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The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

I December 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: 15 December 2021



Aerial view of St Mary's Church, Dalmahoy

DIOCESAN OFFICE NEWS

ANNUAL FORMS DUE IMMINENTLY

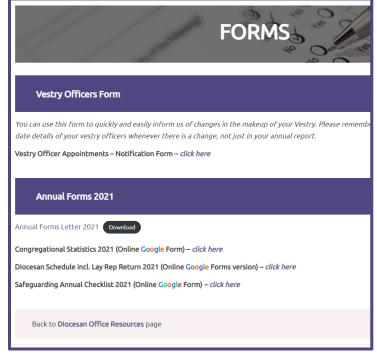
Incumbents, priests-in-charge and vestry secretaries are reminded that Annual Forms must be handed in shortly.

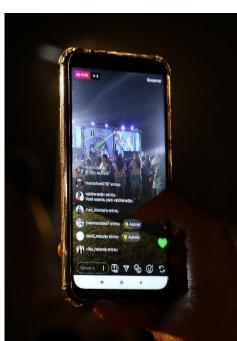
Details are outlined in an email and attached letter from the Diocesan Administrator (Simon Filsell) and me, dated Thursday, 11 November.

Please refer to the email and letter for completion instructions. 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 a new church year commences.

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 <u>Canon 35 consent</u> 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)

DIARY

THE BISHOP'S DIARY

Sunday 5 December Presiding at St Mary's, Grangemouth; Presiding at St Catharine's, Bo'ness; Attending Carols in the Park, Zetland Park, Grangemouth Thursday 9 December Religious Leaders and Faith Representatives Conference Sunday 12 December Presiding at Christ Church, Morningside, Edinburgh Sunday 19 December Presiding at Centenary Service at St Ninian's, Comely Bank, Edinburgh Wednesday 22 December Nine Lessons and Carols, St Mary's Cathedral Friday 24 December Nine Lessons and Carols, St Mary's Cathedral Saturday 25 December Preaching at St Mary's Cathedral

COMMITTEES

None

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

None

NOTICES



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

<u>Here</u> 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 <u>the Scottish</u> <u>Government's own guidance</u> 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 <u>here</u>.

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



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · Nov 19

A statement regarding the links of the Diocese of Edinburgh with the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Cape Coast, Ghana, and the support Ghana's bishops have given for a bill being considered by the country's Parliament.

edinburgh.anglican.org/2021/11/a-stat...

Statement Published

Diocese of Edinburgh and 2 others

Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · 1h · · · I was delighted to attend the signing of the Saint Andrew Declaration yesterday @StMarysCathEdin. St Andrew's Day was truly historic, with both the @secsynod and @churchscotland looking at new ways of working together in their common calling to minister to the people of Scotland.

Scottish Episcopal Church @secsynod · 15h

The Scottish Episcopal Church and the @churchscotland today signed the Saint Andrew Declaration, deepening the relationship between the two churches as they look at new ways of working together scotland.anglican.org/saint-andrew-d...



1 You Retweeter Diocese of E

Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · 1h #EdinAdventCalendar DAY 1

Today, @BishopEdinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, launches the @EdinDiocese #AdventCalendar!

Why not pause for two minutes as +John offers his reflections on the #path towards Christmas?

#AdventWord #Advent @secsynod @AnglicanWorld #Edinburgh



Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · 20h

Today I'm excited to be attending the St Andrew's Declaration Conference. The Declaration will be signed this afternoon @StMarysCathEdin, bringing closer the @secsynod and @churchofscotland as they recognise each other formally in their common ministry to the people of Scotland.

St Andrew Declaration



Bringing the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church closer together

Bishop John Armes @BishopEdinburgh · 1h What a beautiful #ArchiveAdventCalendar post from @Scranlife and @TheScotsman, showing @StJohnPrincesSt (@secsynod) and @cuthbert_church (@churchscotland).

Edinburgh City Centre Churches Together - @ECCCTogether

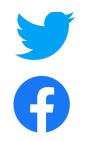
SCRAN @Scranlife · 4h

We begin our #ArchiveAdventCalendar countdown with an atmospheric 1944 #snow scene of Princes Street and @edinburghcastle Hope everyone is wrapped up warm!

OTheScotsman ow.ly/TT2J50GX0IV



FOLLOW +JOHN ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER



TWITTER: @BISHOPEDINBURGH

FACEBOOK: BISHOP JOHN ARMES

DIOCESAN NEWS



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 $\pounds 1,300$ 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 <u>institute@scotland.anglican.org</u> and return it to her by Monday, 10 January 2022.

DIOCESAN SOCIAL MEDIA ADVENT CALENDAR



Today (Wednesday, I December) the Diocese of Edinburgh launched its online, social media Advent Calendar.

Whilst opening the door on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram won't reveal chocolate, it will lead you towards a new video, image or web-link to accompany you and your congregation as we approach Christmas.

A new door on the Advent Calendar can be opened every day from today until Friday, 24 December.

The Bishop of Edinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, officially started the Advent Calendar with a brief message, reflection and prayer for this season of expectation and calm.

Head to our social media channels to find out more (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

FOLLOW THE DIOCESE ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & TWITTER

Send your images/text to rguthrie@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · 46m Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · 1h #EdinAdventCalendar DAY 1 A truly historic Saint Andrew's Day, with the signing of the Saint Andrew Declaration at @StMarysCathEdin by @BishopStrange of @secsynod and Today, @BishopEdinburgh, The Rt Revd Dr John Armes, launches the @churchmoderator of @churchscotland. @EdinDiocese #AdventCalendar! Wonderful to see the deepening of the relationship between our two Why not pause for two minutes as +John offers his reflections on the #path Churches. towards Christmas? Scottish Episcopal Church @secsynod · 15h #AdventWord #Advent @secsynod @AnglicanWorld #Edinburgh The Scottish Episcopal Church and the @churchscotland today signed the Saint Andrew Declaration, deepening the relationship between the two churches as they look at new ways of working together Advent Calendar scotland.anglican.org/saint-andrew-d... Diocese of Edinburgh 1:59 33 views Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 30 ➤This St Andrew's Day, we're making history! Today @StMarysCathEdin @BishopStrange (Primus @secsynod) & Lord Wallace (@churchmoderator @churchscotland) will sign the St Andrew Declaration, bringing both churches closer together as they minister to the Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 28 whole people of Scotland. Ever walked westwards along Princes St in Edinburgh and wondered what those three spires are? St Andrew Declaration It's @stmaryscathedin! You can visit Sun-Fri 8 am-6 pm, and Sat 8 am-5 pm. Why not attend a service? Choral Evensong is sung Tues-Fri 5.30 pm to be signed today by the choir, and Sun at 3.30 pm. @secsynod Bringing the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church closer together Scottish Episcopal Church and 9 others Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 30 🔶 👌 🎶 How wonderful to hear Advent carols sung by @stjohnschoir at @StJohnPrincesSt, Edinburgh! Catch up with the service here! homoousian · Nov 30 ن (((Homoousian)))) في (((Homoousian))) Our #Advent #Carol service is online. Not too late to watch...

youtu.be/1gm8Fg36Xcw

@StJohnPrincesSt @stjohnschoir @EdinDiocese



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 25 ···· Thanks, @StMikes_Exeter, for sharing this lovely photo of St Peter's, Lutton Place in @EdinDiocese!

We particularly love the stained glass there.

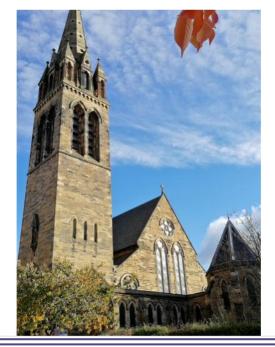
#churches #churchesinscotland @secsynod #scottishepiscopalchurch #episcopalchurch #episcopal #episcopalians #Edinburgh

StMichaelsExeter @StMikes_Exeter · Nov 24

Replying to @EdinDiocese and @Rosslynchapel

St Peter's Church, Lutton Place.

Since 'crossing the Tweed' 3 months ago, RB has been 'two-timing', still tweeting a little for @StMikes_Exeter but worshipping and Singing with the good folk of St Peter's in Newington, Edinburgh.



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 24 Catch up on the latest online service from Holy Trinity, Melrose!

It features some lovely choral and organ music - have a listen.

youtube.com/watch?v=xdnz4z...

@secsynod/@FrPip



youtube.com SUNDAY LIVESTREAM FROM HOLY TRINITY MELROSE

Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 19 · · · Statement from @BishopEdinburgh, Diocesan Dean and Provost @StMarysCathEdin on links of the Diocese of Edinburgh with the Anglican Diocese of Cape Coast, Ghana, and the support Ghana's bishops have given for a bill considered by the country's Parliament

edinburgh.anglican.org/2021/11/a-stat...





Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 25 Did you know that our child-sized altarscape, Play Church, is the only one of its kind in the UK?

It helps children learn about our Church's traditions.

Here it is in action at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Davidson's Mains, Edinburgh.

@secsynod @AnglicanNews @churchtimes



Diocese of Edinburgh @EdinDiocese · Nov 18 The Rev'd @Redpath_Grace (St Andrew's Church, Kelso) spoke recently @TheFarmersClub Harvest Service @smitf_london.

"When our lives are shattered [...] God puts us back together, creating something more beautiful than before."

log @MinnaRossiPhoto on behalf of @TheFarmersClub



Scottish Episcopal Church and 7 others



FACEBOOK: SEARCH 'EDINBURGH DIOCESE'

TWITTER: @EDINDIOCESE

INSTAGRAM: @DIOCESEOFEDINBURG

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 <u>Covid Christmas</u> <u>Resource Page</u> 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 <u>here</u>.

Claire Benton-Evans





Holy Cross Children's Ministry







Christingle

3pm, Christmas Eve 2021

Hear the Christmas story and sing carols. Children welcome to dress up! Booking required via Eventbrite (see QR code). Tickets available from 10th December.





Buggy Services

Fridays in January at 10:30

Short, informal services for toddlers and their grown ups. Songs, stories and activities. Time to play afterwards (with hot drinks and cake for the grown ups). Every Friday in January.



Story Time

Fridays in February, 10am-12noon

For toddlers/pre-schoolers and their grown ups. Come and relax in the church, read our books, do some crafts and play. Hot drinks and cake for grown ups. Some quiet time in the winter – every Friday in February.



Family Services

Sundays at 4pm (see dates below)

Half an hour of stories and songs followed by refreshments. 30th January: Candlemas 27th March: Mothering Sunday 12th June: Pentecost

Every Sunday

You're always welcome to join us for our regular 10:30 service on a Sunday morning. We have a children's area with books and toys, and you won't be told off for being joyful or grumpy or needing to move around or eat some snack. God put the wiggle in children and we celebrate that. Tea/coffee, juice and biscuits are served in the hall afterwards.

Play Church

In January and February we're hosting Play Church, a portable, child-sized altar with dressing-up clothes and robes to give children the opportunity to learn playfully about worship, liturgy and ministry. If you're involved with a children's organisation or a school and would like to come and explore the Play Church, please get in touch.



Holy Cross Children's Ministry







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Keep an eye on our Facebook @HolyCrossEdinburgh & church noticeboard for extra events & services. Please get in touch with any questions or ideas. Izzy Holmes, Children's Minister: families.hce@gmail.com

LAUNCH OF THE RELIGION AND BELIEF POLICY NETWORK



Booking: <u>Religion and Belief Policy</u> <u>Network Launch Event Tickets, Thu 2 Dec</u> 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.



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



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 communityfocused 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.

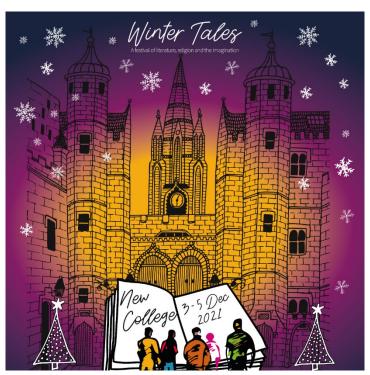
A video message from Sir Michael Palin, the Vice President of the National Churches Trust, along with a church-buildings manifesto and link to provide your thoughts, is available <u>here</u>.

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

"In celebration of 175 years of groundbreaking 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 <u>here</u>."

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 <u>dean@dioceseofedinburgh.org</u>.



FULLY FUNDED TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE

If you or your team have a training requirement, you might be interested to read this message from <u>www.WeFindAnyLearner.com</u>. 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."

DO YOU HAVE A DISUSED INKJET PRINTER?

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WE FIND ANY

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
- Sehaviour that Challenges
- Sehaviour that Challenges in Children
- Business Administration
- Scare 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
- Oignity and Safeguarding
- End of Life Care
- Sequality and Diversity
- Sevent Planning
- Falls Prevention Awareness
- 🛇 Improving Personal Exercise, Health and Nutrition
- 🛛 🕏 Improving Service User Experience in Health and Social Care
- S Information, Advice or Guidance
- Lean Organisation Management
- S Living in a Fair and Diverse Society
- 오 Mental Health First Aid
- Mental Health Problems
- Nutrition and Health

Available England and Scotland.
Available England Only.



Retail Operations

Team Leading

Understanding Autism

Warehousing and Storage

Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care

Special Education Needs and Disability

Understanding Safeguarding and Prevent

Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties

Working with Individuals with Learning Disabilities

Principles of the Mental Health Care Worker

Self-harm and Suicide Awareness and Prevention

Prevention and Control of Infection

Principles for Digital Skills

Safe Handling of Medication

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.



A Pause

on the *Threshold*

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.

Sunday 19th December 4pm Christmas Carol Service Gather at the Roseburn Christmas Tree on the Coltbridge The Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield