



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

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Charity Number: SC001214

The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

30th June 2021

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: 14th July 2021



Revd Canon Bob King and Bishop John at the Installation of Canons
St Mary's Cathedral, 20th June *Photograph: Victoria Elliott*

FROM THE EDITOR



Newly installed Canons Andrew Bain and Malcolm Round Photo: VE

Just over two weeks ago now I had the privilege of attending the installation of the new Canons during Evensong at St Mary's Cathedral (albeit in my other guise as a member of the Cathedral Choir). Although still somewhat muted, by pre-Covid standards at least, it was a jubilant occasion and a much-cherished opportunity to welcome people from charges across the breadth of the Diocese to our 'Mother Church'. For me it really seemed like a glimpse of the Episcopal Church 'at its best', and a timely reminder that while Covid may have made us feel isolated, the Diocese, and the SEC at large, is still one big* family. DL

*maybe a stretch, perhaps 'small but mighty'!

NOTICES

COVID-19: UPDATED GUIDANCE

As ever, churches' first port-of-call for updates to Covid safety regulations should be the Scottish Government's ['guidance for the safe use of places of worship'](#).

It is worth reiterating that parts of Edinburgh Diocese are still in different 'levels' to others. As a result, some things that are permitted in one area of the Diocese may be prohibited in another. Individual charges should remain vigilant in knowing what level they are in and which restrictions apply within that level. You can view the full list of levels by area [here](#), or if you are unsure you can check your level by using the [postcode checker](#).

In addition to the Government guidance, the General Synod Office continues to send out targeted guidance by email, clarifying the principal changes in the Church context to those who need it – if you think you should have received this and haven't, or have any queries about the changes, please contact the [General Synod Office](#).

PROVINCIAL RECOVERY & RENEWAL FUND

Back in April all vestries received a letter from Godfrey Robson, Diocesan Secretary, regarding applications to the Provincial Recovery & Renewal Fund. In order to compile the corporate diocesan proposal to the Province, there was a deadline given of **30th June**. Whilst we need to be disciplined to get this proposal together in time, any vestries which are finalising proposals should contact Godfrey at diosec@dioceseofedinburgh.org to let him know that a proposal is on the way. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Revd Canon Ruth Innes, Rector of St Fillan's, Buckstone, will retire as of August 31st.

NOTICES (continued)

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL INSTITUTE

The latest Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI) newsletter can be viewed [here](#).

DIARY

BISHOP'S DIARY

Thurs 1st July Provincial Standing Committee

Sun 4th July Ordination of Jo Twigg to the Diaconate at Ps & Gs Church, Edinburgh

Thu 19th August Just Festival: Conversation with the Revd Jarel Robinson-Brown

COMMITTEES

Mon 5th July Diocesan Buildings Committee Meeting

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 21st October Diocesan Synod

8th-11th November Clergy Conference

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JOHN

Last winter I announced to myself (and close colleagues) that I would take a period of 'sabbatical' in July and early August. For obvious reasons I have been unable to shape much of a programme, and certainly not one that involves travel. Within these limited options, then, my intention is to use some of this time for reading and catching up on one or two projects and some of the time for holiday – there are also a couple of pre-existing commitments to honour. I have deliberately chosen this period because many clergy go on holiday in July and email traffic is low. I shall, of course, be here if an emergency arises and the Dean and Sam will be able to contact me. Holiday and Sabbatical leave will run from 5th July until 15th August.

So, may I wish you all a happy summer and one that leads us increasingly to lives less restricted by Covid. I know that, like me, you will have grown weary over these past months and are badly in need of a break. I wish you well as you plan for holiday and refreshment and I thank you sincerely for all you have done to sustain the life of our church, including keeping alive our outward focus on the needs of our world and the needs of our planet.

+John

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN OFFICER



PROVINCIAL YOUTH WEEK NEWS

The full plan for Glen 21 has now been revealed! The leadership team is excited to be offering a wealth of online activities, plus an in-person act of worship for all delegates on Saturday 7 August at St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth. Edinburgh delegates will also be invited to a gathering in the Diocese on Wednesday 4 August: this will be hosted by Glen leaders and will feature the usual Glen fun and games in a Covid-secure environment.

It's not too late to sign up! If you know a young person of High School age, direct them to our [Glen21 site](#) where they can register and sign up for online and in-person activities. Deadline is 12 July.

Claire Benton-Evans

FUNDING TO PROTECT PLACES OF WORSHIP

The Scottish Government is providing a one-off £500,000 capital fund to ensure that everyone attending a place of worship feels safe and is not subjected to prejudice and hate crime. This includes but is not limited to criminal damage (vandalism, graffiti, wilful fire-raising), and threatening and abusive behaviour.

Grants of up to £20,000 will pay for a maximum of three security measures to mitigate the risk from hate crime. These can include, but are not limited to, CCTV, security doors, alarms, fencing, video intercoms and improved lighting. The security measures should be installed within three months of receiving the grant.

Organisations should be applying on behalf of a Place of Worship in Scotland. Applications will be accepted for all faiths including Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, or other. Organisations do not need to be a charity to apply.

The deadline for applications is 21 July 2021 (5pm) for decisions in late September 2021.

[For further information click here.](#)



EVENTS



The Just Festival is back again! Festival time in Edinburgh embodies our right to freedom of expression and through this joyful multitude of wonderment makes another world seem possible. This year's programme is even bigger and better than before - it's well worth a look, not least because almost all of the events are free of charge! You can find out more about what's on here. <https://www.just-festival.org/just-festival-2021-events/>



OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS & REQUESTS



Wanted: Risograph Machine

If anyone has a working Risograph machine that they no longer have a use for, St Mary's Cathedral would love to give it a new home!

If you think you could help us out please email Canon Marion at viceprovost@cathedral.net.

Image Kaethe17, CC BY-SA 4.0

<<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

Accounting Support Needed

Craigmillar Now, a fledgling community arts charity in Craigmillar, is looking for someone to independently examine their accounts and I wondered if anyone in the diocese could help. The accounts are very small (much more straightforward than most churches).

If you would be able to help, or would like to chat to see if you can help, please contact Sophia Marriage (sophia.marriage@stmarksportobello.org).

