

Forms of Address for Anglican Clergy

The following notes offer quick guidance on how to address members of the clergy.

Abbreviated forms (such as “Rt.” for “Right”) are commonly used, but either abbreviated or spelled-out forms are acceptable.



Deacon or Priest

Address (outside of envelope): The Reverend Jane Smith

The Rev. John Brown

Salutation (letter or conversation): Dear Ms. Smith

Dear Mr. Brown

In this diocese, it is common practice to refer (in writing) to a deacon as “The Rev Deacon Jan Brown”

Canon

Address (outside of envelope): The Reverend Canon John Brown

The Rev. Canon Jane Smith

Salutation (letter or conversation): Dear Canon Brown

Dean of Cathedral

Address (outside of envelope): The Very Reverend Jane Smith

The Very Rev. John Brown

Salutation (letter or conversation): Dear Dean Smith

Archdeacon

Address (outside of envelope):	The Venerable John Brown
	The Ven. Jane Smith
Salutation (letter or conversation):	Dear Archdeacon Brown
	<i>Note that, by convention, where an archdeacon is also a canon, the honorific 'Venerable' is the senior style and should not be used in conjunction with the lesser honorific of 'Canon'.</i>
	<i>As a similar example, a bishop also exercising the ministry of an archdeacon would never be styled, The Rt Rev Ven Jane Jones</i>

Bishop

Address (outside of envelope):	The Right Reverend John Brown
	The Rt. Rev. Jane Smith
Salutation (letter or conversation):	Dear Bishop Brown

Archbishop

Address (outside of envelope):	The Most Reverend Jane Smith
	The Most Rev. John Brown
Salutation (letter or conversation):	Dear Archbishop Smith

Taken from:

<https://www.anglican.ca/resources/forms-of-address/>

In conversation, customs vary widely!