching series in Lent and an annual Quiet Day.

Bishop Paul has always been passionate about being part of the world church, with a particular interest in and commitment to Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi. His work with children has spanned the whole of his ministry and he ran (until 2004) an annual Scripture Union camp for children each year in Kent, which he said was instrumental in helping his own children and many others establish their faith.

Bishop Paul is an author; he has published a number of booklets and three books: 'Reaching Children' (1992), 'Reaching Families' (1995) (both Scripture Union); Temptation & Testing (SPCK 2007). He is currently chair of CMS (Church Mission Society).

He is married to Rosemary, a nurse and midwife by profession who in recent years has been working as a Teacher Assistant and Art Technician. They have four children: Caroline, an Archaeologist; David and Andrew at university and Sarah studying for her GCSEs. His interests include reading, writing, travel, gardening and music. He has played cricket for Winchester Diocese in the last few years and wonders if there might be a clergy cricket team in Southwell & Nottingham in the future. He enjoys watching most sports when he has the time and is engaged in social networking through the internet with his own Facebook page!



● Bishop Paul with his wife Rosemary, left, and youngest daughter Sarah, right. Photo: Newark Advertiser

Introducing Bishop Paul...



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham

- The Rt Revd Paul Butler was installed as the new Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham on Saturday 27th February 2010.



Ephesians 3.14-21 & Matthew 9.35-38

It is now my enormous honour and privilege to be called to lead the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham forward into the next phase of its history. This is the Diocese in which my call into the ordained ministry of the Church of England took place. For 5 years I shared in the life of Christ Church, Chilwell.

I want to share today – a vision of the ministry to which you have called me here as bishop. So let me outline for you the headlines of the ministry I will seek to exercise amongst you...

out & about...

Much of Jesus' ministry was exercised in the public eye. He was out and about amongst the people of his day from all walks of life, and in every kind of community. I anticipate being out and about in all the kinds of communities to be found across this county, and within the city.

teaching...

You need to know of your new bishop that I love the Bible. This book is transforming when we listen to it, explore it and allow it to shape our thinking and our living. I expect as I teach that I will learn from you all as you also engage with the Scriptures. Insights from children and young people into the Bible are particularly powerful.

proclaiming...

The news of God's rule and reign is wonderfully good. The Christian faith is deeply personal but it can never be private. It has to be concerned for the poorest of the world. I look forward greatly to working with local political leaders, local community organisers, charities, leaders of other faiths as well as church leaders of other denominations in the matters that affect the lives of all who live in the county and city.

I come with a deep love of the church around the world. It has been my enormous privilege to visit many nations and build friendships with church leaders in many lands.

healing...

Healing was part of Jesus' ministry. There are many ways in which our communities need healing. Healing in our communities is a sign of the coming of God's reign in our world. It is the healing that comes from God's love.

in conclusion...

...all of Jesus' ministry flowed from a life filled by and motivated by the love of God for the creation, for himself as Son and for people. This overflowing love inevitably sends us out. We cannot hold it in; we cannot keep it to ourselves...here is what I anticipate in leading the diocese. Here are marks by which you can all hold me to account:-

Am I out and about in the county and city meeting people face to face in their own communities? Am I teaching the faith faithfully? Am I proclaiming the good news of God's way of doing things in the public arena? Am I seeking to bring God's healing, in all its varied forms, to people, communities and the creation? Are people being called and sent out to serve in the same way making the good news known?

But above all is God's love being made known and revealed? Am I, are we demonstrating God's amazing love for his world?

The full text of the sermon may be found on: www.southwell.anglican.org

Diary highlights

Services of Welcome:
on **Sunday 7th March at St Mary's Nottingham** at 4pm
and on **Sunday 14th March at Worksop Priory** at 4pm

Prayer pilgrimage by tram through Nottingham on Friday 5th March

Diocesan Synod Saturday 17th April

Visit to the **University of Nottingham** on Wednesday 21st April

Story telling with children at **Newark Show** Saturday 8th May

Cycling with CMS from Clipstone to Southwell on Wednesday 12th May

Visit to the **Holocaust Centre** at Laxton with pupils from Emmanuel School on Monday 24th May

Visit to the **Major Oak** with children from Edwinstowe Primary School Monday 28th June