



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church

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Charity Number: SC001214

The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

17 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

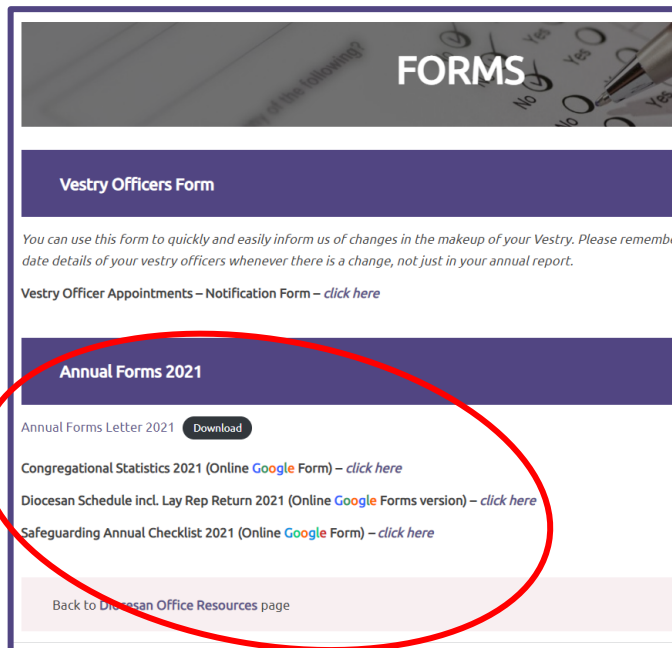
NEXT EDITION: 1 December 2021



St Adrian's Church, Gullane

DIOCESAN OFFICE NEWS

ACTION REQUIRED: ANNUAL FORMS



All incumbents, priests-in-charge and vestry secretaries have now received an email and attached letter from the Diocesan Administrator, Simon Filsell, and me regarding this year's annual forms.

Full details on how forms are to be completed and the deadlines by which all forms must have been received are available in the letter attached to the email. Please note that PVG coordinators must fill in the 'Safeguarding Checklist' form.

Thank you very much for your help, especially given how busy charges are as they approach a new church year.

Robert Guthrie (Assistant Diocesan Administrator)

LIVE-STREAMING FACILITIES

We are aware that several churches are now looking to set up permanent live-streaming facilities for their services.

We wanted to remind Vestries that, if they intend to install fixed video cameras or any other audio-visual devices to any part of the fabric, a [Canon 35 consent](#) will be required. We have just granted consent to one Vestry for exactly that.

Generally, this is not a particularly radical or controversial matter, but we would encourage Vestries to make sure that the cameras are not too visually-intrusive and that cable routes are discreet.



Fixings for the cameras and the cables should, wherever possible, be put into the pointing of any stonework rather than into the stonework itself.

Alex Stewart (Convenor, Diocesan Buildings Committee)

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-yearly 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.

RG



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](#).

DIARY

THE BISHOP'S DIARY

Sunday 21 November Preaching and Presiding at Christ Church, Falkirk; Leading the online provincial service for Christ the King ([link](#))

Saturday 27 November Confirmations at the Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh

Sunday 28 November Prayers for the City at the Nativity Carol Concert, St Andrew Square Garden, Edinburgh

Tuesday 30 November Saint Andrew Declaration events

Sunday 5 December Presiding at St Mary's, Grangemouth; Presiding at St Catharine's, Bo'ness; Attending Carols in the Park, Zetland Park, Grangemouth

COMMITTEES

Thursday 25 November Diocesan Standing Committee

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

None

Cover Image: Renata Edge / Entrance to St. Adrian's Episcopal Church, Gullane

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Entrance_to_St._Adrian%27s_Episcopal_Church,_Gullane_-_geograph.org.uk_-_920981.jpg

This issue of *The Communicant* was edited by **Robert Guthrie**



Ministry Development Officer

The Diocese of Edinburgh is seeking a part-time (18.75 hours) Ministry Development Officer on a fixed-term appointment of 3 years.

The MDO will work closely with the bishop and our synodical structures, to support the ongoing development and wellbeing of all in authorised ministry in the diocese.

We seek someone who has experience of the pressures of church-based ministry, a good communicator and confidential networker. The postholder will have experience of facilitating events and training opportunities, for large groups as well as reviews on an individual scale, and of providing training resources where required (online or in person).

The postholder is likely to be an ordained person within the Anglican Communion, and will be well organised, approachable, with an ability to prioritise workloads.

Salary will be £13,500 and the postholder joins the generous SEC Pension Scheme. The postholder will be accountable to the Convenor of the DMMC. It is expected that the postholder will be based within the Diocesan Office (once it is fully open). If you wish to discuss this role before submitting an application, please contact The Revd Canon Dr Sophia Marriage: sophia.marriage@stmarksportobello.org.

The postholder will be line-manager to an administrative assistant.

Deadline for applications: **9am on Monday 29 November 2021**

Interviews will be held during the week commencing Monday 6 December (date tbc)

Download a job description and application form [here](#).

NOTICES



NEW SEC ADVISORY GROUP COVID-19 GUIDANCE (NOV 2021)

[Here](#) is the SEC's latest guidance, an update regarding which was sent by email to all clergy, lay readers, vestry secretaries and diocesan secretaries on Friday, 5 November.

The new SEC update simply reflects the fact that congregations should now follow [the Scottish Government's own guidance](#) for places of worship.

However, the Advisory Group felt that a side note applicable to the Church's specific circumstances and traditions was necessary.

View the guidance update [here](#).

NOTICES (continued)

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL INSTITUTE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

CANON 35

The Diocesan Buildings Committee has granted consent for the following projects:

- **Haddington, Holy Trinity** – Installation of Wi-Fi Camera
- **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

NEWS FROM THE BISHOP OF EDINBURGH



**+JOHN MARKS
REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY**

The Bishop of Edinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, lays a wreath at Edinburgh City Chambers on Remembrance Sunday, 14 November.

Photo: Mark Owens/Royal British Legion Scotland

FOLLOW THE BISHOP OF EDINBURGH ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 3

My #COP26 🌍 Video Message:

"Holy God, strengthen our resolve to act now for the wellbeing of our beautiful planet, and all living things that depend upon it."

@secsynod #COP26Glasgow #Edinburgh #climate



The Rt Revd Dr John Armes
Bishop of Edinburgh

157 views 0:05 / 1:24

Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 10

With other Edinburgh faith and belief leaders, I welcomed pilgrims from across the world to New College @EdinburghUni for @EdinInterfaith's #Interfaith Pilgrimage for Climate Justice. We must work together to prevent climate injustice. (📷 John Baxter, New College, Iain Stewart)



InterfaithScot and 9 others

Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 10

With other Edinburgh political and faith leaders, I was delighted to welcome pilgrims from across the city and beyond to New College @EdinburghUni for @EdinInterfaith's #Interfaith Pilgrimage for Climate Justice. We are resolved to work together to prevent climate injustice.

Scottish Interfaith Week @SIFWEvents · Nov 10

Fabulous photo of the COP26 Pilgrims being welcomed to Edinburgh during #ScottishInterfaithWeek 🌍

@Scotpilgrimage @EdinInterfaith



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 12

Recently, I had the pleasure of instituting @tokennolonger as Priest-in-Charge at St Peter's Church in Musselburgh. Welcome to the @EdinDiocese .

Listen to Rev Aaron on the @BBCRadio4 Daily Service today at 9.45 am!

@secsynod #musselburgh #edinburgh #scottishepiscopalchurch



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 10

I recently joined pilgrims on the Bo'ness to Falkirk leg of the #COP26 🌍 @Scotpilgrimage. Some thought-provoking conversations with people who have been raising awareness of climate injustice across our @EdinDiocese and the @secsynod.

📷 Willie Shaw



Glasgow Churches COP Group - Martin Johnstone and 4 others



FACEBOOK: BISHOP JOHN ARMES



TWITTER: @BISHOPEDINBURGH



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 10

It was recently my pleasure to ordain Russell Duncan as priest at The Church of The Good Shepherd, Murrayfield, Edinburgh, in the @EdinDiocese. Also pictured is my Chaplain, The Rev Dean Fostekew, Rector of The Good Shepherd.

@secsynod #Edinburgh @AnglicanNews

Patricia Tait



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 6

A prayer on the #GlobalDayofAction for Climate Justice.

"Holy God, may your loving purposes be fulfilled by #COP26, so that generations yet unborn may have good reason to give thanks for the courage of our leaders today."

#COP26 #COP26Glasgow @secsynod @AnglicanNews

A prayer from the
Bishop of Edinburgh
on the
**Global Day of
Action for
Climate Justice**

"Holy God,
strengthen our
resolve to act now
for the wellbeing of
our beautiful planet,
and all living things
that depend upon it."



The Rt Revd Dr John Armes

Diocese of Edinburgh
Scottish Episcopal Church



**The Friends of the
Archbishop of Canterbury's
Anglican Communion Fund**
Supporting the Anglican Community Worldwide

The Right Reverend John Armes
Bishop of Edinburgh
Bishop's Office
21A Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5EL

10 November 2021

Dear Bishop John,

On behalf of Archbishop Justin Welby and all at the Anglican Communion Fund, I would like to express heartfelt thanks for the Diocese of Edinburgh's 2021 Advent Appeal gift towards the Together in Unity COVID Appeal. The total amount we have received is £20,508.16. We know that these are difficult times for everyone, the Church included, and so we deeply appreciate this sacrificial giving. It means so much to our brothers and sisters across the Communion that there is widespread support for their wellbeing.

Your gift enabled us to reach more churches and communities with essential support, providing food and necessities to families vulnerable to the economic impacts of the pandemic, including clergy families, providing basic hygiene and sanitation equipment for stemming the spread of the virus, supporting communication of virus prevention messages in rural areas, and more.

It looks as though COVID-19 will be with us for a while longer and we will continue to support our global Anglican family through it. In addition, our ongoing work of strengthening the Church will be increasingly important as communities often turn to the Church during times of crisis such as this. Once again, we thank you and the Diocese of Edinburgh for your steadfast support of the Anglican Communion Fund and we highly value our partnership in this mission.

In Christ,

Safiya Nyirongo
CEO of the Anglican Communion Fund

DIOCESAN NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION FUND

The Bishop of Edinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, received last week a letter from The Friends of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Anglican Communion Fund.

In the letter (left), the Fund's CEO, Safiya Nyirongo, thanked the Diocese of Edinburgh on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Revd and The Rt Hon Justin Welby, for the generosity shown by its charges in the Diocese's 2021 Advent Appeal.

Congratulations to all those who contributed to the Advent Appeal, allowing the Diocese to raise £20,508.16.

The money will be used to provide support to churches and communities around the world.

ORDINATION OF THE REV DAVID TODD



David Todd was ordained as priest at St Mark's, Portobello, Edinburgh, by The Bishop of Edinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, on Saturday, 2 October.



ALASTAIR HAGGART BURSARY 2022

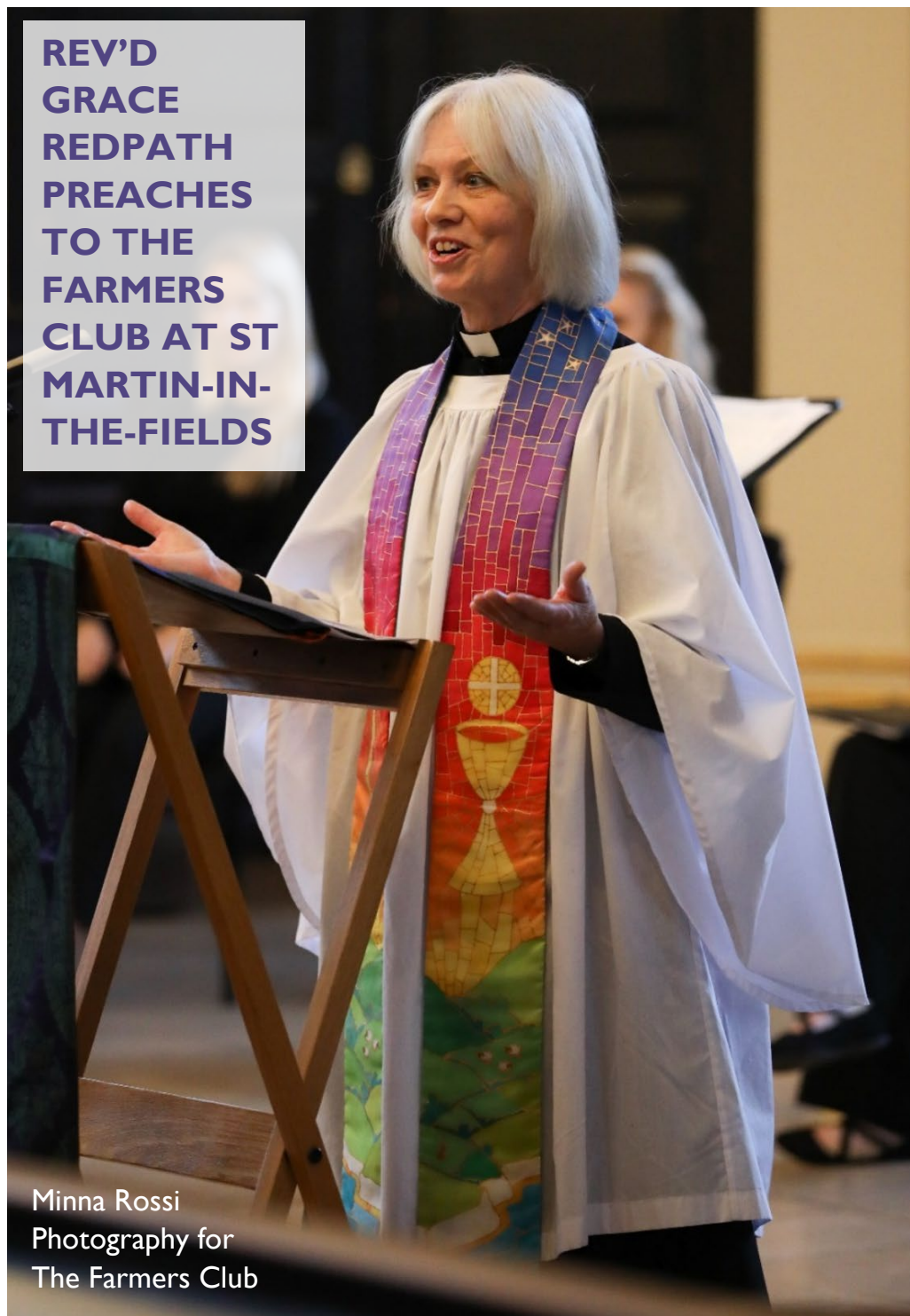
Applications for next year's Alastair Haggart Bursary have opened.

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 and return it to her by Monday, 10 January 2022.

**REV'D
GRACE
REDPATH
PREACHES
TO THE
FARMERS
CLUB AT ST
MARTIN-IN-
THE-FIELDS**



Minna Rossi
Photography for
The Farmers Club

The Rev'd Grace Redpath, Associate Priest at St Andrew's Church in Kelso, was recently invited to preach at the Farmers Club Harvest Service at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

As our communities begin to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, Grace spoke in her sermon of how the love of God always shines through – even in the darkest of crises.

“When our lives are shattered by a terrible trial or tragedy, rather than conceal the damage, out of his compassion for us God puts us back together, creating something more beautiful than before,” Grace said.

Grace noted the Prophet Joel's words on how locusts ravaged a year's worth of crops in seconds, tearing communities apart.

However, the people of whom Joel spoke were re-energised by the promise of new life.

Grace, whose husband, Keith, is the current Chairman of The Farmers Club, also referred to the Gospel of Matthew. The Evangelist juxtaposes the futility of worrying with the constant reassurance of God.

Jesus often told those whom he encountered to “consider the lilies” – to take a step back and to notice the ephemeral but incredibly beauty of our world.

Grace concluded by saying: “And so, as God has promised to restore the years the locusts have eaten in the larger story of our lives, Jesus is offering daily restoration, healing and hope to us through paying attention to the short-lived beauty of the lilies – an antidote to the anxious, preoccupied lives we sometimes lead”.

FOLLOW THE DIOCESE ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & TWITTER

Send your images/text to rguthrie@dioceseofedinburgh.org



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 12

On the @ScotPilgrimage to #COP26 🌱 Bo'ness to Falkirk leg, pilgrims from @EdinDiocese and other faith and belief communities were treated to a delicious meal by cooks from @FalkirkMosque and @Falkirk_Mosque, when staying at St Francis Xavier's Church (@FCatholics). #Interfaith



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 13

Photos from Bo'ness to Falkirk leg of @ScotPilgrimage for #COP26 🌱. Pilgrims from @EdinDiocese and other faith/belief communities engaged mindfully with Grangemouth Refinery and arrived at @FalkirkTrinity (@ChurchofScotland). #Interfaith @secsynod @BishopEdinburgh @InterfaithScot



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 12

Remember to listen back to this morning's Daily Service on @BBCRadio4. It featured the Rev Aaron Moffat-Jackman (@tokennolonger) from St Peter's Church in Musselburgh.

@secsynod #Edinburgh @ECTEdinburgh

buff.ly/3HjFuEg



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 3

Look out for Cuthbert, the #ChurchCat at @StAnnesDunbar! 🐱🐱🐱

We wonder if Cuthbert will soon rise to social media fame, just like Tiger, who is the @No1Cathedral cat (see here: independent.co.uk/life-style/dea ...)



StAnnesDunbar @StAnnesDunbar · Nov 2

This is Cuthbert the #ChurchCat. He's not a fan of social media - prefers fans to be in range to deliver Dreamies. He's often in the war memorial chapel, snoozing on the heated floor, or checking out the birds in the church garden. Say Hi if you see him! #dunbar #eastlothian



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 11

Remembrance is being observed around the @EdinDiocese this week.

Have a look at these images from @rosslyncapel, @stcuthbertsSEC and St Salvador's, Stenhouse.

Lest we forget.

@secsynod #remembrance #armisticeday #armistice #armistice1918 #churches #scottishchurches #Edinburgh





Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 11

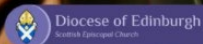
This Armistice Day, we remember all those who were involved in the First World War. We also hold in our prayers and thoughts all those who have been, and continue to be, affected by other wars and conflicts.

@secsynod @CWGC @poppyscotland #armisticeday #armistice #armistice1918



"And the blind fight the blind. When it is peace, then we may view again with new-won eyes each other's truer form and wonder."

Charles Hamilton Sorley
(1895-1915)



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 11

Wonderful to see so many people in Dunbar raising awareness of climate injustice in the context of #COP26, especially from @StAnnesDunbar in @EdinDiocese.

@secsynod @AnglicanWorld @AnglicanNews @Scotpilgrimage



StAnnesDunbar @StAnnesDunbar · Nov 6

Today there was a gathering in Dunbar in solidarity with the #COP26 Marches in Glasgow. #FridaysForFuture #ClimateActionNow #PrayforCOP26 @EdinDiocese @secsynod @BishopEdinburgh @JohnMuirTrust @sustaindunbar



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 11

If your child loves Christmas and singing, then why not bring them to @StMarysCathEdin's Come and Sing Carols Event?



St Mary's Cathedral @StMarysCathEdin · Nov 11

CHILDREN'S COME AND SING CAROLS

Is your child (P3-P7) interested in singing? Join us for a chance to sing Carols with our Cathedral Choir at this free event!

Sign up here: bit.ly/3wh7Udb



Children's Come and Sing Carols

Children P3-P7!
Saturday 4th December
Arrive at 1:30pm
Family Service at 4pm
Refreshments provided



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 5

Wonderful to see all 500 @Kinetika #BeachofDreams flags on the lawn of @StMarysCathEdin last weekend for the Cathedral's special #COP26 service.

Peter Backhouse



St Mary's Cathedral @StMarysCathEdin · Oct 29

St Mary's Cathedral Weekly Notices - mailchi.mp/1c1542806af0/s...



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 3

We're holding in our prayers today those from the many faith and belief groups and communities present yesterday at the #COP26Vigil in Glasgow for Scottish Interfaith Week. #COP26 #InterFaithWeek #interfaith

Scottish Interfaith Week @SIFWEvents · Nov 3

Stunning photos from the #COP26Vigil taken by @stevenmbjones

Need a quiet moment of reflection during the busy fortnight of #COP26? You can rewatch the Vigil on YouTube any time youtube.com/watch?v=Q9wDl3...



FACEBOOK: SEARCH
'EDINBURGH DIOCESE'



TWITTER: @EDINDIOCESE



INSTAGRAM:
@DIOCESEOFEDINBURGH

HISTORIC DECLARATION TO BE SIGNED AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL – CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

A brand-new declaration will enter Scotland's history books this St Andrew's Day during a special service at St Mary's Cathedral.

The Saint Andrew Declaration, which will be signed on Tuesday, 30 November by the Most Revd 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 are invited to celebrate the adoption of the Declaration at 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

CHANGE IN A TIME OF CHAOS

A Series of Science & Faith webinars with St Columbas-by-the-Castle

Tuesday 7th December at 20:00

Post COP 26 - celebration or wake?

With Ian Murray MP



St Columbas-by-the-Castle Episcopal Church, Edinburgh. SCO16571



'POST-COP 26: CELEBRATION OR WAKE?' WITH IAN MURRAY MP, SARAH BOYACK MSP & CLLR CLAIRE MILLER

Now COP26 is over, what are the real-life problems of managing change facing politicians? And how realistic are hopes for a Just Transition? Ian Murray will explore some of the realpolitik issues which he and colleagues have to address. He will be joined on the panel by Sarah Boyack, a Labour MSP, and Claire Miller, a Green Party Edinburgh City Councillor.

Ian Murray is a member of the Scottish Labour Party and for seven years prior to being elected to Westminster he served as an Edinburgh City Councillor for the wards of Liberton and Liberton/Gilmerton. He has been the MP for Edinburgh South since 2010, serving on the Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee and the Environmental Audit select Committee. In 2011 he was appointed as Shadow Minister for Trade and Investment and since 2020 has served as the Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland.

Please note the slightly later time.

Please register in advance at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3xsaTbp4ST2A4OhAZNQmzw

LAUNCH OF THE RELIGION AND BELIEF POLICY NETWORK



Booking: [Religion and Belief Policy Network Launch Event Tickets, Thu 2 Dec 2021 at 13:00](#)

RBPN is a research-based initiative led by Goldsmiths, University of London, with support from Arts and Humanities Research Council.

The programme is designed to improve the effectiveness of employers and service providers in their engagement with religion and belief diversity. It works with influencers across employers and providers to co-produce resources and support policymaking and practice in this area.

Scoping events have been held in each of the nations of the UK to engage with policy leaders from a range of bodies and settings to scope the challenges and opportunities. This has led to the development of policy/practice resources to help professionals work effectively with religion and belief diversity.

Light in a dark year

Weekly reflections for Advent 2021

As the days grow shorter, we celebrate the coming of light into the world. In what has often felt like a dark and difficult year, and with uncertainty still around, we arrive in Advent looking for the light which reassures, renews and transforms.

This series of weekly Advent reflections is an invitation to pause, find a breathing space, and reconnect with the new life at the heart of the season. It's about noticing the glimmers of brightness in the dark, and discovering the light which guides, consoles and illuminates.

A new audio reflection is made available for each week of Advent to listen to in your own time (starting on November 26th); this is also available as a written text. Each one is accompanied by a selection of other reflective material including poetry, images, Scripture and music which you can return to throughout the week.

For more information and to register, visit www.heartinpilgrimage.org.uk or visit this link: <https://heartinpilgrimage.org.uk/advent-reflections-2021/>

The cost is £25. Gift (or pay-what-you-can) places are available for those who might appreciate them; any donations received will go towards making the retreat possible for others; email info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk for more information. Please register by Thursday 25th November if you can.



WINTER TALES BOOK FESTIVAL AT NEW COLLEGE (3-5 DEC)

“In celebration of 175 years of ground-breaking research into religion, spirituality and the arts, we are delighted to host our first ever literary festival. We warmly invite you to join us for this in-person event 3rd-5th December.

There will be an array of top speakers and writers from the UK and beyond as we explore the relationship between belief and fiction, religion and pluralism, the complex web of religion, politics, and the environment, fantasy and spirituality, and much more.



You will be able to discover the deep-rooted connections between religion and historical fiction, and the darker side of religion and crime fiction. Understand why some prominent thinkers and writers have engaged with diverse beliefs so creatively. And explore why Edinburgh as a place has held such special fascination in literature.

Confirmed speakers include Robert Harris, Sally Magnusson, Val McDermid and Miles Jupp.

Winter Tales will take place in the iconic New College buildings, from 3rd-5th December 2021. Some events have a small charge but most are free. Refreshments will be available. Browse the programme [here](#).”

FULLY FUNDED TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE

If you or your team have a training requirement, you might be interested to read this message from www.WeFindAnyLearner.com. If you are interested, please contact the Diocesan Office:

“Thanks to government funding, we can provide you or your team with free nationally accredited distance learning courses. These courses are great for personal development, confidence and are a great way to improve their CPD in the comfort of their own home or workplace. The courses we offer take around 30 hours in total to complete and you will be awarded a nationally recognised certificate from TQUK, CACHE or NCFE at the end of the course. They will also have online or over the phone tutor support throughout their learning journey.

During November and December, we are also offering face to face group enrolments in your chosen venue. If you struggle to get groups together then we can simply issue each person with a link to complete the enrolment process in the comfort of their own home or workplace.

To be eligible, learners just need to be:

- Over 19 as of the 31st of August 2021
- Living in Scotland or England
- Not on an Apprenticeship

We need to fill 750 places by the end of December 2021 and do have availability to come and do an enrolment day in November.”



COURSE LIST

- ✓ Allergy Awareness
- ✓ Awareness of Bullying in Children and Young People
- ✓ Children and Young People's Mental Health
- ✓ Caring for Children and Young People
- ✓ Behaviour that Challenges
- ✓ Behaviour that Challenges in Children
- ✓ Business Administration
- ✓ Care and Management of Diabetes
- ✓ Care Planning
- ✓ Caring for the Elderly
- ✓ Certificate in IT User Skills
- ✓ Cleaning Knowledge and Skills
- ✓ Common Childhood Illnesses
- ✓ Common Health Conditions
- ✓ Counselling Skills
- ✓ Customer Service
- ✓ Dementia Care
- ✓ Dignity and Safeguarding
- ✓ End of Life Care
- ✓ Equality and Diversity
- ✓ Event Planning
- ✓ Falls Prevention Awareness
- ✓ Improving Personal Exercise, Health and Nutrition
- ✓ Improving Service User Experience in Health and Social Care
- ✓ Information, Advice or Guidance
- ✓ Lean Organisation Management
- ✓ Living in a Fair and Diverse Society
- ✓ Mental Health First Aid
- ✓ Mental Health Problems
- ✓ Nutrition and Health

- ✓ Retail Operations
- ✓ Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care
- ✓ Prevention and Control of Infection
- ✓ Principles for Digital Skills
- ✓ Principles of the Mental Health Care Worker
- ✓ Safe Handling of Medication
- ✓ Self-harm and Suicide Awareness and Prevention
- ✓ Special Education Needs and Disability
- ✓ Team Leading
- ✓ Understanding Autism
- ✓ Understanding Safeguarding and Prevent
- ✓ Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties
- ✓ Warehousing and Storage
- ✓ Working with Individuals with Learning Disabilities

✓ Available England and Scotland.

✓ Available England Only.



01226 958 888

www.wefindanylearner.co.uk

Info@wefindanylearner.co.uk



ENSURING THE FUTURE OF THE UK'S CHURCH BUILDINGS

As so many of the country's churches and chapels are threatened with closure, the National Churches Trust has started the 'Future of the UK's Church Buildings' campaign to highlight their spiritual,

historic, cultural, economic and community-focused benefits.

Over the last ten years, the number of churches that are open and being used for worship has fallen from 42,000 to 39,800.

A video message from Sir Michael Palin, the Vice President of the National Churches Trust, along with a church-buildings manifesto and link to provide your thoughts, is available [here](#).



A Pause on the Threshold of Advent

**A Quiet Afternoon to Prepare for the Season
Saturday 4th December, 1.30pm-4.30pm
St Salvador's Church, Stenhouse**

At the end of what has felt, at times, like a difficult year, Advent arrives, whether or not we're ready for it. This Quiet Afternoon is an invitation to pause on the threshold of this Advent season. Can we make space in our lives for the gifts it offers to us? How might we make room in our busy lives for the Light of the World?

The afternoon will draw on a mixture of reflective approaches and creative material including art, poetry and music. It will include guided reflection and individual quiet time. St Salvador's is an attractive space which somehow manages to be both cosy and spacious, enabling us to gather in a way which respects covid-19 guidelines. There is free on-street parking and easy access by bus.

The cost is £10 (or pay what you can). To book, or for any more information, contact Susan Mansfield on info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk or 07803 620038. Please consider booking by Friday 26th November.

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, 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](#).

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>

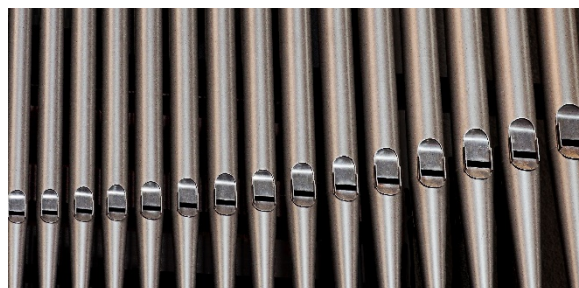
We are so privileged in Edinburgh to be able to share the Gospel in such a public manner and we would value your help and partnering with ourselves to strengthen this opportunity in our city. Could you therefore share our appeal through the following link - <https://youtu.be/7gEZjCw6gY> - perhaps show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

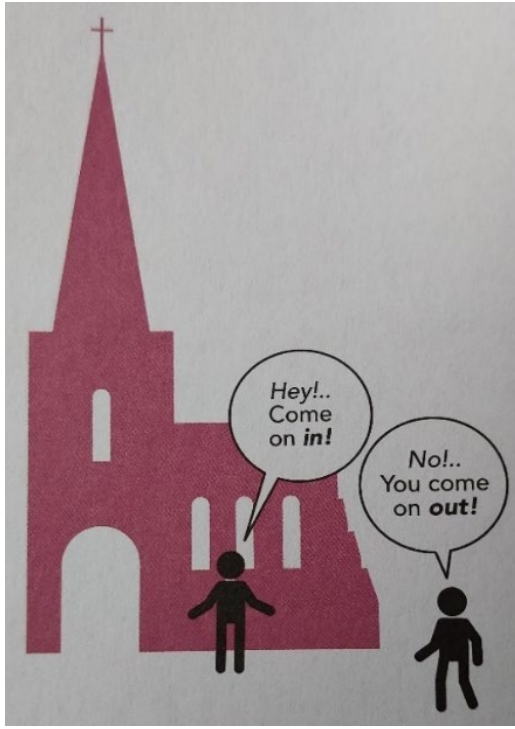
Further information can be obtained by writing to admin@easterplay.org.

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."



RESEARCH PROJECT ON SEC PIONEER MINISTRY

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

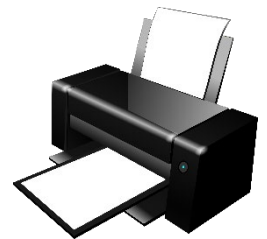
Led by Rev Dr Richard Tiplady, the SEI's Director of Mixed Mode Training, the project aims to identify examples and experiences of pioneer ministry across the breadth of the SEC and the lessons that can be learned therefrom.

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.

DO YOU HAVE AN UNUSED INKJET PRINTER?

Staff at 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.



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."

ADVERT: WHAT DO YOU SEEK? WISDOM FROM RELIGIOUS LIFE

by John-Francis Friendship

Canterbury Press, ISBN: 9781786223456

Published October 8th, 2021, £16.99

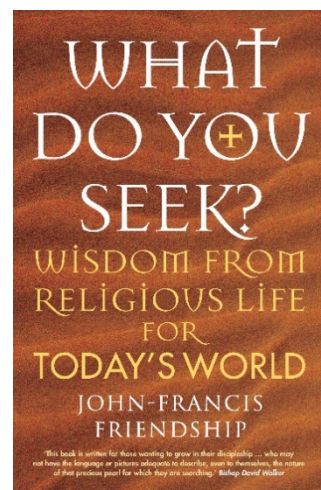
Following his previous best-seller, *Enfolded in Christ: The Inner Life of a Priest*, and *The Mystery of Faith: Exploring Christian Belief* (a video introduction is available [here](#)), this new book explores the wisdom offered to the world by the Religious Life as it has been lived, in particular,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

10.15 am to 1.00 pm



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

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

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

Please phone **01368 850604** or email: 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.

EDINBURGH'S CHRISTMAS 2021

NATIVITY CAROL CONCERT

Sunday 28 November 2021

3pm

Free

St Andrew Square

Everyone is welcome to come along and sing Christmas Carols with **St Columba's Choir** and the **Salvation Army Brass Band** at the annual Nativity Carol Concert.

The collection this year is for Bethany Christian Trust.



The Moderator of Edinburgh Presbytery, Dr Derek Browning will give the Christmas message; Bishop John Armes brings prayers for the city and Archbishop Leo Cushley blesses the Nativity Scene.



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.

Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland

Invites YOU to a

VETERANS' BREAKFAST

Saturday 27th November

St Cuthbert's Church - Edinburgh

5 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2EP

09.00 – 09.45 hrs for a Continental Breakfast

An opportunity for the veteran's community ...

- To gather together with fellow veterans
- To meet the Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland team
- To hear about the great range of support available to us all **And to enjoy a free breakfast!!**

Please assist our catering by booking early, giving the name and numbers of those attending to ..

Email: VCS@wpcscotland.co.uk

Text: 0771 254 2518

Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland is an initiative of Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland
Scottish Charity SC041857. A Scottish Company Limited by Guarantee
(Company No. SC387207) www.wpcscotland.co.uk