



# Diocese of Edinburgh

*Scottish Episcopal Church*

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# *The Communicant*

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

20 October 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:** 3 November 2021



**COP26 EDITION**

# DIOCESAN OFFICE NEWS

## STAFF APPOINTMENTS

We are delighted to let you know that, following interviews on Thursday, 7 October, we have appointed **Robert Guthrie** to be the new Assistant Diocesan Administrator.

You will know that Robert has been helping us out with covering the administrative vacancies we have had in the office, and he has proved himself already to be a valuable colleague.



The role is a more senior one than the Administrative Assistant one in the past, and it is designed to not only provide my role with enhanced cover when I am away, but also to take on some key areas of responsibility, including part of the Buildings Committee work, our database records and Constitutions. It is a part-time role of 18.75 hours per week. We are delighted to have him on board on a permanent basis.

Whilst we still have a vacancy in the role of **Communications Coordinator**, Robert has kindly agreed to add a few extra hours to his new role, temporarily, to start to cover some of the basic work which has built up since James Parsons left back in April.

The deadline for applications for the **Administrative Assistant (Mission & Ministry)** post is next Sunday night (24<sup>th</sup>). We already have a number of applications, but we are very keen to have more, as that ideal person may still be out there!

Do pass on the details to anyone who might be interested – <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/vacancies-2/>. We will be interviewing on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October**, so we very much hope we can give you news of that appointment very soon.

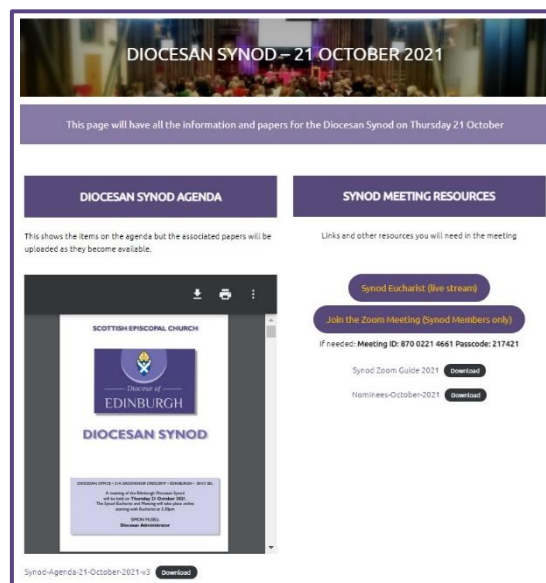
## DIOCESAN SYNOD – THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER

All the information you need for the meeting is on a ‘one-stop’ page on the Diocesan website: <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-synod-october-2021/>

You can find it on the menu under “Resources”. If it’s not on that page, you don’t need to know about it!

Whilst the link to the Zoom meeting itself is only for Synod Members, there will be a link to the live stream of the meeting there, so anyone is invited to watch.

We have to be strict about admitting members to the meeting, as there is formal voting for a new **Synod Clerk** and **Chapter Canon**.



Finally, another **important reminder** – when you join the Zoom meeting **YOU MUST ENSURE YOUR NAME IS CORRECT**. “iPad4” may not be let in!

*Simon Filsell*

# DIARY

## THE BISHOP'S DIARY

**Friday 22 October** Evensong at St Mary's Cathedral **COP26**

**Saturday 23 October** Ordination of Russell Duncan to the Priesthood at Edinburgh The Good Shepherd, Murrayfield; Welcome of Pilgrims to New College, University of Edinburgh **COP26**

**Sunday 24 October** Preaching and Presiding during Confirmations at Edinburgh St Michael and All Saints

**Wednesday 27 October** Pilgrimage from Bo'ness to Falkirk **COP26**

**Sunday 31 October** Preaching and Presiding at St John's, Jedburgh

**Wednesday 3 November** Religious Leaders' and Faith Representatives' Conference

**Thursday 4 November** Provincial Standing Committee

## COMMITTEES

**Monday 1 November** Mission & Ministry Committee

**Monday 8 November** Buildings Committee

**Thursday 11 November** Finance & Management Committee

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 21 October** Diocesan Synod

**Monday 8 – Thursday 11 November** Clergy Conference

**Cover Image:** Kim Traynor / St Mary's Chapel, Dalkeith Park

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:St\\_Mary%27s\\_Church,\\_Dalkeith\\_Park\\_-\\_geograph.org.uk\\_-\\_1417491.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:St_Mary%27s_Church,_Dalkeith_Park_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1417491.jpg)

# NOTICES

## COVID-19: NEW SEC ADVISORY GROUP GUIDANCE

The SEC Advisory Group published this update on Friday 3 September. This information was sent by email to all clergy, lay readers, vestry secretaries and diocesan secretaries.

The Scottish Government has updated its guidance for Places of Worship to reflect that Scotland is now “beyond level 0”. This guidance can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-3-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship/>

Below is a summary of the Advisory Group's recommendations as of Friday 3 September:

The Advisory Group will no longer produce its own lengthy guidance and instead directs congregations to the Scottish Government's own measures for places of worship. **The first point of call for congregations is therefore the Scottish Government's own guidance.**

The Advisory Group will, however, address some specific issues on the FAQs and Pastoral Guidance sections of the provincial website.

For congregations that wish to retain some of the practices recommended during previous lockdowns, the Advisory Group says that its [main guidance document](#), which was last updated at the end of May 2021, can still be used for reference.

Whilst churches now find themselves with fewer restrictions, the Advisory Group is still urging them to **proceed with caution.**

The Group also reminds congregations that the relaxation of restrictions may be a source of anxiety for some. It recommends that **"we must all be mindful of one another"** and that "in so doing we 'love our neighbour'."

The Advisory Group also reminds churches of the important considerations outlined in its previous update from Friday 20 August:

**Face coverings** continue to be a legal requirement.

Face coverings do not, however, need to be worn by **those leading an act of worship** provided there is a partition between that person and other people, or a distance of at least 1m is maintained between that person and others.

Neither do **those who are "performing"** need to wear face coverings provided there is a partition between each performer and others, or a distance of at least 1m is maintained between the performer and others. **Church choirs and worship bands** can, therefore, sing without face coverings, provided their members maintain at least 1m distance from each other and everyone else.

**Congregants** are not, however "performers" and must wear face coverings whether singing or not.

**Churches should ensure cleanliness, good ventilation, the disinfection** of "hand touch points" and engagement with **NHS Test and Protect.**

Churches should assess the level of risk in their own context as some may wish to continue with restrictions.

## NOTICES (continued)

### SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL INSTITUTE

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Saturday 23 October** Ordination of Russell Duncan to the Priesthood at  
Edinburgh The Good Shepherd, Murrayfield



## CANON 35

*The Diocesan Buildings Committee has granted consent to the following projects:*

- **Haddington, Holy Trinity** – Lighting Installation and Provision of Affixed Wi-Fi Camera
- **Edinburgh, St Philip's & St James's** – Relocation of Furnishings
- **Edinburgh, St Mary's Cathedral** – Lighting Installation
- **Dalmahoy, St Mary's** – Secondary Glazing
- **North Berwick, St Baldred's** – Removal of Exterior Window Guards
- **Edinburgh, St Cuthbert's (Colinton)** – Installation of Defibrillator
- **Edinburgh, St Philip's and St James's** – Relocation of Furnishings

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### NEW CURATES AND LAY READERS

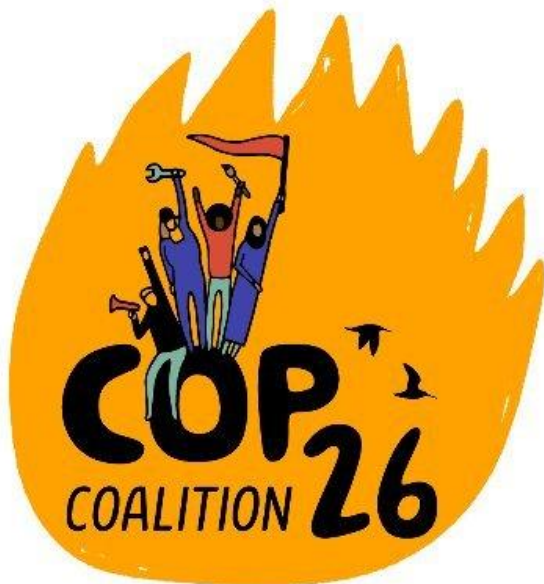


**Lesley Penny (L)** and **Claire Nicholson (R)** were ordained by the **Bishop of Edinburgh (C)** to serve respectively as curates at Edinburgh St Cuthbert's, Colinton, and Holy Trinity, Melrose. Photo: SEC



**Ed Creaney** (second left) and **Liz Williams** (first right) were licensed as Lay Readers to minister at Holy Trinity, Melrose. Also pictured with the **Bishop of Edinburgh** (second right) are **Claire Nicholson**, Curate (first left) and **Philip Blackledge**, Rector (centre). Photo: Peter Middleton

## **COP26 JOIN THE GLOBAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION, SAT 6 NOV**



**Congregations are encouraged to join an historic day of climate-focused global action and mass mobilisation in Glasgow on Saturday, 6 November.**

Churches from across the Diocese of Edinburgh have the opportunity to make their voices heard on the day, alongside members of other Scottish faith and belief communities, as part of the Faiths and Beliefs Bloc @ COP26. This interfaith Bloc is being led by The Rev Dr Martin Johnstone, COP26 Ambassador for Glasgow Churches Together.

The Bloc will gather in Kelvingrove Park from 11.30am at one of the largest-scale protests being organised by



the COP26 Coalition. Similar demonstrations will be taking place across the UK and as far away as Montréal, New York City, Lisbon, Stockholm and San Francisco.

From Kelvingrove, protesters will march through the streets before arriving at Glasgow Green at 3pm.

Protesters can come alone or as part of a group. The Faiths and Beliefs Bloc gathering is suitable for families.

Demonstrators are very welcome to dress colourfully, whilst bearing in mind the weather prospects for a November day in Glasgow.

Everyone is invited to join an impromptu COP26 Faiths and Beliefs Bloc band. Percussion instruments can be made from milk cartons and ice-cream tubs. Professional-level drums and melodic instruments are also appropriate.

Participants should take a lateral-flow COVID-19 test before arriving and should wear a mask at all times.

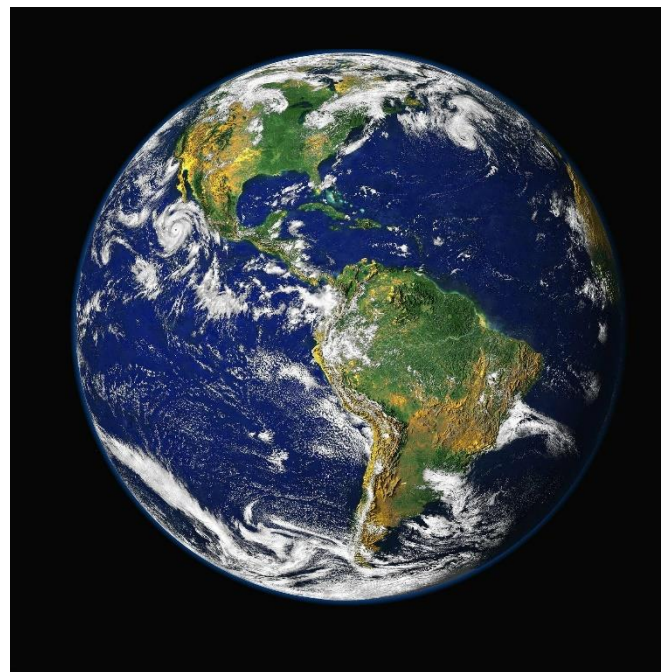
More information, including details on the Bloc's meeting point in Kelvingrove Park, is available [here](#) and by contacting The Revd Dr Martin Johnstone at [cop26office@glasgowchurches.org.uk](mailto:cop26office@glasgowchurches.org.uk).

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## **COP 26 HOW CAN OUR DIOCESE TAKE PART?**

**Here are some ways in which your church could take part in COP26:**

- **Join the Faiths and Beliefs Bloc @ COP26** at the COP26 Coalition demonstration in Kelvingrove Park on Saturday, 6 November (see above).
- **Pray for/preach on:** the integrity of Creation; the wonders of our planet; those affected by climate injustices; the importance of preventing global warming; the leaders involved in making momentous decisions; and those working on behalf of our Church in relation to COP26.
- **Organise a socially distanced event outside your church** where people come together to pray for justice for the poorest and for our planet. You could hold a vigil outside your own church on Saturday, 6 November, and you could involve other churches, faith groups and community organisations.
- **Make a banner** to hang outside your church to tell everyone about the climate emergency.
- **Speak up for the poorest and most marginalised.** You could show these four short videos created by Christian Aid, SCIAF, Tearfund, the Church of Scotland and the Glasgow Churches Together COP26 Group to your congregation and community. The links are here: [Ethiopia](#), [Honduras](#), [Malawi](#) and [Zambia](#).



# Pilgrimage for COP26

17-31 OCTOBER 2021

## PROGRAMME



17th

### Dunbar launch event

- 2–4pm** Children's workshops and performance by Rowanbank Theatre at Lauderdale park, readings from the 2021 IPCC report outside St Anne's Church with silent contemplation inside
- 4pm** Meet at John Muir's Birthplace for a mindful walk to the harbour—led by Karen Gabbitas
- 4.45–5.30pm** Poetry, music, readings and an exhibition in the Battery  
Includes Keeper of the Soils ceremony devised by Natalie Taylor
- 5.30pm** Lighting a warning signal at Dunbar Castle
- 5.30–6pm** Informal walk to Belhaven Church Hall in the company of pilgrims
- 6–6.50pm** Pilgrims' Supper. **Book [here](#) (pending update)**
- 7pm** Pilgrims on the Storm: The Soil and Soul of Walking in to COP26  
—a talk by Alastair MacIntosh. **Book [here](#) (pending update)**



Image: East Lothian Museums

18th

### Dunbar to North Berwick Approx. 15 miles (24km)

- Start:** 9am, John Muir's Birthplace, Dunbar
- Themes:** Getting to know one another and the bioregion we're walking through; finding the rhythm of our walk; considering the legacy of John Muir, a Dunbar-born naturalist, environmental philosopher, and early advocate for the preservation of wilderness in America
- Finish:** St Baldred's Church, North Berwick (approx. 6pm)
- Evening event:** N/A
- Accommodation:** St Baldred's Church, North Berwick

19th

### North Berwick to Aberlady Bay Approx. 9 miles (14km)

- Start:** 9am, St Baldred's Church, North Berwick
- Themes:** Coastal walk; the ecology of place; deep immersion through a range of experiential and embodied practices; encountering the birdlife and other creatures who inhabit this Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Finish:** Aberlady Bay (approx. 4–5pm)
- Evening event:** N/A
- Accommodation:** Wild camping, close to Aberlady Bay



Image: nz\_wildlife

20th

### Aberlady Bay to Portobello/Edinburgh Approx. 9 miles (14km)

- Start:** 9am, Aberlady Bay (pending update)
- Themes:** Scotland's industrial heritage (including a tour of Prestongrange Museum); ecological regeneration and its social impact; food sustainability (including a film screening of Local Food Roots and a Pilgrims' Supper in Musselburgh)
- Finish:** St Mark's Church, Portobello (approx. 6–7pm)
- Evening event:** N/A
- Accommodation:** St Mark's Church, Portobello





# 21-24 OCTOBER | EDINBURGH WAY STATION

Accommodation for 25 pilgrims will be provided by St Mark's Church, Portobello (20th and 21st), St James, Leith (22nd and 23rd) and homestays (24th)

**21st**

## Daily programme | 9am-8.30pm

(with the option to join and leave at different points in the programme)

### 9-10am Community action

Kinetika, Beach of Dreams – installation of 500 pennant flags. Location: Portobello beach, Groyne no. 3, opposite Portobello Swimming Baths, foot of Bellfield Street

### 10.30am-12pm Morning workshop

Labyrinth walking for climate justice and Capacitar self care practices for empowering strength and resilience – with Ali Newell and David Todd. Capacitar is a global organisation for self care addressing anxiety and trauma. Capacitar has recently published a self care manual to sustain climate activists. These will be made freely available at the workshop. Location: St Mark's Church, Portobello

### 3-4.30pm Reworlding with Justin Kenrick

When John Muir was inspired to create the first national park in America, he was not only cherishing nature but also beginning a conservation movement that has inspired nature protection in some places and the eviction of indigenous peoples in others. Perhaps we are all John Muir now, in that we care deeply about nature, but can embody that care in ways that can cause harm. If so, how can we learn from this legacy?

Drawing on learning from indigenous peoples struggles, the experience of colonisation in Scotland and abroad, and from Aboriginal Dreamtime, this talk and workshop will sketch pathways back into our ability to appreciate and transform our worlds. Location: St Mark's Church, Portobello

**Book [here](#) (pending update)**

### 5.30-6.30pm Pilgrims' Supper

A 'between events' opportunity to meet and eat. Location: St Mark's Church, Portobello. **Book [here](#)**

### 7.30-8.30pm Songs around the campfire

Join Jane Lewis, from Protest in Harmony, Edinburgh's radical street choir, to learn songs of hope and transformation for a sustainable future. Location: Portobello beach, Groyne no. 3, opposite Portobello Swimming Baths, foot of Bellfield Street



Image: Protest in Harmony

**22nd**

## Daily programme | 9am-10.30pm

(with the option to join and leave at different points in the programme)

### 9-11.30am Hope's Walk

A walk from St Mark's church, Portobello to St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, West End Raising awareness of the climate and ecological crisis. Led by young climate activists carrying pennant flags created by Kinetika's Beach of Dreams project

### 12.30-5.15pm Sources of Hope

An afternoon of workshops and discussion at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral with a focus on young climate activists (open to all ages). Includes the following events below:

#### 12.30pm Welcoming walkers from Portobello

Including Pilgrimage for COP26 and YCCN Relay and learning more about the Beach of Dreams flags

#### 1.15pm Pilgrims' Lunch

#### 2.15-5.15pm A selection of workshops for all faiths and none

- A short talk and film screening about Beach of Dreams
- A creative writing and art workshop to source ideas and designs for future pennant flags responding to the Pilgrimage for COP26
- Capacitar self care practices for empowering strength and resilience
- An introduction to the YCCN Relay
- Christian meditation with an environmental focus
- Iust Scripture workshop with Christian Aid

#### 5.30-6.15pm Evening prayer at the Cathedral with a Climate Justice theme

Drawing on the day's exploration (open to all faiths and none)

#### 7-10.30pm Climate Pilgrims' Cabaret Ceilidh

An evening of food, music, song, poetry, and craftivism; includes a tour of Phoebe Anna Traquair's mural in the Song School (initial inspiration for Pilgrimage for COP26). Location: Walpole Hall, in the grounds of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral. **Book [here](#)**



Image: Mike Johnston



**23rd**

## Daily programme | 12-6pm

(with the option to join and leave at different points in the programme)

### Interfaith Pilgrimage for Climate Justice in collaboration with Edinburgh Interfaith Association

"Pilgrims of different faiths and beliefs from across the UK and Europe are joining together to walk for climate justice. Join us as we welcome them in Edinburgh at our different places of worship united behind our belief in the sacredness of our planet and our commitment to climate justice."

#### Part one

##### 12-1.15pm Silent Rebellion with Earth Holders

Meditation/silent contemplation on our interconnectedness with all of creation; expressing love for the Earth and all life. Location: The Mound, outside the National Galleries.

**Book [here](#) (pending update)**

#### Part two

##### 1.30-6pm Interfaith Pilgrimage for Climate Justice. Various locations (see below)

##### 1.30pm Official launch of Interfaith Pilgrimage for Climate Justice (New College, Mound Pl)

##### 2pm St Mary's Catholic Cathedral (York Place)

##### 2.20pm Edinburgh Baha'i Centre (44 Albany St)

##### 2.40pm Annandale Street Mosque (43-45 Annandale St)

##### 2.50pm Body-based meditation led by Ali Newell (Hopetoun Crescent Garden)

##### 3.30pm St Paul's, Church of Scotland (Pilrig St), with representation from Eco-Congregations Scotland

##### 4pm Edinburgh Hindu Mandir and Cultural Centre (St Andrew Pl)

##### 4.20pm St James, Scottish Episcopal Church (11A John's Pl)

##### 4.40pm Kagyu Samye Dzong Buddhist Temple (25 Bernard St)

##### 5-6pm Guru Nanak Gurdwara (1 Sheriff Brae)

Includes a short service: 'Sacred Earth: spiritual reflections on the importance of our planet and a call for climate justice', followed by langar (a free community meal)

**Book [here](#) for the meal (pending update)**



Image: Edinburgh Gurdwara

**24th**

## Deep Time, Grief and Wonder: A day to slow down and reflect

##### 11am-1.15pm Interfaith Service for Climate Justice

Held at St James, Leith – followed by a meal for the pilgrims and other participants

##### 2.30-5pm Deep Time Walk using the [Deep Time Walk App](#)

Meeting outside Parliament under the covered walkway

##### 5-7pm Deep Time, Grief and Wonder workshop

Reflect on the Deep Time Walk. Location: Central Edinburgh Quaker Meeting House

##### 7-9pm Pilgrims' Supper

For Deep Time Walkers and Quaker hosts. Includes a Quaker Epilogue—a short period of reflection to draw the day to a close

**Book [here](#) for workshop and meal (pending update)**



Image: Magnus Hagdorn



# RECOMMENCE OUR JOURNEY TO GLASGOW

25th

## Edinburgh to South Queensferry Approx. 15 miles (24km)

**Start:** 9am, Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Leith

**Themes:** The Five Elements—a walk in five stages responding to the five elements of East Asian medicine: Metal, Earth, Water, Wood, and Fire

**Finish:** Forth Bridge Memorial, opposite toilets, South Queensferry (approx. 5pm)

**Evening event:** N/A

**Accommodation:** Priory Church, South Queensferry



Image: Jess Parker

26th

## South Queensferry to Bo'ness Approx. 9.5 miles (15km)

**Start:** 9am, Priory Church, South Queensferry

**Themes:** The complex layering of social and ecological landscapes and histories; includes “the best bird habitat on the Forth”

**Finish:** Foreshore (at the Yellow Buoy near the Union Street car park), Bo'ness (approx. 4.30pm)

**Evening events:** Film screening of *Anote's Ark* at The Hippodrome, Bo'ness (in collaboration with *Take One Action*). Meet at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start

**Book [here](#) (pending update)**

**Accommodation:** St Catharine's Church, Bo'ness



Image: Scotland By Camera

27th

## Bo'ness to Falkirk (via Grangemouth Refinery)

Approx. 10 miles (16km)

**Start:** 9am, Foreshore (at the Yellow Buoy near the Union Street car park), Bo'ness

**Themes:** Industrial landscapes and ecological regeneration; mindful engagement with *Grangemouth Refinery*; interfaith gathering at the Peace Pole in Helix Park (3.30–4pm) – includes *Stitches for Survival* and *Freedom of Mind* community choir singing Karine Polwart's 'Enough is Enough'

**Finish:** Falkirk Trinity Church, Falkirk (approx. 5pm)

**Evening events:** Christ Church will offer a quiet place for reflection in the evening (7–9pm)

**Accommodation:** St Francis Xavier's Hall, Falkirk

28th

## Falkirk to Kirkintilloch Approx. 15 miles (24km)

**Start:** 9am, Bandstand, Callendar Square, Falkirk

**Themes:** Dividing and Connecting. Following the central Scotland canal system we walk under the Antonine wall, built about 140 AD by Roman colonisers to divide and subdue the people of the land. We then encounter the Falkirk wheel, built about 2000 years later to connect rather than divide

**Finish:** Townhead Bridge, Kirkintilloch (approx. 5–5.30pm)

**Evening events:** N/A

**Accommodation:** Pending update



Image: Neil Williamson





**29th**

### **Kirkintilloch to Glasgow** Approx. 11 miles (17.7km)

**Start:** 9am, St Mary's Parish Church, Kirkintilloch

**Themes:** Thresholds and Arrivals; the value of bioregional perspectives and practices for responding to the climate and ecological crisis

**Finish:** Gurdwara Singh Sabha (pending update), Glasgow (approx. 4.30–5pm)

**Evening events:** N/A

**Accommodation:** Self-organised homestay, Glasgow ([book here](#))



Image: byronv2

## 30-31 OCTOBER | GLASGOW ARRIVAL

**30th**

### **Pilgrims' Procession and International Gathering including Walker and Bromwich's Serpent of Capitalism**

**12.30pm** Gather at the Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow G1 5HZ

**12.45pm** Pilgrims' Lunch

**1.45pm** Walk to Glasgow Green

**2pm** Meet with other pilgrims from across the world who have walked and/or otherwise travelled to Glasgow to participate in COP26

**2.30pm** Start to assemble; brief speeches; flag installation

**3pm** Pilgrims' Procession starts—through the McLennan Arch, along Clyde Street, into Enoch Square, up Buchanan Street, turning right along Bath Street and into George Square

**4–5pm** Short statement by indigenous leaders from Columbia and other visiting pilgrims; final action to transform the Serpent of Capitalism



Image: Mark Pinder

**31st**

### **Reflection**

**1–3pm** Meeting for Reflection

Open to all pilgrims who've walked with the Pilgrimage for COP26. Includes silent reflection, the opportunity to share our experience of walking with Pilgrimage for COP26 and a follow-up discussion to establish ongoing collaborations. Location: Glasgow Quaker Meeting House

**[Book here](#) (pending update)**

**4–5pm** Public discussion: What is a pilgrimage, today?

An 'in-conversation' event with the artists Walker and Bromwich and Jonathan Baxter Part of the [Encampment of Eternal Hope](#) in collaboration with [Possible Dialogues](#) Location: Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow G1 5HZ. **[Book here](#) (pending update)**

Image: Petri Damstén



## NEWS FROM THE YOUTH & CHILDREN OFFICER



### OUT NOW: YOUTH & CHILDREN NEWSLETTER

The Autumn edition of the Youth and Children Newsletter is out now! [You can find it here.](#)

It is packed full of information and ideas, including how young people can get involved with COP 26 pilgrimages and events, how families can respond to Hallowe'en, and how a group of churches is helping families to meet with God in the great outdoors.



## EXTERNAL NOTICES

### **COP26** YOUNG CHRISTIAN CLIMATE NETWORK RELAY TO REACH EDINBURGH

The Young Christian Climate Network's (YCCN) "Relay to COP26" arrived in Edinburgh on Wednesday, 20 October.

Since June the pilgrims have been making their way from the G7 in Cornwall to COP26 in Glasgow.

You can meet them at their info stand in St John's Church, Lothian Road (Edinburgh), at 12 noon on Thursday, 21 October.

Between 11:30 am and 6 pm on Friday, 22 October, a "Sources of Hope" activity-and-action event will take place at St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place.

Booking is also open for a screening of "Thank You for the Rain" at Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, on Saturday, 23 October at 2.30 pm.

A special departure service will be held at St John's Episcopal Church, Lothian Road, on Sunday, 24 October at 10:30 am. More information on these events is available [here](#).





## COP26 WITH EDINBURGH INTER FAITH ASSOCIATION

### UPCOMING EVENTS

## OCTOBER

**31-7/11/21**

Scottish Interfaith Week Events: This year's theme ties in with COP26 (United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021) which is excitingly being held in Glasgow in November. Scottish Interfaith Week will coincide with the conference, taking place from Sunday 31st October to Sunday 7th November.

For more info on up coming events - email [info@eifa.org.uk](mailto:info@eifa.org.uk)

**23/10/21**

Pilgrimage for COP: pilgrims from across the UK and EU are joining together to walk for climate justice. Join us in welcoming them to our places of worship in Edinburgh. Official launch New College, 1.30pm

**29/10/21**

Film screening — Cop26 at New College ([ed.ac.uk](http://ed.ac.uk)): Join us for a film screening, in partnership with New College and Take One Action, of Anote's Ark, followed by a Q&A session with Dr Seforosa Carroll.

**31/10/21**

Scriptural Reasoning Ecology and the environment: Provides an opportunity for members of different religious traditions to gather together around sacred texts for discussion, exploration, and reflection across faith lines.

**03/11/21**

Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Join Earth Holders Edinburgh's Bill Crook reflecting with renowned author and spiritual teacher John Philip Newell on his book.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82736026276?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82736026276?pwd=MUFab2FYQVBjQmRhZkloWVZVQnU1dz09)

[pwd=MUFab2FYQVBjQmRhZkloWVZVQnU1dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82736026276?pwd=MUFab2FYQVBjQmRhZkloWVZVQnU1dz09)



## COP26 EVENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH'S SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

**Friday, 29 October** An [online film screening](#) of Anote's Ark, followed by Q&A with Fijian theologian Seforosa Carroll

**Sunday, 31 October** An [online scriptural reasoning](#) session about "ecology and the environment"

**Tuesday, 16 November** A [public lecture](#) with Ruth Padilla DeBorst called "Fleeing the Hospots: Climate Change, Migration, and Mission"

More information is available [here](#).

## COP26 WORSHIP RESOURCES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND CREATION



As the world prepares for COP26, readers may be interested to know that resources for prayer, preaching and worship on the theme of climate change and safeguarding the integrity of Creation are available from [Eco-Congregation Scotland](#) and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland's [Climate Sunday](#) website.





# Pilgrimage for COP26 - EDINBURGH

**Pilgrims of different faiths and beliefs from across the UK and Europe are joining to walk together for climate justice. Join us as we welcome them in Edinburgh at our different places of worship united behind the sacredness of our planet and our commitment to climate justice.**

**TIMES**      Official launch at New College 1.30 pm, **OCT 23rd**  
Ending at 5 pm-6.30 pm Guru Nanak Gurdwara

**Join us from 12 at the National Gallery with a silent rebellion guided meditation by Earth Holders**

National Gallery - New College - St Marys Catholic Cathedral - Edinburgh Baha'i Centre -  
Annandale Street Mosque - Guided Meditation - Church of Scotland - Edinburgh Hindu  
Mandir & Cultural Centre- St James Scottish Episcopal Church - Kagyu Samye Dzong Buddhist  
Temple - Guru Nanak Gurdwara for Langar & spiritual reflections

For more info visit;

- <https://www.facebook.com/events/1220756771753926/?ref=newsfeed>
- <https://artandecology.earth/pilgrimage-for-cop26/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/pilgrimageforcop26/>



## COP26 SIGN THE GLASGOW MULTI-FAITH DECLARATION



**Scotland's faith communities are coming together to sign an historic declaration marking their collective commitment to a more sustainable world.**

Congregants from the Diocese of Edinburgh are encouraged to add their names to the Glasgow Multi-Faith Declaration for COP26, a petition which has been crafted by representatives from the Scottish Religious Leaders' Forum, and which is being circulated by Interfaith Scotland.

The petition, which has already been signed by the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, The Most Rev Mark Strange, asks world leaders and politicians at next month's conference

to "commit to the agreements made at the Paris Summit in 2015" and to promise to "[work] together to ensure the continuation of life of earth".

It also requests that the most influential across the globe "commit to climate justice for all" and that they "listen to the voices of ordinary people everywhere who are crying out for real, visionary and immediate climate action".

Potential signatories simply have to [visit](#) this link to add their name. The full Multi-Faith Declaration can also be viewed here, as well as a video featuring some of Scotland's faith leaders.

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## COP26 VIGIL, GEORGE SQUARE, GLASGOW

**If you have a college of bishops and a discretion of priests, what do you call a gathering of people from all backgrounds coming together for the climate? It might be called a COP26 Vigil.**

You'll certainly find out the answer if you show up at George Square, Glasgow, between 2 pm and 3pm on Sunday, 31 October.



Organised to launch this year's Scottish Interfaith Week, the Vigil will see religious leaders and faith communities come together in Glasgow's main square to defend the Earth.

Senior religious leaders will also read out the Glasgow Multi-Faith Declaration for COP26 (see above).

More information can be found [here](#). Attendance is limited, meaning that booking is essential. Attendees should dress appropriately for a Glasgow-based activity, and should remain Covid-safe by taking a lateral-flow test, wearing a face covering and keeping a safe distance. Attendees should also be mindful of planned road closures.



# Our Precious and Precarious World

An art exhibition to prepare for COP26 and beyond.

**All Welcome, Entry Free**



The Together Trust (formerly  
Edinburgh City Churches  
Together) Registered Scottish  
charity No. SC040773

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>  
October 2021  
12pm-5pm Every Day

The Parish Church of St Cuthbert's  
5 Lothian Road  
Edinburgh, EH1 2EP

**You are invited to the  
Art Exhibition on any day, and  
the Opening**

26th October 2021  
12:30pm-1:30pm  
RSVP for the Opening:  
[martin.j.pearce@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:martin.j.pearce@blueyonder.co.uk)



# St John's

Scottish Episcopal Church – Diocese of Edinburgh  
Princes Street – EH2 4BJ – Charity# SC012836



THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST CUTHBERT



FREE  
OPEN TO ALL

140,000



# PEACE CRANES

AN EXHIBITION BY JANIS HART  
ABOUT PEACE, PEOPLE AND PLANET  
CURATED BY ILIYANA NEDKOVA AND HEATHER KIERNAN



ICAN  
2017 NOBEL  
PEACE PRIZE  
PARTNER

St John's



linktr.ee/peacecranes

Open @ St John's

## Mon - Sat

until Remembrance Sunday

## 1-3pm

All are welcome

*preview:*

<https://youtu.be/MmE9cfa2ewE>

# St John's

Scottish Episcopal Church – Diocese of Edinburgh  
Princes Street – EH2 4BJ – Charity# SC012836

## STORM SAFETY ADVICE FOR CHURCHES

As daylight-saving measures come into force and the weather gets chillier, churches may be interested in this guidance on storm safety from [Ecclesiastical](#).

The insurance company recommends:

- Trimming back any bushes or trees that could cause damage;
- Ensuring year-round maintenance of your church building;
- Securing loose objects in the churchyard and grounds;
- Closing large doors and windows securely;
- Watching out for any fallen cables in the event of a storm;
- Contacting reputable contractors.



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## NEW QUESTIONS OF OUR TIMES WEBINAR SERIES

Join the Christian Evidence Society as it discusses the challenges of robots and AI, whether we are here by accident, the impact of COVID-19 on human creativity and the search for life in the universe during its upcoming webinar series.

**Tuesday, 9 Nov, 8 pm: *Are we here by accident?* – Professor Barbara Drossel**



**Tuesday, 16 Nov, 8 pm: *How is Covid affecting creativity?* – The Revd John Bell**

**Tuesday, 23 Nov, 8 pm: *Will a robot steal my job?* – Dr Mary Ellen Foster**

**Tuesday, 30 Nov, 8 pm: *Should we always follow the science?* – The Revd Professor Alister McGrath**

The events will be hosted by Major Nigel Bovey, Vice-Chair of the Christian Evidence Society and former editor of the Salvation Army's magazine, *The War Cry*. Audience members will also be able to put their questions to each speaker after their talk. More information is available [here](#).

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## ALLCHURCHES TRUST: THE IMPACT OF CHURCHES IN SOCIETY

The Allchurches Trust has added to its [website](#) some inspiring examples of projects for which it has awarded funding.

The Trust hopes to share the impact, best practice and learning from churches and charities who have been awarded funding.



## RESEARCH PROJECT ON SEC PIONEER MINISTRY

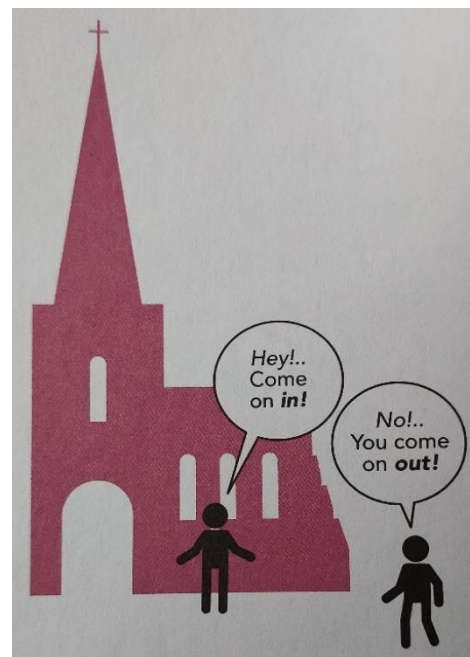
**A research project on pioneer ministry is being conducted by the Scottish Episcopal Church's Mission Board.**

Led by Rev Dr Richard Tiplady, the SEI's Director of Mixed Mode Training, the project aims to identify examples and experiences of pioneer ministry across the breadth of the SEC and the lessons that can be learned therefrom.

Taking this image as inspiration, the research uses the innovative Sensemaker research tool to learn from people's stories and to clarify the key lessons from those stories.

You can contribute to this research by clicking [here](#).

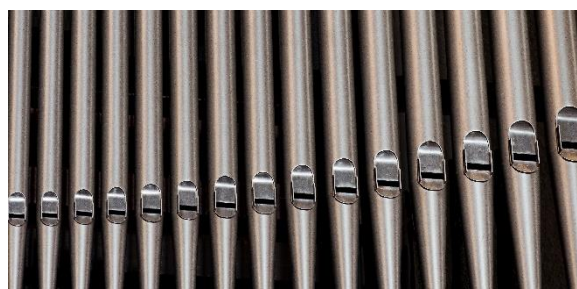
Richard is keen to hear from people from across the SEC, so your contribution will be very welcome.



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## MUSICIAN AVAILABLE: PIANIST, ORGANIST & SINGING ENABLER

*"Do you have gaps in your music rota? I am a musician who has recently moved to the area and have extensive experience of accompanying and leading music in many styles of worship. I have been a church director of music in Leicester, and London, and have, for the past couple of years, been playing the organ and piano in churches across the Leicester and Peterborough Church of England Dioceses. In addition, I have been the Abbey Musician for the Iona Community in Iona Abbey.*



*If you think I may be of help to your church community, please email Emily Walker, [emilyjw23@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:emilyjw23@yahoo.co.uk)."*

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## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS: STUDY ON AUTISM AND LITURGY

**A University of Aberdeen academic is searching for people who (self-)identify as autistic/on the autism spectrum and who would be prepared to share their experiences of worship and liturgy for his new study.**

Dr Léon van Ommen, who is a member of St Ninian's Church (Aberdeen) and the SEC Liturgy Committee, is keen to hear from people of all ages who are anywhere on the autism spectrum, whether verbal or non-verbal.

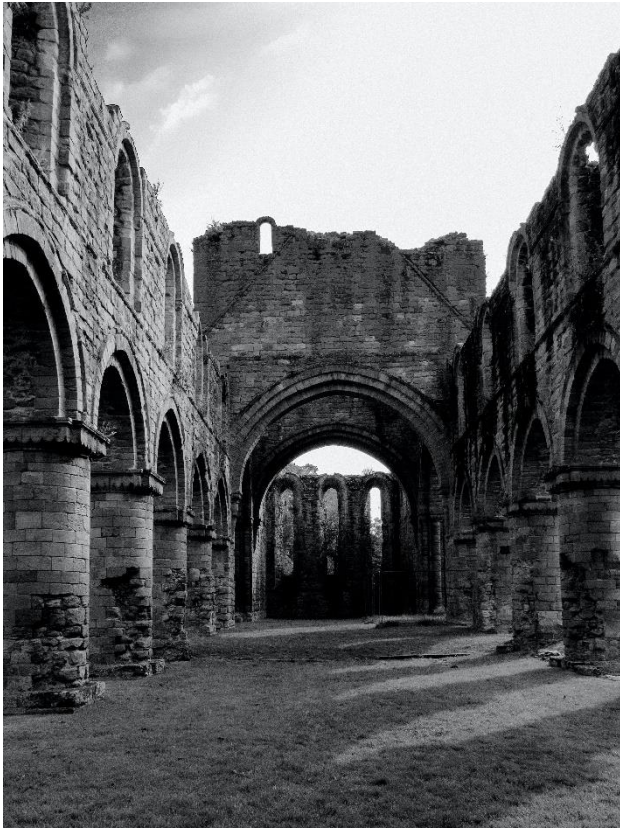
The project, which has been granted ethical permission by the University of Aberdeen, is based at the Centre for the Study of Autism and Christian Community.



Anyone interested is warmly encouraged to email Léon for more information:  
[leon.vanommen@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:leon.vanommen@abdn.ac.uk).

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## OOF! PROTECT YOUR CHURCH ROOF



Historic England has produced some useful guidance to help congregations deal prevent and recover from the [theft of metal from church roofs](#).

Whilst being aimed predominantly at an English audience, the guidance provides useful information for buildings conveners in the Diocese of Edinburgh.

The [“Theft of Metal from Church Roofs: Replacement Materials”](#) advice note replaces Historic England’s previous guidance from 2017, and provides information on cost-effective replacements of lead and copper roofs.

The new document states that terne-coated stainless steel (TCSS) is the most appropriate and longest-lasting solution, and outlines the reasons why synthetic, plastic-based materials are less preferable. It also sets out the differences between emergency coverings, temporary coverings and permanent replacement materials.

Heritage crimes can bring enormous financial and emotional challenges for church communities. In order to help reduce the risks of criminal damage, Heritage England has also produced the [“Theft of Metal from Church Roofs: Prevention and Response”](#) guide.