



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

21A Grosvenor Crescent • Edinburgh • EH12 5EL • office@edinburgh.anglican.org • 0131 538 7033
Charity Number: SC001214

The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

27th November 2019

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: 11th December 2019

NOTICES



News from 21a...

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The Diocesan Office will be closed from 25th December until **Friday 3rd January 2020**. There will be very few staff on duty on the 23rd & 24th December, so please bear with us if the phone is not answered all the time.

Annual Forms

The time of year has, again, arrived when various end-of-year forms are needed and the usual letter has now been sent to Rectors, Priests in Charge and Vestry Secretaries. We issue these knowing that, for many of you, they will be completed in your spare time, as you give your time voluntarily. We do appreciate that, and are grateful for all that you do for the congregation you are a part of. Again, this year, they are ALL online. This is, hopefully, easy for both yourselves and our office staff here. We have

set them up as easy clickable forms, with as many tick boxes/drop-down boxes as possible. These are the forms required ([click here](#) for the forms web page). Ultimately, **we must have everything back by Friday 31st January 2020**. In the meantime, if you have any queries, please do let us know, and we will do our best to help.

NEWS FROM THE BISHOP'S ENABLER OF MISSION



Resources and Ideas for Advent

Looking for a devotional book to read, ideas for Messy Church or liturgy for lighting of the candles, [on our website here](#) is now a helpful list of links to various types of resources for Advent, all different from the 2018 list, which is also available online for further ideas..

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH & CHILDREN OFFICER



The latest **Youth and Children Newsletter** is out now! A lot has been happening - you can read all about it [here](#).

Don't forget to visit the **Provincial Youth mural** outside St John's Princes St, before it disappears! This was designed and created by our young people and is currently featured in the Anglican Communion News Service [here](#)

Wee Sleep Out 2019: There are just two weeks to go until young people from Edinburgh Diocese sleep rough in St Mary's Cathedral to raise money for Social Bite's global campaign to end homelessness! There are still places available if you know someone aged 8-17 who would like to join this event, which is being run jointly with the Cathedral and Palmerston Place Church. There will be fun activities, challenges and a friendly dog, plus the opportunity to raise money for a great cause. Details and consent forms [here](#). Donations are very welcome: please help our young people reach their fundraising target by giving online [here](#). Thank you!

OTHER NOTICES

25th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood

25 years ago, women were first ordained to the priesthood of the Scottish Episcopal Church. On 14th of December 2019 there will be a Provincial celebration marking this Anniversary.

The service will be held at St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth at 2pm. The Rt Rev Anne Dyer, Bishop of Aberdeen & Orkney, will preside at the Eucharist and the Rev Canon Dr Anne Tomlinson, Principal of the Scottish Episcopal Institute, will preach the sermon.

The service is open to any who wish to attend. There will be a reception afterwards, so to help with planning please email womenpriests@scotland.anglican.org to let us know if you are attending the service.

You can find more information at the Scottish Episcopal Church's [website](#) site or on our [Facebook](#).

A prayer for the 2019 General Election

God of grace and truth,
send your Spirit to guide us
as we discover your will for our country.
Help us to discuss the issues before us
with courtesy, truth and mutual respect,
and grant that all who stand for parliament
will seek to serve the common good,
through him who came not to be served but to serve,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers/prayers-specific-events>

West Princes Street Gardens: a public consultation is currently underway **ending 1 Dec**, for all people to have their say on the future of these Gardens. Adults and children can view plans and complete a questionnaire online at www.thequaichproject.org

CHANGES & APPOINTMENTS

The Revd Canon Brian Hardy

The Revd Canon Brian Hardy died peacefully in the Western General Hospital on 16th November 2019. Brian came to Scotland as the first Episcopal Team Priest of Livingston Ecumenical Parish in 1966. After ministry in Telford (1978-82), he was subsequently Chaplain to Coates Hall (1978-82) and Rector of St Columba's by the Castle (1982-91). From 1986-91 he was Dean of the Diocese of Edinburgh. He served as Rector of All Saints, St Andrews (1991-96). In retirement he continued an active ministry of spiritual direction and support. He was an Honorary Canon of St Mary's Cathedral Edinburgh from 1991.

Bishop John writes: 'I met Brian when I came to Edinburgh in 1998 and found him to be a constant source of wise guidance and loving encouragement. Last summer he moved to a nursing home and when I saw him there he was full of gratitude for the care he was receiving. I am, like many others, so very grateful for Brian's faithful and loving service to God's church and we shall miss him. May he go from strength to strength in the presence of God.'

His funeral will be at Warriston Crematorium on Saturday 7th December at 11am to which all are invited. On Sunday 8th December there will be a Thanksgiving for his life and ministry integrated into Evensong in St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh at 3.30pm to which again all are invited.

Revd Doreen Maybury

We received the sad news at the weekend that the Revd Doreen Maybury died peacefully during the night on the feast of Christ the King. Doreen, together with her late husband David, formed a remarkable clergy partnership, and leave a rich legacy of faithful, loving and visionary ministry in the Edinburgh Diocese and beyond. Perhaps their most notable achievement was setting up and developing Whitchester, the Christian retreat centre near Hawick, a place of hospitality and peace. Doreen's ministry, as Deaconess and Priest, took her to Duns, Jedburgh and Hawick. She was for five years Chaplain at the Border's General Hospital.

Our prayers and condolences to Doreen's family and friends. May she rest in the peace of Christ and rise with Christ in glory.

The funeral is 1.30pm on Friday 6th December at St Cuthbert's, Hawick.

Arthur Skelton

Many will have known Arthur Skelton, the husband of the late Revd Canon Pam Skelton. Arthur died on Sunday 24th November. Funeral details are to be confirmed. Please remember the family in your prayers.

There is a Eucharist to celebrate the life of Revd Canon Pam Skelton 1938-2014, the first woman incumbent in the Diocese of Edinburgh and inspiration to many, at 3.00pm on Thursday 19th December at St Mary's Cathedral Lady Chapel, when a plaque will be placed in her memory.

CANON 35 – CONSENTS GRANTED

For information on the Canon 35 process and other buildings resources, please visit:
<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-vestry-resources/resources-diocesan-office-buildings/>

DIARY

1st December	Bishop Preaches and Presides at St Andrew's, Kelso The Bishop's Address, Edinburgh Nativity, City Centre
2nd December	The Bishop's Address, The Mercy Ships Carol Service, Cathedral Diocesan Buildings Committee meets
3rd December	Retired Clergy, Spouses and Widows Eucharist and Lunch, Cathedral
7th December	The Wee Sleep Out, St Mary's Cathedral
8th December	Bishop to Preach and Preside at St Peter's, Galashiels
14th December	A Provincial celebration of the 25 th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood @ St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth (2pm)
22nd December	Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's Cathedral
24th December	Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's Cathedral Bishop Presiding at Midnight Mass, St Mary's Cathedral
25th December	Bishop Presiding at Christmas Eucharist, St Mary's Cathedral

Advance Notices

Spring Diocesan Synod	Saturday 14 th March 2020 at St Paul's & St George's Edinburgh
------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------

EVENTS

Edinburgh Interfaith Association Survey



The EIFA would be grateful if people within your communities would fill in the climate change survey which was put together by our volunteer Zainab and Nasim Azad.

The data will be used to support the EIFA's climate change project going forward.

https://edinburgh.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_efE4IKgOrHFDN9H

<https://tinyurl.com/EIFAchristian>



Child Protection Training

**Spaces available - only 8 attendees
signed up to date.....**

Thursday 5 December at 6.00pm

St John's Princes St, Edinburgh

This twilight training session organized by Old St Paul's Church will be led by Donald Urquhart, the Provincial Officer for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults.

It is open to anyone involved in children's work at other Episcopal churches

Buffet style food will be available at the start of the meeting. Please contact children@osp.org.uk if you'd like to attend and indicate if you want some of the food plus dietary requirements

NOTE: There will also be a Diocesan Safeguarding Training event on **Saturday 11 January 2020** (venue to be confirmed) led by Ley-Anne Forsyth who trains the Glenalmond Provincial Youth Camp Leaders. *More details to follow.....*



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING Edinburgh

11 January 2020 10am-1pm
The Cornerstone Centre, St John's Princes
Street, Edinburgh EH2 4BJ

We have now arranged an initial training session, run by Ley-Anne Forsyth, the Youth Officer for the Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness, who provides all the Child Protection training for the Leaders of the Glenalmond Provincial Youth Camp.

The aim of this introductory event is to provide you with the basic awareness of how Safeguarding infuses the many aspects of your church life, how to identify areas of concern, and what steps you can take to keep all your congregation safe. This is not *just* for those involved in children's work – this session will look at all vulnerable groups. If you are new to Safeguarding, new to the diocese, or just need a refresher, this is for you.

A sandwich lunch will be provided at the end of the session

Booking is essential, so follow this link to the booking form:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-vestry-resources/resources-diocesan-office-safeguarding/>

EDINBURGH'S CHRISTMAS 2019



NATIVITY CAROL CONCERT

Sunday 1 December 2019
3pm | Free | Mound Place

You are warmly invited to take part in the joyful Edinburgh tradition of celebrating Christmas with an outdoor Nativity and Carol concert in the centre of the city.

It is an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to gather together to celebrate Christmas – to share the peace and goodwill of the season.

Join with choirs from across the city singing familiar Christmas carols and featuring the **Salvation Army Brass Band**.

Choirs include: **Origin Scotland and the Blackhall St Columba's Choir, Wester Hailes Education Centre School Choir, and St Andrew's and St George's West Choir.**



At the concert this scene will be blessed by Archbishop Leo Cushley, and followed by a Christmas address from Bishop John Armes and prayers for the city by Revd Angus Matheison the Moderator of Edinburgh Presbytery. The Rt Honourable Frank Ross, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, will conclude the event with a word of thanks. Andrew Gregg, the city centre Work Place Chaplain, will link the parts of the concert.

Nativity Scene donated by Sir Tom and Lady Farmer

WRAP UP WARM AND COME ALONG!



A number of charitable causes are being supported through this event:

Origin Scotland and the **Blackhall St Columba's Choir** are raising support for the **Cape Town Gospel Choir** in their mission to promote unity and understanding despite racial, social and economic divisions in South Africa. Representatives will carry out a bucket collection during the event.

THE SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL

The Nativity Carol Concert is acting as a collection point for donations of new unwrapped toys and gifts for children who might not otherwise receive a Christmas present. Volunteers will wrap the gifts, which will then be distributed to children and families in the city through The Salvation Army's own networks, local groups and social services.

Gift ideas for children and young people:

0-3
YEARS

soft toys, colourful and fun educational toys, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, suitable books, suitable music and nursery rhymes.

3-5
YEARS

books, dressing up clothes, cars, lorries, dolls, action figures and soft toys, colourful and fun educational toys, suitable music and stories, suitable DVD's, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles and footballs.

5-9
YEARS

dolls and action figures, educational games and toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), family friendly DVDs, books, puzzles, word search, crosswords, skateboards, sports equipment and clothing.

9-12
YEARS

games and toys, lego, sports equipment and clothing, stationery, DVDs, books, T-Shirts, hair ornaments, gloves, scarves and hats.

13-16
YEARS

DVDs, books, lego, toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats and other fashion accessories.

Blue Christmas – the Christmas season can be a time of stress, anxiety and loneliness for many people, and in recognition of this, Workplace Chaplaincy will provide a Listening Post at the Christmas Present donation point with people available to talk to. These are people who will listen, who will care and respect what is said in confidence.

EDINBURGH'S
CHRISTMAS
2019

EDINBURGHSCHRISTMAS.COM

Fanned into Flame: A Quiet Day for Advent - Saturday 7th December The Church Centre, Christ Church Morningside, 6a Morningside Road, 10am - 4pm

A light in the darkness. The first Advent candles lit. The mystery of the Incarnation, the gift of God in us fanned into flame. In this busiest of seasons, this Quiet Day offers a chance to be still, to reflect on the light within us, the Grace of God come into the world, and the light which sustains us through the darkest season of the year.

The day will draw on a mixture of creative and reflective approaches and include guided reflection and individual quiet time.

Costs £30 (£20 concession, or pay what you can) which includes a simple bread and cheese lunch, tea/coffee and cake. A non-refundable deposit of £10 is requested for this event.

For any questions or to book, contact Susan Mansfield on wordsmansfield@gmail.com or 07803 620038. Please book by Friday 22nd November if possible.

ELECTION 2019



Hustings

with

Christine Jardine (LibDem)

Iain McGill (Con)

Claire Miller (Greens)

Gordon Munro (Lab)

Tommy Sheppard (SNP)

St John's Church Princes St/Lothian Rd

9 Dec, 6:30pm-9pm

followed by Compline

Co-sponsored by the Edinburgh City Centre Churches Together:

St Andrew's & St George's (Church of Scotland)

St Cuthbert's (Church of Scotland)

St John's Scottish Episcopal Church

EDINBURGH City
Centre CHURCHES
TOGETHER

Rosslyn Chapel 2020 Charity Calendar



£10

All proceeds
will go to the
church and
congregation

To purchase: please contact Rev Joe at
revjoeroulston@gmail.com



available NOW!

UP THE LANE



Voices from the family of
St James the Less
Scottish Episcopal church, Penicuik

The result of interviews carried out by Penicuik Oral History Resource, this book is a miscellany of themed personal reminiscences interwoven with humour.

It describes the life of the church and its place in the community, both local and further afield.

Along the way it gives an overview of recent developments in the church's history.

Dip in as you will,
and please enjoy your time spent with the friendly, supportive family of St James the Less, Penicuik.

We are, indeed, ***still up the lane!***

£10 CASH

or CHEQUE (payable to St James Episcopal Church, Penicuik)
available from

St James, Broomhill Road, Penicuik;
Pen-y-Coe Press; Whitie's Bookshop, Pennel's Close, Peebles
or contact:

phillg13@toucansurf.com

to arrange payment & delivery (£2.50 p&p)



Join Mercy Ships at our

Christmas

C A R O L S E R V I C E

EDINBURGH

St Mary's Cathedral, Monday 2nd December, 19:30pm

For further details please see our Facebook events page [f @mercyshipsuk](#)



Matching your
donations with



ukaid

All donations received before December 31st to the #ChangeTheOdds campaign will be matched by the UK government.



Looking for a venue for your Away-Day?



St Ebba's View out to sea!



Looking towards west window.

St Ebba's, Eyemouth (only one-two hours from the other side of the Diocese) now has a very attractive light and airy space with a beautiful, warm atmosphere.

We also offer up-to-date kitchen and toilets along with four

separate break-out areas for only

£10 an hour (we'll even make coffee/tea for your arrival!) There are 7 car parking spaces within the church grounds and more opposite the church.

We have a lovely view over Eyemouth Bay and you could always go for fish and chips by the harbour, only 10 minutes' walk away.

email Frankie Taylor at taylor_fct@hotmail.com or telephone 018907 51123 for further information.

More photographs can be seen at:

<http://www.stebbas.org.uk/>



At Sea With God

21st - 28th March 2020

Bishop's House, Iona

A retreat led by Margaret Silf,
a renowned ecumenical writer and retreat leader.



"At Sea With God"

The metaphor of seafaring can be a helpful way to explore our spiritual journeying. We will reflect on our lives and circumstances as the "boat" in which we make the voyage of life.

What are we carrying on board – both precious cargo and excess baggage? What has moved us forward in our journeying, and how do we navigate our way through the unpredictable seas of life?

What causes the storms, and how might we deal with them?

What about the times when we feel we are simply "going nowhere"?

Where are we going, where do we find our anchor points, and how do we keep moving on?

If you have any questions or would like to make a
booking contact us on:

Phone: +44 (0)1681 700111

Email: iona@island-retreats.org



Bishop's House
Isle of Iona

World AIDS Day

Respect and Remember

Sunday 1 December 2019
2.30pm

St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral
Palmerston Place, Edinburgh EH12 5AW

**Join us for a community gathering
to mark World AIDS Day**

An opportunity for reflection and remembrance,
with music and readings.

Free Event | All Welcome



www.cathedral.net

St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral (Scottish Charity No. SC014741)



To all congregations in the Scottish Episcopal Church

Last year, I wrote to you encouraging congregations to consider supporting the work of Aberlour at Christingle events or other occasions during the period of Advent and Christmas. This letter is to make a similar request this year and comes on behalf of the College of Bishops.

Aberlour itself writes:-

Aberlour is delighted to have received well over £10,000 in donations from the Scottish Episcopal Church community in the past year which has helped us to support children, young people and families all over Scotland. We are truly grateful for the support of the Primus, the College of Bishops and all who have played a part.

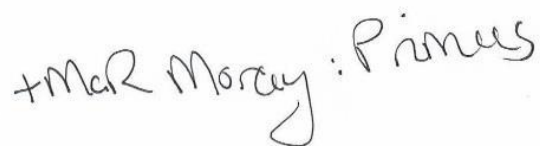
But the need continues to grow. This year Aberlour commissioned research which has revealed that young people in Scotland's poorest communities are three times more likely to die before 25 than their peers in richer areas. We need to do more, and we need to reach more children and families, so that we can support them through tough times. Because a bad start shouldn't mean a bad end.

We know that what we do works. We met Morgan several years ago. Her childhood in Govan was tough and when we met her she was at risk of going off the rails and becoming involved in drugs, violence and crime. Over time, we helped her turn her life around – and now Morgan is the first member of her family to go to university. You can watch Morgan talk about her journey at www.aberlour.org.uk/nobadends/.

We know there are thousands more children who can turn their lives around with our support, but to make this happen we need your help.

Aberlour would be delighted to support congregations in raising funds this Christmas, whether by visiting your church to tell you in person about the children and young people it helps, or by helping you to arrange a fundraising event. It has fundraising resources and materials on its website at www.aberlour.org.uk/christingle/ and you can contact Aberlour for more information by calling 0141 260 9180 or emailing hello@aberlour.org.uk.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "+McR Moray: Primus". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Most Rev'd Dr Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church