



Scottish Episcopal Church

The Diocese of Edinburgh

Growing together in following Christ and sharing God's love



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Diocese of Edinburgh
21A Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5EL
office@edinburgh.anglican.org
0131 538 7033
SC001214

The **Communicant**

**News & Notices for the Diocese of
Edinburgh**

21 September 2023

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News



Events



Autumn Synod

A reminder that the Autumn Diocesan Synod takes place at St Paul's & St George's Church on **Thursday 26th October** starting at **5.30pm** with Eucharist. Notification of Business will be issued at the end of this month and available to view online.

National Church Awards

Congratulations to St Anne's, Dunbar, which has been shortlisted for the National Church Awards maintenance award. The National Church Awards asked: 'what is the best thing about being involved in Church Maintenance?' and St Anne's answered: 'The application of skills towards the care and maintenance of a listed religious building is an expression of worship and at the same time a privilege. It is also an opportunity to apply the skills acquired over one's working life for the benefit of the community, to learn about specialist maintenance techniques.

Bringing people together to undertake tasks allows connections to be made and strengthens relationships.'



Please find details of upcoming events and how to submit your own [here](#). Some highlights over the coming few weeks are:

Saturday 23 September: Soulful Sounds, a fundraising evening of music and light refreshments in support of the upcoming Youth Pilgrimage to Iona.

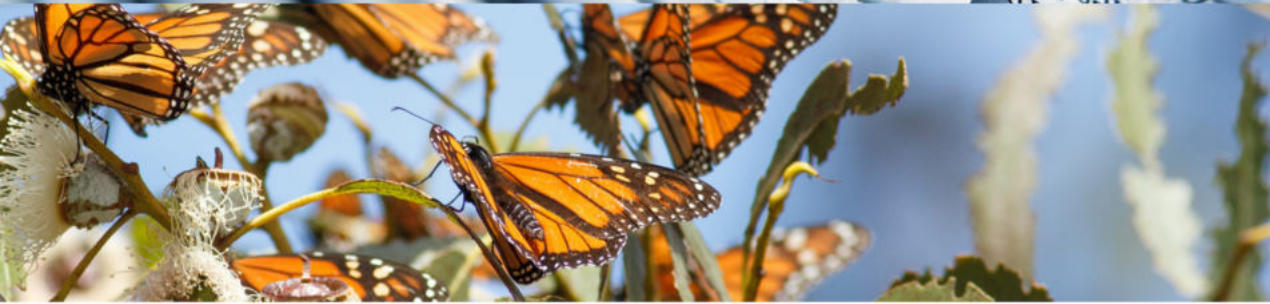
Saturday 23 September: Folk Music at Holy Cross, a recital to celebrate the inaugural European Folk Day.

Sunday 1 October: Companion Species Blessing Service at Old St Paul's - bring your pets and plants!

Saturday 14 October: Rowan Williams visits Berwick Literary Festival



News



Creationtide

This month the church celebrates Creationtide. This Season of Creation is dedicated to God, the creator and sustainer of all life and this year the theme is 'Let Justice and Peace Flow'. Does your church have an Eco-Group? How have you been marking the season? We'd love to hear from you and have you share your photos.

If you need some Creationtide resources, there's lots on the following websites: [SEC Experimental Liturgies](#); [Eco-Congregation Scotland](#); [A Rocha: Season of Creation](#) and [Church of England](#).

St Martin of Tours' has been marking the season with an exhibition of work by local artists - including some from Garvald, a local charity which supports people with neuro-diversity. Their Eco Group wrote a new song for Creationtide entitled 'Celebration' based on Ecclesiastes 3, A Time for Everything.



Based on a simple melody, church members wrote words for each verse. The melody was then adapted and built upon, providing the soundtrack for a video reflecting the Joys of creation and the need for change to preserve what we have. Give it a watch [here](#)!

Members of St Martin's also worked over several weeks to create a peace pole (pictured left) which after Creationtide will be temporarily located outside the church.



St. Scruff's Dog Show

St Mary's Dalmahoy recently held their 12th annual dog show. It was fantastic to see such a great turn out and a variety of wonderful dogs: big, small, curly coated, fluffy coated, noisy and quiet Best in show was given to Luna, a gorgeous 14 year old rescue dog who behaved impeccably through the whole event.

Office News & Notices



Signposts

Did you know we have a [resource page](#) on our website? This contains answers to many frequently asked questions.

Our [Diocesan Environment Group](#) 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.

There are now 92 users signed up to the [Online Support Forum](#), Posts include:

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

We have an [admin support forum](#) specifically for Church Administrators. Do encourage anyone you might have in your congregation who might have such a role in your administration – other than your Vestry Secretary.

Safeguarding

Following a request at Standing Committee, a link to the CofE Safeguarding Portal has been added to our website. The portal enables access to training until the Province training programme re-starts.

[Diocesan Office Resources: Safeguarding](#) | [Diocese of Edinburgh](#) (anglican.org).

Continuing Ministerial Development

The next CMD day for Clergy and Lay Readers is on 3 October at Kingsknowe Golf Club. Keep an eye on your emails over the next few days for details on how to book! Professor Helen Bond will be with us, thinking about "Reading John amidst Today's Challenges".

Vestry Training

Our next Vestry Training Day is on Saturday 30th September in George Watson College, Edinburgh. Register via [eventbrite](#).

Vacancies

The following posts in the diocese are vacant; all information including how to apply is listed [online](#).

- **Priest in Charge (PT)** -

Collegiate Church of St Matthew
(Rosslyn Chapel)

Mission & Ministry



Youth Pilgrimage

The Diocese has 7 young people making pilgrimage to Iona in October. To raise funds, 2 enterprising young people from St Ninian's Church are hosting a donation-based concert called 'Soulful Sounds'. Join them at St Ninian's, Comely Bank, this Saturday 23rd September at 6:30pm, and support not just their event but their forthcoming pilgrimage.



Autumn Courses

Autumn courses for all are now enrolling at:

New College, Edinburgh:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/divinity/news-events/short-courses-for-church-people>

Trinity College, Glasgow (some online):

<https://www.trinitycolleg Glasg ow.co.uk/short-courses>

Sarum College, Salisbury (many courses, including Lay Learning course 'Exploring Theology' are online):

<https://www.sarum.ac.uk/learning/>

Faith in Older People

Faith in Older People (FiOP) have just released their autumn schedule of events, which are all taking place via Zoom and start at 4:30pm. Further information and booking via FiOP's [Eventbrite](#):

- 18th October: Spiritual Care – Discovering Meaning, Purpose and Hope with Mark Evans, DCS, Professional Advisor in the Scottish Government
- 24th October: FiOP Annual Malcolm Goldsmith Lecture, presented by the Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton
- 15th November: FiOP and Interfaith Scotland – Tackling Loneliness and Isolation in our Communities
- 30th November: The Gift of Age Conference

Diary

Tuesday 26 September Ordination of Revd Janet Spence, St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 27 September Ordination of Revd Ross Jesmont, St Salvador's Stenhouse

Thursday 28 September Diocesan Standing Committee

Sunday 1st October Installation of Revd Dr Mike Hull as Chapter Canon, St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 4 October Installation of Brother Joseph Emmanuel, St David's Pilton

Wednesday 11 October The Welcoming and Commissioning of Revd Lesley Penny to St John's, Selkirk and St Peter's, Galashiels

Communications photos



We're in the process of updating our selection of images of churches in the diocese. If you've got some recent images of your church you'd be happy to share - or if you'd like us to come and take some pictures which you can use too - please email Miranda at mheggie@dioceseofedinburgh.org.uk



Have you got news or stories from your church you'd like to share? If so, our Communications Officer Miranda Heggie would love to hear from you! Please drop her a line at mheggie@dioceseofedinburgh.org.

Tag us on your socials!

and follow us at the links below.

