

## ROBERTS, WILLIAM (1585 - 1665), bishop of Bangor

**Name:** William Roberts  
**Date of birth:** 1585  
**Date of death:** 1665  
**Parent:** Sisle Roberts (née Goodman)  
**Parent:** Symon Roberts  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** bishop of Bangor  
**Area of activity:** Religion  
**Author:** Arthur Herbert Dodd

Born at Maes Maen Cymro, Llanynys, Denbighshire, the son of Symon Roberts and of Cicilie (or Sisle), daughter of Edward Goodman of Ruthin, who was nephew to **Gabriel Goodman**. He entered Queens' College, Cambridge, at Easter, 1605, graduating B.A. 1609, M.A. 1612, B.D. 1621, D.D. 1626, and was Fellow of the College, 1611-30. Ordained at Peterborough in 1616, he became prebendary of Lincoln and sub-dean of Wells, 1619-38. Through the influence of Laud, whose ecclesiastical views he shared, he was elected to the see of Bangor in 1637, and allowed to hold with it the livings of Llandyrnog and Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch, Denbighshire, and the archdeaconries of Bangor and Anglesey. For subscribing the 'non-resistance' canons and clerical benevolence in the convocation of May 1640, he was impeached by the Commons, with the bishops of S. Asaph, Llandaff, and nine others, 4 August 1641, **Arthur Trevor** (see **Trevor** family of Brynkynallt) being assigned as one of their counsel (16 November); but through delaying tactics and pressure of other business the case fizzled out in December. During the Civil War he sheltered at Bangor the violently royalist bishop of Rochester, John Warner. Deprived of his see under the Ordinance of 9 October 1646, he appears to have retired to Llanelidan, Denbighshire. On 25 June 1649 he compounded for his private estate by a fine (at one-sixth) of £66 10s., but on 18 November 1652 was included as a traitor in the Additional Ordinance for the sale of delinquents' estates. Part was sold, but he was allowed to buy back the remainder on payment of a further fine of one-third (£54) on 24 December 1653. At the Restoration he recovered his see and his livings, and was zealous in restoring the services and fabric of his cathedral after the disuse of the Interregnum. He died at Llandyrnog, 12 August 1665, and was buried there. In his will he left £100 each towards the decoration of the cathedral choir and the establishment of exhibitions for boys of his diocese at Queens', Cambridge, and at Jesus, Oxford, and a further £200 for victims of the plague in London.

### Author

**Emeritus Professor Arthur Herbert Dodd**, (1891 - 1975)

### Sources

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### Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [William Roberts](#)

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