



# Diocese of Edinburgh

*Scottish Episcopal Church*

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# *The Communicant*

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

3 November 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:** 17 November 2021



*St Vincent's Chapel, Stockbridge, Edinburgh*

# DIOCESAN OFFICE NEWS

## DIOCESAN SYNOD

For those who were unable to attend, or who would like to refresh their memories of Ian Lawson's finance presentation, it has now been uploaded onto the [Synod resources page](#) for the meeting.

## DIOCESAN RESOURCES PAGE

Church administration matters are made simpler with the "Diocesan Office Resources" website page.

A flowchart guiding you through the Canon 35 process for alterations to church buildings is available, along with the all-important quinquennial inspection report pro forma – a crucial element of your church's five-year maintenance audit.

On the website churches can also find safeguarding training packs, a model constitution for vestries and information on how to make amendments to such documents, as well as a handy form to notify the diocese of any new appointments to your vestry.

Click [here](#) to access the site.



## FIRE ALARMS IN RECTORIES

The Scottish Government has passed legislation which means that, from February 2022 "all homeowners will be required to have interlinked alarms under legislation brought forward after the Grenfell Tower tragedy in 2017. These alarms significantly reduce casualties by alerting everybody in a property to a fire. Most homes will also require a carbon monoxide alarm. Private rented and new-build homes must already meet these standards, but from February they will apply to every home in Scotland."



Vestries are reminded that the General Synod Office issued guidelines regarding this in 2017. Following on rather conveniently from the previous news item, this information can be found on the "Buildings" page of the Diocesan Resources section on our [website](#).

## MAINTAINING LINKS BETWEEN THE EDINBURGH AND DUNEDIN (NEW ZEALAND) DIOCESAN OFFICES

For several years now, Edinburgh Diocese staff have enjoyed strong links with their counterparts at the office of the Diocese of Dunedin in New Zealand.



Readers may recall that The Bishop of Edinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, and his wife, Clare, travelled to Dunedin in 2019.

The Diocesan Administrator, Simon Filsell, very recently had a Zoom call with his opposite number, Andrew

Metcalfe, the Dunedin Diocesan Registrar, who is based at Peter Mann House.

Simon and Andrew discussed the pastoral and financial impacts of the pandemic upon their respective Dioceses, as well as the most recent Edinburgh Diocesan Synod and the ordinations of recent weeks.

We would like to thank the Diocese of Dunedin for sharing the last edition of *The Communicant* – a special edition for COP26 – and the most recent newsletter from the Youth and Children Officer, Claire Benton-Evans.

The Diocese of Dunedin's latest newsletter, entitled *Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka* in Māori and *The South Calling* in English, is [here](#).

Dunedin held the first day of their Diocesan Synod on Saturday, 6 November. A second is to take place in December or in early 2022.

Also worth consulting is this [link](#) to the Diocese of Dunedin's most recent edition of *Gospel Conversations*, which features the Revd Katene Eruera, who is Manukura of St John's Theological College, and the Bishop of Dunedin, The Rt Revd Dr Steven Benford.

The Bishop of Dunedin's diary can also be found [here](#).

## DIARY

### THE BISHOP'S DIARY

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

**Thursday 4 November** Attending Provincial Standing Committee

**Sunday 14 November** Wreath-Laying at the Stone of Remembrance, Edinburgh City Chambers

**Sunday 21 November** Preaching and Presiding at Christ Church, Falkirk

### COMMITTEES

**Thursday 4 November** Provincial Standing Committee

**Thursday 11 November** Finance & Management Committee

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

**Cover Image:** Barnabymiln, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via [Wikimedia Commons](#)

# 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

*No announcements*

## CANON 35

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

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

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### **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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## INSTITUTION OF THE REV AARON MOFFAT-JACKMAN

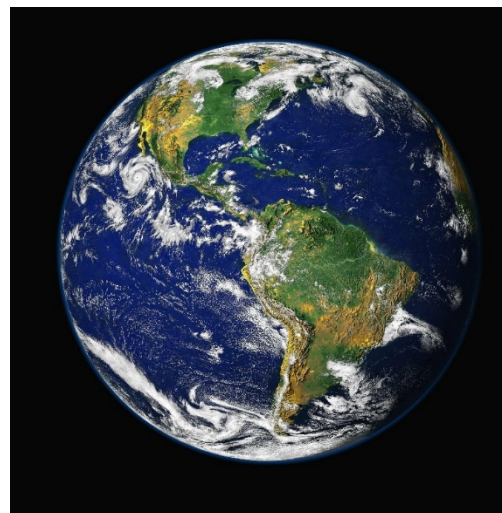


**The Rev Aaron Moffat-Jackman** was instituted as Priest-in-Charge at St Peter's, Musselburgh, by the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Rt Revd Dr John Armes, on Thursday, 19 October.

## COP 26 HOW CAN OUR DIOCESE TAKE PART?

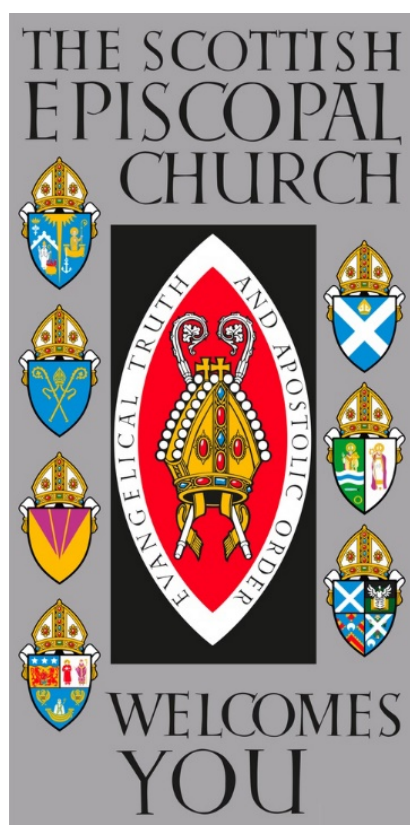
Here are some ways in which your church could take part in COP26:

- **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](#).



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## ALASTAIR HAGGART BURSARY 2022



**Applications for next year's Alastair Haggart Bursary have opened.**

The annual Bursary is dedicated to the memory of Bishop Haggart, who was the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church between 1977 and 1985.

The successful applicant will receive up to £1,300 to finance a sabbatical or another similar leave of absence that will significantly enhance their development. The outcomes of their funded project should also be of benefit to the wider Church. Lay readers and clergy ministering in the Scottish Episcopal Church may apply.

A committee will convene in February 2022 to make the next award. To apply for the Bursary, please request an application form from Mrs Linda Harrison [institute@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:institute@scotland.anglican.org) and return it to her by Monday, 10 January 2022.

## HISTORIC DECLARATION TO BE SIGNED AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

**Myriad treaties and declarations have had a profound impact upon Scottish history.**

Next month a brand-new one will enter Scotland's history books during a special service at St Mary's Cathedral on St Andrew's Day.

The Saint Andrew Declaration, which will be signed on Tuesday, 30 November by the Most Rev Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and the Rt Hon Jim Wallace PC QC (Baron Wallace of Tankerness – Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland), will see both churches formally recognise one another as part of the one Church of Jesus Christ.



Through a series of acknowledgements and commitments, the Declaration will lay the foundations for closer cooperation between the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Church of Scotland.

The Declaration is an initiative of the Our Common Calling Working Group, which brings together members of the Church of Scotland's Committee on Ecumenical Relations and the Scottish Episcopal Church's Interchurch Relations Committee.

Church leaders, clergy, congregants and anyone else with an interest in the ecumenical work undertaken between churches in Scotland is invited to celebrate the adoption of the Declaration in an online day conference on Tuesday, 30 November. **Conference registration is [here](#).**

Anyone is welcome to attend the official signing of the Declaration at St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, at 4.30 pm on Tuesday, 30 November. The service will also be live-streamed.

## NEWS FROM THE YOUTH & CHILDREN OFFICER

### CREATIVE COVID CHRISTMAS RESOURCES FOR CHURCHES

**Churches are planning for Advent and Christmas as the pandemic continues to affect our lives and worship, so the [Covid Christmas Resource Page](#) has been refreshed and renewed on the diocesan website.**

There are exciting online resources and ways for families to explore faith at home, plus ideas for practical outreach and sharing the Christmas message with your local community. Everything listed is suitable for children, young people and families, and much



will be appropriate for congregations of any age. There is also a section called 'When Christmas Hurts', with resources to help people of all ages lament together at what can be a difficult time, especially during a pandemic. You can find the full page of resources [here](#).

Claire Benton-Evans

## EXTERNAL NOTICES



**COP26** Greg Mitchell's mural at St John's Church on Princes Street is a stark reminder that each of us has a responsibility to protect the beauty of God's Creation.

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

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

More information is available [here](#).

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## **PRINCES ST GARDENS EASTER PLAY**

**We have received the below message from the trustees of the Princes Street Easter Play Trust:**

*"As you may know, The Easter Play Trust has a mission to present the story of Jesus on Easter Saturday each year in a city-centre location, usually Princes Street Gardens. We have been doing that in different formats since 2005 with exception of the past few years due to Covid [when we pivoted online]."*



*We are now at a place where we are looking to recruit new cast and crew members but we need more people! We wonder if you could share [this](#) short video [only 1 minute long] with your congregation?*

*We are also happy to come and talk about opportunities if you would like that but we appreciate time is precious! Our website has information about available opportunities – <https://easterplay.org>*

*We are so privileged in Edinburgh to be able to share the Gospel in such a public manner and we would value your help and partnering with ourselves to strengthen this opportunity in our city. Could you therefore share our appeal through the following link - <https://youtu.be/7gEZjCw6gY> - perhaps show it during your service or intimations?*

*Our mission is the same as yours; to promote the Gospel to as wide an audience as possible. We are also looking to have as many churches as possible open their doors over the Easter weekend, do contact us if you would like to be involved."*

Further information can be obtained by writing to [admin@easterplay.org](mailto:admin@easterplay.org).

## DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC TO VISIT DIOCESE

Hugh Morris, Director of the Royal School of Church Music, will hold a 'Meet the Director' event at St Peter's, Lutton Place, Edinburgh on Friday, 5 November at 7.30 pm.



Mr Morris is currently undertaking a road trip encompassing all 48 of the RSCM's UK areas.

Members will be able to find out more about the RSCM's activities in Scotland, and put their questions to the Director. Book [here](#) now.

As part of the session, Mr Morris will also run a workshop on the Kilcreggan Mass, a new setting by the renowned composer Peter Nardone.

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## 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

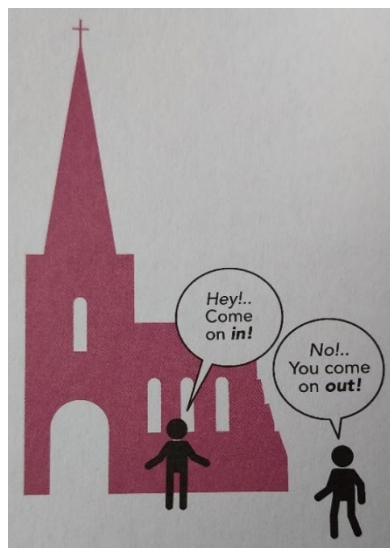
Tuesday, 23 Nov, 8 pm: **Will a robot steal my job?** – Dr Mary Ellen Foster

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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## 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.

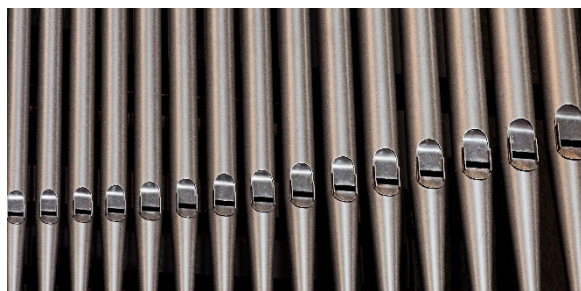
Taking this image as inspiration, the research uses the innovative Sensemaker research tool to learn from people's stories and to clarify the key lessons from those stories.

Contribute by clicking [here](#). Richard is keen to hear from people from across the SEC.

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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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## DO YOU HAVE AN UNUSED INKJET PRINTER?

St Ninian's, Comely Bank, Edinburgh, are looking for an inkjet printer, as a previous hand-me-down from the Diocesan Office is beyond repair. Contact [dean@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:dean@dioceseofedinburgh.org).

# PROTECT YOUR CHURCH AGAINST CYBERATTACKS

**We have received the following from the Charity Commission:**

“The Charity Commission has [warned](#) charity leaders to protect their organisations against fraud and cybercrime, after new figures show charities reported almost £8.6 million of lost funds in the last financial year.

This latest data from Action Fraud also shows 1,059 separate incidents of fraud were reported by charities from April 2020 to March 2021. The true scale of fraud against charities is believed to be much higher, as fraud is known to be underreported.

The Commission is highlighting these figures, and the risk to charities from fraud, as part of [Charity Fraud Awareness Week](#), an annual campaign that aims to highlight ways charities can protect themselves from fraud.”

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## ADVERT: WHAT DO YOU SEEK? WISDOM FROM RELIGIOUS LIFE

by John-Francis Friendship

Canterbury Press, ISBN: 9781786223456

Published October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, £16.99

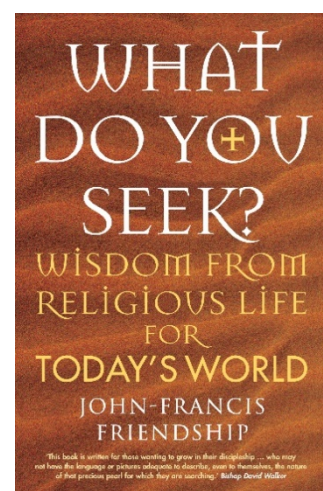
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Following his previous best-seller, *Enfolded in Christ: The Inner Life of a Priest*, and *The Mystery of Faith: Exploring Christian Belief* (a video introduction is available [here](#)), this new book explores the wisdom offered to the world by the Religious Life as it has been lived, in particular, by Anglicans.

It is concerned to show the way in which this life has a treasury of basic knowledge concerning human life and how we can live together. The Life has been present, in some form, in the Church from the beginning of Christianity and in the Anglican Communion for almost 200 years but is frequently overlooked or considered irrelevant yet has helped mould both individual well-being in Christ and the shape and wisdom of the Christian world.

Whilst it uses stories concerning various communities it is not primarily intended to promote the Life, although it was written with a view to help those who may be considering their call. Chapters include: *Seeking God* and the wisdom of the Desert tradition; *The Monastic Way and Contemplative Living*; *For the Sake of the Kingdom*, offering insights into the way the Life responded to growing social needs; *Habits and Hearts*, looking at the way we express what lies most deeply within us; *Priests and Prophets*, reflecting on how the Life might inform both the ordained and those seeking to live prophetically, and *The Hidden Monk*, exploring the way the ‘monk’ (nun) lies in the depths of us all.

The book is available from good bookshops or direct from the publisher, Canterbury Press:  
<https://canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9781786223456/what-do-you-seek>



The Lantern Group invites you to ...

## A Morning for Quiet Reflection

# Advent Questions

in the light of faith and current events

Who is He?

Who are we?

**Saturday 20 November, 2021**

**10.15am to 1.00pm**



**Due to Covid-19 precautions,  
this event will be held online, using Zoom.**

**(Zoom meeting will be open from 10.00am for a start at 10.15am)**

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

Please phone **01368 850604** or email: [janet.mckinnell@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.mckinnell@btinternet.com).  
You will then be sent a Link for joining the meeting a few days in advance.

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.



Peter Kennard: CODE RED  
Saturday 6th - Friday 26th November 2021  
Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, free entry

**CODE RED** – a print installation by one of Britain’s foremost political artists Peter Kennard.

Free but ticketed. [Register here](#)

*We’re living in a time of absolute emergency. We’re tottering through the rubble of the rampant free market. It’s a time in which images can open up a critical space that can jolt assumptions and break through denial. The poet Shelley wrote that ‘we must imagine what we know’. By picturing the result of extracting wealth out of the ground by every means possible I’m trying to picture what we know will happen if we don’t stop this plunder. – Peter Kennard*

In August this year the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released their report. Their findings, prepared by 234 scientists from 66 countries, warn that human activity has warmed the climate to a point that is unparalleled by anything in the last 2,000 years and that by 2019 atmospheric CO2 concentrations were higher than at anytime in at least two million years. The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said the IPCC report was the ‘code red for humanity, the alarm bells are deafening and the evidence is irrefutable’.

Through the use of photomontage the artist turns his outrage into images. Throughout CODE RED Kennard re-appropriates the beautiful photo of the whole earth taken by the Apollo astronauts in 1972, which Kennard cuts and tears, combining it with images of industrial chimneys, oil refineries exploding, polluted dust, gas masks, parched earth and floods. His image of the earth surrounded by a clock symbolises climate/nuclear destruction, whilst in another image planet earth is transformed into a seed sprouting a tree. Kennard’s work makes visible the increasing devastation of the natural world, revealing this breakdown not as inevitable but the direct result of human activity. The resulting montages can then be used as a visual arm of the struggle for climate justice.

CODE RED is presented by Peace & Justice (Scotland) in partnership with Street Level Photoworks to coincide with COP26 – UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. Supported by National Lottery Community Fund, Jackarts and Stop Climate Chaos Scotland.