



# Diocese of Edinburgh

*Scottish Episcopal Church*

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# *The Communicant*

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**



*St Catharine's, Bo'ness*

# DIOCESAN OFFICE NOTICES & NEWS

## DIOCESAN SYNOD

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Diocesan Synod on Saturday 25 February. The Bishop's Synod Address is now available to download at the following link:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-vestry-resources/resources-diocesan-office-synod/>

## SAFEGUARDING – Appointments

We have had a number of queries in recent months about the appointment of PVG Coordinators. In the document “Appointing a PVG Co-Ordinator for your Congregation” (can be found on the [SEC website](#)) it says: “When the Vestry has identified a suitable candidate, the Vestry Secretary should seek references (which should be sent to the Bishop) and **ask the Bishop to approve the appointment.**”

The document also includes the Role Purpose and the Duties of the coordinator. Also, for information, Donald Urquhart, the Provincial Protection Officer has now retired, and Daphne Audsley is now handling all safeguarding matters until Donald's replacement starts. Recruitment is also underway for a dedicated Training Officer for safeguarding, so we hope to see several new training opportunities very soon. As soon as we get any news of that, we will let you know in *The Communicant*.

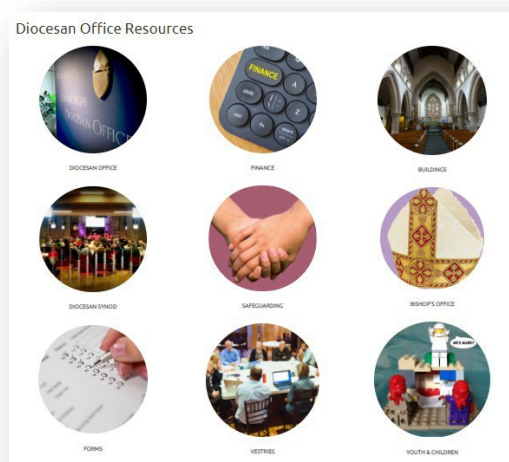
## DIOCESAN OFFICE RESOURCES

In case you are new to the diocese, you may like to know that we have a website page with resources and answers to many of your questions at:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-office-resources/>

Subjects are:

- Diocesan Office
- Finance
- Buildings
- Synod
- Safeguarding
- Bishop's Office
- Forms
- Vestries
- Youth & Children



## ON-LINE SUPPORT FORUM

There are now **55 users** signed up to the various forums. Recent posts (in the last few weeks) include:

- *Health & Safety*
- *Secondary glazing installation completed*
- *CAF Bank changes*
- *Energy Savings Advice (CofE)*
- *Contactless donations*



If you wish to subscribe to the forum, you can do so here:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/forum-registration/>

## COMMUNICATIONS

Have you got news or stories from your church you'd like to share? If so, our Communications Officer Miranda (*right*) would love to hear from you! Please drop her a line to share your goings on at [communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org).



We also have active Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts for all the activities in the Diocese. Please do not hesitate to send Miranda your best pictures of anything you would like to be shared on our social media accounts, whether it be a coffee morning, charity fundraiser, or a special service e.g. blessing of pets. We love getting your pictures and stories!

If you have any lovely pictures of events held at your church, do send them to Miranda at [communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org)

If you've any news, stories or photos you'd like to share, please drop Miranda a line.

Follow The Diocese of Edinburgh on Social Media:



Twitter: @EdinDiocese



Facebook: Edinburgh Diocese



Instagram: @dioceseofedinburgh

## ENVIRONMENT

### DIOCESAN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



Our **Diocesan Environment Group** will help support and encourage charges to work towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030. It reports to the Diocesan Standing Committee. The website of the Diocesan Environment Group is packed with ideas and resources to help the SEC become carbon neutral by 2030. It includes sections on Sharing Stories, Resources and Funding.

The group is being led by Bethany Nelson, and you can contact her at [bethany@psandgs.org.uk](mailto:bethany@psandgs.org.uk).

The website can be found at <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/environment/>

# Bishop of Edinburgh

## Lent Appeal 2023

In the Scottish Episcopal Church we believe it is a priority to provide high-quality training to form the next generation of church leaders. We recognize how important it is to resource our Scottish Episcopal Institute and we are proud of its success. At the Lambeth Conference last year, I discovered that this is a priority shared right across the Anglican Communion, but many Provinces struggle to find a consistent funding stream for their Seminaries and Theological Colleges.

My appeal this Lent is in support of St Nicholas' Seminary in Cape Coast, Ghana. Cape Coast is our partner diocese and I had the great joy of visiting the Seminary when I attended Bishop Victor's enthronement 10 years ago. The Dean of the Seminary, Joseph Bain-Doodu, was in the UK last year so I learned first-hand of his struggle to provide excellent training with limited and erratic funding sources.

This water filtration project seems to me to be a wonderful example of self-help. I commend it to you and ask for your generous support. I know that the cost-of-living crisis is hitting many of us hard just now, but I hope, nevertheless, that by pooling our generosity we may help to sustain the life of a church, far away in geographical terms, but close to us within the life of Christ.

As Joseph explains, a comparatively small amount of money (for us) can make a big difference for the ongoing life of the church in West Africa.

*+John*



### **Water Filtration Project St Nicholas' Seminary, Cape Coast, Ghana**

St Nicholas Seminary has been training clergy since 1975. It is the only active seminary in the Province of West Africa

(which includes Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, the Gambia, and Cameroon). Alongside our own ordinands, we have also trained ministers and lay pastors for the Methodist and Pentecostal Churches in Ghana and Ivory Coast.

Over the years, we have trained over 500 priests and currently there are 40 students in training. We have four full-time lecturers, eight adjunct lecturers and ten non-teaching staff. We are affiliated to the University of Cape Coast and run programmes in Bachelor of Theology, Diploma in Theology, Diploma in Ministry, Certificate in Ministry and Certificate in Anglican Studies.



# Bishop of Edinburgh Lent Appeal 2023

## The Problem

Each diocese is expected to pay for its own ordinands, but some cannot afford to do so. With the ever-increasing cost of goods and services, alongside ongoing economic challenges, our budget is constantly in deficit. Sometimes, indeed, we are unable to feed our students or to pay our utility bills and must send our students home abruptly. This lack of financial sustainability makes it hard to attract and retain staff, and almost impossible to renovate and maintain our buildings.



## An Idea

With all this in mind, we have come up with an innovative idea that will generate regular income and so offer us financial stability. There is a need for

clean water in Cape Coast, so we plan to establish a water filtration plant. This purified water will be sold to schools, university students and the general public.

The machinery will cost 187,250 Ghana Cedis – approximately £12,200.

We know this is a lot of money, but we hope you will feel able to support us this Lent. Once in full production we would expect our plant to bring in over £9000 a year. You will be helping us to help ourselves, as we seek to provide consistent care for staff and students and to prepare labourers to reap God's harvest for many years to come.



**The Venerable Joseph Justice Bain-Doodu**  
**Acting Dean, St Nicholas' Seminary, Cape Coast**

## HOW TO DONATE:

All the details for online donations will be posted on this page on our website:

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/2023/02/bishops-lent-appeal-2023/>

(Under menu item “News & Issues”)

# Bishop's Lent Appeal Event

An event is very kindly being arranged, in partnership with the congregation of St John's Princes Street, Edinburgh, to raise funds for the Appeal:

"Working with Mamma Roma in Antigua Street, we've put together an evening where all you need to do is turn up, enjoy a three-course meal and some wine in the company of good friends, and then go home!



The meal will be held at **7.45pm** on the **29th March 2023**, at Mamma Roma on Antigua Street at the top of Leith Walk.

Tickets are **£30\***. A raffle will also be held on the night. For further information, or to register interest, please email [oscar.richard.kelly.05@aberdeen.ac.uk](mailto:oscar.richard.kelly.05@aberdeen.ac.uk) This year's Lent Appeal is in aid of is in support of St Nicholas' Seminary in our partner diocese of Cape Coast, Ghana.

*\* - 50% of this amount will be directly paid over to the Lent Appeal immediately after the event – plus 100% of the raffle proceeds."*

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/2023/02/bishops-lent-appeal-2023/>

# DIARY

## THE BISHOP'S DIARY

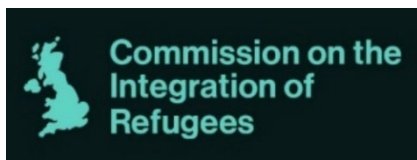
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Institution of Revd Matthew Rushton as Rector, Christ Church, Morningside
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Preaching and Presiding at St Martin's, Dalry
22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Faith and Order Board, Kinnoul
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Preaching and Presiding at St Michael and All Saints, Edinburgh
28 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> March	College of Bishops
30 <sup>th</sup> March	Installation of Revd Michael Johns-Perring as Priest in Charge, St Fillan's, Edinburgh
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Chrism Mass, St Mary's Cathedral

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

16<sup>th</sup> March: The Revd Matthew Rushton will be instituted as Rector of Christ Church, Morningside

30<sup>th</sup> March: The Revd Michael Johns-Perring will be installed as Priest in Charge of St Fillan's, Edinburgh

## EVENTS & NOTICES



The Woolf Institute in Cambridge, which explores the relationship between religion and society, is sponsoring a Commission on the Integration of Refugees.

The Chair of the Commission is Lord (Alex) Carlile of Berriew, the Vice-Chair is the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, and the Convenor is Dr Edward Kessler. It is undertaking what it describes as “a holistic review of the UK refugee and asylum system, with an aim to improving the integration of refugees”.

It has released a Call for Evidence, which will remain open until **31 March 2023**. It is keen to hear from as broad a range of views as possible, especially from faith communities. Evidence can be submitted, as an individual or an organisation, by completing the form on the website: <https://refugeeintegrationuk.com/call-for-evidence/>,

Please return this to the Commission at: [contact@refugeeintegrationuk.com](mailto:contact@refugeeintegrationuk.com)

If you have any questions about the Commission or the Call for Evidence, please contact Chris Cooper-Davies, Head of the Commission Secretariat: [cc961@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cc961@cam.ac.uk).



**SCOTTISH FAITH ACTION FOR REFUGEES** is hosting an exciting ecumenical event. You are invited to join us at a one-day gathering called **'Journeying with New Scots – Building community with refugees and asylum seekers'**:

**Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am - 3.30pm**  
**St Mark's Parish Church, Raploch, Stirling.**

Churches and refugees & asylum seekers (New Scots) from across Scotland will be gathering to worship together, share experiences, grow in knowledge, and strengthen our ties as people with a shared passion for creating welcoming communities. Whether you have extensive experience of welcoming refugees and asylum seekers, or are just exploring journeying with New Scots, all are welcome. You can sign up for the conference, and see additional details on the Eventbrite page

<https://journeyingwithnewscots.eventbrite.co.uk>

The event is free and open to church leaders and members from all denominations, as well as members of all faiths, though it will be a specifically Christian gathering. If you have any questions please email [david.moodie@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:david.moodie@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**David Moodie | Churches Support Officer | Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees**

Faith Action Team, The Church of Scotland, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN

Mob: 07856630956 | Email: [david.moodie@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:david.moodie@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Working pattern: Monday, Tuesday pm & Thursday, working a combination of office and remotely.



HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

## **Launch of our new Historic Environment Grants (HEG) Programme**

We're launching our new Historic Environment Grants programme by hosting three one-hour online sessions at 10.30am, 2.30pm and 7.30pm on **15<sup>th</sup> March 2023** and we'd like to tell you all about it. [Click here](#) to sign up to one of our free hour-long online sessions to find out more.

In these sessions, the Historic Environment Scotland Grants Team will explain what's new about the Historic Environment Grants programme and how to apply for funding. There will also be plenty of time for your questions and queries following the presentations. Please only sign up for one of our sessions to make sure there is space for everyone to attend.

If you can't join us on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, we will be posting videos of the presentations on our [website](#) on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, as well as FAQs drawn from the online sessions.

*Historic Environment Scotland Grants Team*

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The **National Churches Trust** is running a three-year Cherish programme to provide churches and chapels with financial support and practical solutions to improve how their buildings are cared for and secured for the future, using a £1.9m National Lottery Heritage Fund grant for Places of Worship in Scotland, Wales and the north west of England. More information in the link below:

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants>

On Earth Day, Saturday 22 April, 2023

# BIODIVERSITY MATTERS

A Workshop on Biodiversity

Suitable for ages 9 to 90!



**Biodiversity is one of the most important and complex features of our planet and it is now in crisis.**

**To protect it we need to know about it.**

**Celebrating Earth Day, this workshop will consider what biodiversity is and its relevance to everyday life and the wider world.**

**Through practical activities we will explore:**

- **How variation occurs in living things**
- **Why variation matters**

10.00am – 3.00pm (Coffee from 9.30am)

Cost £5 (including vegetarian lunch)

Venue: Old St Paul's Church Hall, 63 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh EH1 1DH

*To book a place, search for Old Saint Paul's on Eventbrite*

Facilitated by Ginger Franklin, former Education Officer  
at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Scottish Earth Science Education Forum  
For more information email: [gingerf@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:gingerf@blueyonder.co.uk)



## **Save The Date for Challenge Poverty Week 2023 Monday 2nd October – Sunday 8th October**

Now is the time to add Challenge Poverty Week 2023 to your calendar – it will take place from Monday 2nd October – Sunday 8th October.

Around 400 organisations took part last year all raising their voices against poverty and uniting with others in calling for a just and equal Scotland. We hope even more organisations will get involved and take action this year to #ChallengePoverty.

### **SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE THEMES FOR CPW 2023**

You may have used our daily themes during last years campaign week. This year, we want to hear from you about the themes you'd like to see in Challenge Poverty Week 2023. We've created a survey to find out what you'd prioritise, and we really would be grateful for your input: [CPW Themes Survey](#). The closing date for the survey to be completed is: Friday 17 March 2023

### **GET INSPIRED!**

We've organised a series of Get Inspired Meetings to showcase the different ways you and your organisation can take part. We'll take you through examples of what other groups have done in previous years, and tell you about all the advice and resources we'll make available to you, helping make sure your engagement is a success.

You can register below for a meeting by following this link: [Challenge Poverty Week - Get Inspired Meetings 2023 - The Poverty Alliance](#)

### **KEEP IN TOUCH!**

If you want to chat further about Challenge Poverty Week 2023, then please do get in touch! We'd be happy to schedule a one-to-one meeting to discuss your plans and how you can get involved – you are welcome to contact our [Campaigns Officer](#).

There is now a Campaigns Mailing List which you can sign up for, for updates on Challenge Poverty Week and The Poverty Alliance Campaigns – please do consider signing up here: [Challenge Poverty Week - The Poverty Alliance](#)



# 2023 BOOK SALE

at St Andrew's and St George's West Church  
13 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PA

Saturday - 13 May - 10am - 4pm

Monday - 15 May to Friday 19 May - 10am - 3.30pm

Thursday - 18 May - late opening until 7pm

2023 PATRON: Dr James Robertson FRSE  
Scots Poet and Novelist

- Books • Antiques & Collectables
- Pictures • Stamps & Postcards
- Sheet Music • Toys • Games • Jigsaws

Donations welcome  
at the church:

Monday - 8 May - 9am - 8pm

Tuesday - 9 May - 9am - 8pm

Wednesday - 10 May - 9am - 8pm

HOME-BAKING AND PRESERVES  
ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE SALE

Church Office: 0131 225 3847 for enquiries  
email: [admin@stagw.org.uk](mailto:admin@stagw.org.uk)

Undercroft Café open as usual





THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
School of Divinity

Inaugural  
Lecture



## Inaugural Lecture: "Divinity Among The Humanities: 'Idle Decoration' or 'Water of Life'"

Wednesday 15 March 2023, 5:15pm. Lecture Theatre G.03, 50 George Square,  
Edinburgh, EH8 9LH

**Professor Rachel Muers**

Dear Friend of New College

The School of Divinity is pleased to announce that Professor Rachel Muers will deliver her Inaugural Lecture. "Divinity Among The Humanities: 'Idle Decoration' or 'Water of Life'". The lecture, which is open to the public, will be followed by a reception from 6:30pm.

**5:15pm**

**Lecture Starts**

**6:30pm**

**Reception Starts**

### **Abstract**

Taking inspiration from Thomas Chalmers' speech at the foundation of New College, Professor Muers explores how a School of Divinity, and within it the study of Christian theology, can exemplify and make the case for the value of the humanities within contemporary universities and contemporary society.

*The Lantern Group invites you to ...*

## **A Morning for Quiet Reflection**

# **A Journey with Jesus and Peter**



Please let us know if you plan to attend.

Please phone **01368 850604** or email: [janet.mckinnell@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.mckinnell@btinternet.com)  
and indicate whether you will be at Holy Trinity or will join us online the following week.

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.

**Saturday 25 Mar 2023**

**Holy Trinity Church,  
Haddington**

10.00am to 1.00pm

Coffee, tea and biscuits  
provided. Please bring  
sandwiches for a shared  
lunch at the end.

**Saturday 1 Apr 2023**

**Online via Zoom**

Room will open at 10.00am  
for a 10.15 start

Link will be sent to those  
who register (see above)  
a couple of days before.

Bring your own coffee/tea!



# Lent 2023

## The Heart's Hunger

### *A series of online reflections for Lent*

Lent is a good time to listen to what our hearts hunger for, what we need to sustain us and nourish us on our journey. And then there are the deeper longings which stir within. How do we listen to them, and what might they be telling us about moving towards fullness of life? New reflections to read and listen to each week using Scripture, poetry, art and spiritual writing.

Cost: £30. See website for details.

## Finding Sustenance

### *A Quiet Day for Lent*

**Sat 25th March, 10.30am-4pm,  
Christ Church Centre, Edinburgh**

What helps sustain us if we find ourselves in a dry and weary land? How do we find water for the journey when the cup doesn't overflow? This retreat day is an invitation to pause beside the well of Living Water and reflect on how to find more of what revives your heart and nourishes your spirit.

Cost £30/£20 concession, includes lunch and coffee. See website for details.



Email: [info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk](mailto:info@heartinpilgrimage.org.uk)

[www.heartinpilgrimage.org.uk](http://www.heartinpilgrimage.org.uk)

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY FOR THE JOURNEY



## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD THEOLOGY SUMMER SCHOOL 2023

**Sunday 30 July – Saturday 12 August 2023**  
**Christ Church, Oxford**

A one- or two-week residential summer school for members of the clergy, lay ministers and readers, theologians and teachers of religious education. Running for over 20 years, this summer school draws participants from all over the world, and from a wide variety of Christian denominations.

- Explore the programme theme *Christian Theology in a Time of Global Crises*.
- Participate in seminars taught by members of Oxford University's Theology Faculty, distinguished theologians, and prominent church leaders.
- Attend lectures from leading scholars in the field of Theology.
- An opportunity to study and live in Christ Church, one of Oxford University's largest and most beautiful colleges.



Choose 2 options, from 11 stimulating seminar topics:

- |                                                   |                                                                             |                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| • Theology of Refugees                            | • Sabbath as Resilience in a Post-Pandemic World                            | • A Time for Re-Constellations                           |
| • Religion and Nature in the Twenty-First Century | • Christianity and the Crisis of Modernity                                  | • Is Horrendous Evil Compatible with a God of Love?      |
| • It's Good to Talk: The Value of Dialogue        | • Christian Leadership in Crisis                                            | • African Pentecostal Understandings of War and Sickness |
| • Trying to Live into a New Normal                | • Psychological Approaches to Religion: Friend or Foe to Christian Theology |                                                          |

Seminars take place Monday – Friday, 09:00am–12:00pm and 1.30pm–4.30pm, and Sunday – Friday dinner in [Christ Church's spectacular dining hall](#) is included for all participants. Course fees start at £1,190 per person.

To apply, please complete the [application form](#) on our website, and provide a brief personal statement detailing your reasons for wishing to attend the summer school. Further details can be found on our website, or please get in touch via the email address below if you have any questions.

**[www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/theology-summer-school](http://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/theology-summer-school)**

**[theologysummer@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:theologysummer@conted.ox.ac.uk)**



# With the End in Sight



**Saturday mornings: 11–1230**

**Walpole Hall | St Mary's Cathedral**

A safe space to explore questions that arise in  
the later chapters of life.

**15 April** *Navigating decisions  
about health*  
*When to cling on and when to let go?*

**29 April** *Journeying through  
bereavement and beyond*

**22 April** *Exploring our own  
mortality*

**6th May** *Opportunity for questions  
and further discussion*

Facilitated by Robin Taylor (consultant physician)  
and Marion Chatterley (St Mary's Cathedral)

Please reserve a space by emailing:  
**[office@cathedral.net](mailto:office@cathedral.net)**

**[www.cathedral.net](http://www.cathedral.net)**



Scottish charity No. SC014741