



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

EDINBURGH DIOCESAN OFFICE ● 21A GROSVENOR CRESCENT EDINBURGH EH12 5EL

17 February 2021

Dear Synod Member

Cathedral Chapter

I am looking forward to welcoming you to our first ever 'Zoom' Diocesan Synod on 13th March. I am very grateful to all who are working hard to make this possible and I ask for your patience on the day itself if we get things wrong.

Whilst there are certain necessities that we must fulfil at Synod and it will be good to share thoughts on a range of issues, we are doing our best to streamline the agenda. With this in mind, I want to raise a couple of matters pertaining to the Cathedral Chapter that would usually form part of our preliminary business.

When ordinary vacancies occur on the Cathedral Chapter they are filled alternately by my appointment and by Synod election. It is my turn to appoint following Canon Ian Paton's departure to become Bishop of St Andrew's, Dunkeld and Dunblane. I have, therefore, invited the Revd Bob King, Rector of Kelso to join the Chapter in his stead. Those of you who know Bob will be aware of the experience that he brings and the contribution he has made in Kelso and more widely across the Borders and the diocese. I am looking forward to all that he will offer through the Chapter to both diocese and Cathedral.

I also give notice that the Chapter is nominating to this March Synod two Honorary Canons. Firstly, many of you will have met the Revd Andrew Bain during his long ministry in the diocese, many too will have benefited from his wise guidance. Andrew is one of the founders of the Emmaus Community of St Benedict. His pastoral skills and leadership have been put to very good use in recent years in his work first at St Anne's, Dunbar and then at St Salvador's and St David's in Edinburgh. This recognition of his service to the church is long overdue.

Secondly, Canon Malcolm Round has served at St Mungo's, Balerno for over thirty years, a small church that has grown into a large church under his leadership. As well as serving on the Cathedral Chapter, Malcolm has been a member of Provincial and Diocesan Standing Committees and the Faith and Order Board. His contribution to the church at large has been immense and we wish him well in whatever passes for retirement.

I commend Andrew and Malcolm to you and at Synod I shall ask you to affirm our proposal that they become Honorary Canons of St Mary's Cathedral.

Malcolm Round's retirement, of course, creates a further vacancy on the Cathedral Chapter and I give notice that we shall hold an election to fill this vacancy at our autumn Synod.

With God's blessings

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John" with a small cross or plus sign to the left of the first letter.

The Rt Revd Dr John Armes
Bishop of Edinburgh