



Scottish Episcopal Church

## The Diocese of Edinburgh

Covering the City of Edinburgh, the Borders, Falkirk and the Lothians

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# The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

15<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Published by the Diocesan Office fortnightly, and circulated to all Clergy, Lay Readers, Treasurers & Vestry Secretaries, and Diocesan Synod Lay & Alternate Lay Representatives.

**NEXT EDITION:** 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## NOTICES

### ALL

### DIOCESAN OFFICE

Due to various staffing issues here, there may be times when phone calls may not get answered, or get a swift reply to your email. It is part of the nature of a small office, with only one full-time admin staff member, so please bear with us if we are not as quick to respond as we usually attempt to be.

*Thank you*



ALL

## NIGEL COOK

It is with great sadness that we give the news that, on Friday last, Nigel Cook, our Diocesan Treasurer died. This was sudden and unexpected, and leaves us all with a huge gap both personally and professionally. He was also Treasurer and Head Server at Old St Paul's in Edinburgh. We would ask for your prayers for his soul, as well as for the community at Old St Paul's who are also greatly mourning his loss.

As soon as we receive any details of the funeral/memorial service, we will publish them here and on the diocesan website.

May he rise in glory.

*Simon Filsell  
Diocesan Administrator*

ALL

## Listed Places of Worship Grants

The Heritage Minister, John Glen MP, has announced that the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme will continue with the same amount of funding until March 2020. The eligibility criteria and application process will be unchanged.



For more details [click here](#)

ALL

## News from Bishops Enabler of Mission

**On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** there is a day conference in York for those involved with, or interested in pioneering mission and developing new expressions of Church. The day will be packed with inspiration, ideas and opportunities to learn. Tickets cost £12.50 and more details found here:

<https://freshexpressionsconference2017.eventbrite.co.uk>

**Don't forget about the St Hilda's Fund for Mission!** I hope you are aware that there is a grant-making fund to help support local mission in charges across the Diocese called the St Hilda's Fund. Any Episcopal church can apply for a grant of up to £5,000 specifically for project (new or existing) which is reaching out to connect with people outwith the congregation. For more details contact the Bishop's Enabler of Mission at 0131 346 9089 or [mission@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:mission@dioceseofedinburgh.org)

## ALL

### News from the Youth and Children Officer

The recent Sleepover By The Castle attracted young people from all over Scotland to St-Columba's-by-the-Castle for feasting, worship and indoor jousting! You can read the full story here: <http://edinburgh.anglican.org/2017/11/the-sleepover-by-the-castle/>

At the recent autumn Synod, we were delighted to welcome Olivia Smith, one of our under-18 Diocesan representatives on the Provincial Youth Committee. Her inspiring and thought-provoking speech is a must-read for churches - you can read the full text here: <http://edinburgh.anglican.org/2017/11/diocesan-youth-synod/>



## ALL

### WEEKLY COMMUNICATIONS SURGERY

Come along to the Diocesan Office, bring your laptop or your newsletter, or whatever other communication challenges you have, and we'll sit down with a cup of tea and figure it out.

Surgery runs 2-4pm, every Monday until the end of the year.

This service is in addition to the current support provision and is intended to make it easier and more pleasant to deal with complex or technical challenges by talking face to face. You can, of course, still contact the Communications Coordinator outwith these times, and she will do her best to help.

## VESTRIES

### INVENTORIES

Canon XXXV requires that *"a detailed inventory of all church goods and ornaments, registers and other property belonging to the charge..... shall be prepared and kept up to date..... a copy shall be sent by the Vestry to the Registrar of the diocese"*. The Dean inspects these (under Canon XLII) during the Visitation process, but it is possible that your own Vestry may not have done this update in the last 4 years? Everything from pews to pyxes needs to be recorded! This is not just for insurance – but also for such things as items gifted or loaned. If the worst happens, this becomes a vital record.



We have produced a pro-forma to help you, which can be sectioned-up and delegated to different people, to complete individual sections, over a period of time. Hopefully, this means it will not be the huge task that it might have been in the past. They are available in the "Vestries" section of the Diocesan Office Resources page on the website:

<http://edinburgh.anglican.org/resources-diocesan-office/>

## VESTRY SECRETARIES & INCUMBENTS

### ANNUAL FORMS

The annual returns have now been sent out by email, and paper copies are being posted out very soon. The Finance Schedule is being sent separately, with the Quota information. All the forms can be found at:

<http://edinburgh.anglican.org/resources-diocesan-office-forms/>

Forms



## CHANGES & APPOINTMENTS

**The Revd Canon Anne Dyer**

**Rector of Haddington – to be Bishop of the Diocese of  
Aberdeen & Orkney (date tbc)**

## DIARY

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>                 | Bishop attends Thanksgiving/Rededication service at St Anne's Dunbar |
| <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>                   | Bishop takes a Service of Affirmation at St Cuthbert's, Hawick       |
| <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November</b> | Clergy Retreat, Whitchester  |
| <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>                   | Bishop attends a Trust meeting at St Mary's, Dalmahoy                |
| <b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>                 | Bishop takes a Confirmation Service at Fettes College, Edinburgh     |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>                   | Bishop John attends the AGM, St Mary's Cathedral                     |
| <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>                  | Diocesan Standing Committee meets                                    |

## ADVANCE NOTICE

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b> | Diocesan Synod at St Paul's & St George's, Edinburgh  |
| <b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b> | St Mary's Cathedral, Diocesan Celebration of Our Life Together<br>Look out for further details – All Age Worship, Workshop & Evening Ceilidh. |

## VACANCIES

**None at Present**

# EVENTS

## Prisoners Week

19-26 November 2017

### The Prisoners Week Prayer

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.  
We pray for those who are held in prison.  
Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.  
Support with your love: prisoners, their families and friends, prison staff, chaplains and all who care.  
Heal those who have been wounded by the activities of others, especially the victims of crime.  
Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, to love mercy, and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.  
Amen.

[www.prisonersweek.org.uk](http://www.prisonersweek.org.uk)

On the website you'll find Prisoners Week information, a calendar of events, details of organisations that offer help and advice, discussion ideas, reflections, and worship resources which include prayers from the Christian and Islamic Faiths. In every prison Chaplains and those working with them offer spiritual care and the means by which people can explore and practise faith.

You are invited to:

The National Launch Service for Prisoners Week at 6.30pm on Monday 20th November in St Margaret's, Drip Road, Stirling, FK9 4UA, followed by refreshments.

Prisoners Week is an initiative of the Churches that aims to stimulate discussion, highlight concerns and share hope. Prisoners Week Trust is a charity, registered in Scotland, No: SC043431

*www.thelanterngroup.org*

# Advent Stillness



**Pausing to Reflect**

**Waiting with God**

**Open to Receive**

**Quiet morning for reflection**

**Saturday 25 November 2017**

**10.15 am to 1.30 pm**

(Registration from 10.00am: ending with sharing lunch at 1.00pm)

**Ormiston Parish Church**

The programme will be led by members of the Lantern Group, who share a common interest in the Ignatian way of prayer and spiritual development.

Donations welcomed to defray expenses.

It's helpful if you let us know you plan to come.

Please phone **01620 824896** or email: [jstein@handselpress.org.uk](mailto:jstein@handselpress.org.uk)

THE ABERDEEN CENTRE  
FOR  
PROTESTANT THEOLOGY

INAUGURAL LECTURE



# *The Future of Protestant Theology*

Dr Simeon Zahl

Assistant Professor of  
Systematic Theology  
University of Nottingham

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November  
17:15 – 18:30

KCF7, King's College Quadrangle

*An informal reception with drinks and snacks  
will follow in the Divinity Library of King's College*

# Who is Normal?

disability and the image of God



St John's Theology Symposium on Christian Anthropology  
*A joint event with New College and the Centre for Theology and Public Issues*

*led by*

**Professor John Swinton, Aberdeen University**

**Dr Medi Ann Volpe, Durham University**

St Cuthbert's Church, Lothian Road, Edinburgh

**Saturday 25th November 2017, 10am - 4pm**

including lectures, lunch, and discussion.

**All Welcome** – there is no charge but donations can be given

To register contact Dr Stephen Holmes: [stephen.holmes@stjohns-edinburgh.org.uk](mailto:stephen.holmes@stjohns-edinburgh.org.uk)

EDINBURGH City  
Centre CHURCHES  
**TOGETHER**



**St John's**



## SPRING 2018



IF You would like your church\* to host a concert in Spring 2018 by a Soloists of Russian Orthodox Male choral group from St Petersburg, Russia next February to early May, please feel welcome contact us, Music in Local Churches. The attached leaflet should answer many questions about what you would need to do to host a concert by the Ensemble [https://hermitage.seenworks.com/dloads/Hermitage\\_2018UKv2.pdf](https://hermitage.seenworks.com/dloads/Hermitage_2018UKv2.pdf)

'As you will see from the singers' biographies in the attached leaflet, when they are not touring the world they sing in St Petersburg's finest cathedrals and concert venues.

\*OUR Male choral group, the ORIGINAL Hermitage Ensemble from St. Petersburg, Russia, will be touring the UK for the nineteenth successive year in 2018 and still have several free dates. All concerts we gave on our recent 2017 tour were sold out.

Whilst they normally give concerts in large churches, they particularly love to sing in our smallest, intimate, atmospheric, friendly churches. So even if your church could seat only a small audience please get in touch. The Ensemble's fee is negotiable according to the size of the venue and the number of people who attend the concert.

The Ensemble is a professional a cappella group of male singers with a countertenor and two of the richest bass voices for which Russian choral music is justly famous. They sing music to suit all tastes, including spine-tingling sacred music and much-loved Russian folk songs, including Kalinka. The size of the group varies according to the music they are singing - between three four and six singers normally take part in each concert.

If you would like to listen to excerpts from their wonderfully uplifting concerts please go to their website: <https://hermitage.seenworks.com>

If you would like to talk to a volunteer promoter in England who has organised ten sell-out Hermitage Ensemble concerts, please contact Q/love music tel. 01823333 451162

YOU can contact the Hermitage Ensemble direct, by emailing in St Petersburg: [singershermitage\(@\) gmail.com](mailto:singershermitage@gmail.com)

With good wishes  
Mel Davis

Music in Local Churches

Arts Co-ordinator

# Who Has Your Back?

## Spirituality and Work Reflection Group

Now entering its third block, this group is for anyone looking for support, resourcing or new inspiration at work. Group continuing with 3 to 6 people – space for new folk to join.



What gets you out of bed in the morning?  
What keeps you going at work? What is draining and what's going well? Who or What 'has your back'?

Using a mixture of conversation and creative approaches here is an opportunity to re-energise vision for work, find help with tricky encounters and refresh courage and

compassion towards both yourself and those with whom you work. Open to people from a variety of backgrounds e.g. NHS/social workers, teachers, alternative therapists, charity workers, clergy, volunteers, anyone in 'people roles' or organisations. We will create the space between us using images, objects, action and 'soulful seeing' to go in search of focus, support, and re-equipping.

**Friday evenings 7.15 - 9.15pm Next block: 15 December, 12 January, 9 February, 16 March**

St Philip's Church, Canonmills, Edinburgh

£30 per session with a commitment across these 4 dates, then choice to leave and stay for next block of four.

Facilitated by Elizabeth White, a spiritual director, trainer and pastoral supervisor who offers individual sessions and group workshops [www.reflectivespaces.org.uk/groupwork](http://www.reflectivespaces.org.uk/groupwork)

Booking and info [reflectivespaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:reflectivespaces@yahoo.co.uk)



**Saturday 3 February 2018**

*Visit to Edinburgh by*

# Fr Laurence Freeman

Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation



## Day Workshop: Spirit and Liberty

Laurence Freeman OSB is a Benedictine monk and the spiritual guide and Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation, an ecumenical contemplative community. Before entering monastic life Laurence Freeman had experience with the United Nations, in banking and in journalism. An international speaker and retreat leader he is the author of many articles and books including, *The Selfless Self*, *Jesus: The Teacher Within*, *First Sight: The Experience of Faith and Beauty's Field*. Fr Freeman has conducted dialogues and peace initiatives such as the historic "Way of Peace" with the Dalai Lama, and is active in inter-religious dialogue with leaders of other faiths. He was awarded the Order of Canada in recognition of his work for dialogue and the promotion of world peace. He is the Director of Meditatio, the outreach program of the community, which engages with the secular world on the themes of Education, Mental Health, Business, Addiction and Recovery, Interfaith, and the Environment.

*Facilitator:* Fr Laurence Freeman

Sanctuary, Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EL

Saturday 3 February 2018

Registration: 9.30am-10am. Day Workshop: 10am-5pm

Cost: £35/£25-£20 (Concessions)/£10 (Students)

*For a Registration Form:*

Contact: Neill Walker, [mesp2018@hotmail.com](mailto:mesp2018@hotmail.com), 0131 331 4469

**Wednesday 21 March 2018**

*Visit to Edinburgh by*

# **Dr Rowan Williams**

**104th Archbishop of Canterbury**



## **An Evening with Dr Rowan Williams**

Dr Rowan Williams is acknowledged internationally as an outstanding theological writer, scholar and teacher. He has been involved in many theological, ecumenical and educational commissions. He has written extensively across a very wide range of related fields of professional study - philosophy, theology (especially early and patristic Christianity), spirituality and religious aesthetics. He has

also written throughout his career on moral, ethical and social topics and, since becoming archbishop, he turned his attention increasingly on contemporary cultural and interfaith issues.

In conversation with Professor Mona Siddiqui, Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies, Assistant Principal Religion and Society, Dean International, Middle East, the University of Edinburgh.

Chair: Ewan Aitken, Chief Executive Officer of the Edinburgh Cyrenians  
**St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5AW**

**Wednesday 21 March 2018**

**Registration: 6.30pm-7.15pm. Event: 7.15pm-9pm**

**Cost: £10/£8 (Concessions) £3 (Students)**

*For a Registration Form:*

**Contact: Neill Walker, mesp2018@hotmail.com, 0131 331 4469**