



Scottish Episcopal Church

The Diocese of Edinburgh

Growing together in following Christ and sharing God's love



St Mary's Cathedral



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:
4 April 2024

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**

20 March 2024

In this edition...

news: p. 2
lent appeal: p.5
events: p.7
mission & ministry: p.8
diary: p.9

News



Diocesan Synod - Spring 2024

Thanks to all who came and contributed to this year's spring Synod. At Diocesan Synod there were a number of presentations. We aim to upload those to the web page where all the resources were published. Bishop John's address to Synod can already be found here:

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

Staffing

Sam Campbell, Bishop John's PA, began a phased return to work after illness, and this was over a 6-8 week period. In the meantime, Joanna Appleby will continue to cover the remainder of the work.

Fundraising Help

The Benefact Trust have released an excellent podcast for you to watch about "How to successfully apply to grant funders". If you are looking at funding a project, this is very good advice, in plain speaking terms. [Click here](#) to watch the video.

Diocesan Administrator

Now that Godfrey has retired as Diocesan Secretary, Simon is experiencing a sharp increase in contact message and emails. Added to this has been Synod preparations, but also queries about several areas which are not any part of his work (Prayer Cycle, Rector Installation arrangements, Vestry Training Days and much more).

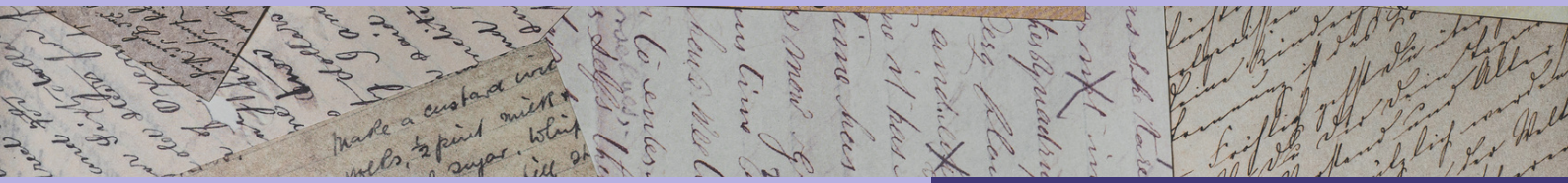
Before contacting Simon as a 'default' we would be immensely grateful if you would either **check the information already sent out for contact points and look at the [Staff page on the website](#)**:

It explains the areas that all the staff are responsible for and it will help you get a quicker and more-informed reply. Simon's inbox and voicemail has been overwhelmed recently so we would be very grateful if you would check the information, as above, rather than using a 'default' contact method.

Much appreciated!

Simon

Office News & Notices



Signposts



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



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

Due to several requests not to have a workshop during Holy Week, the workshop booked for **Tuesday 26th March 2024 has been cancelled.** John and I are looking for a date in April.

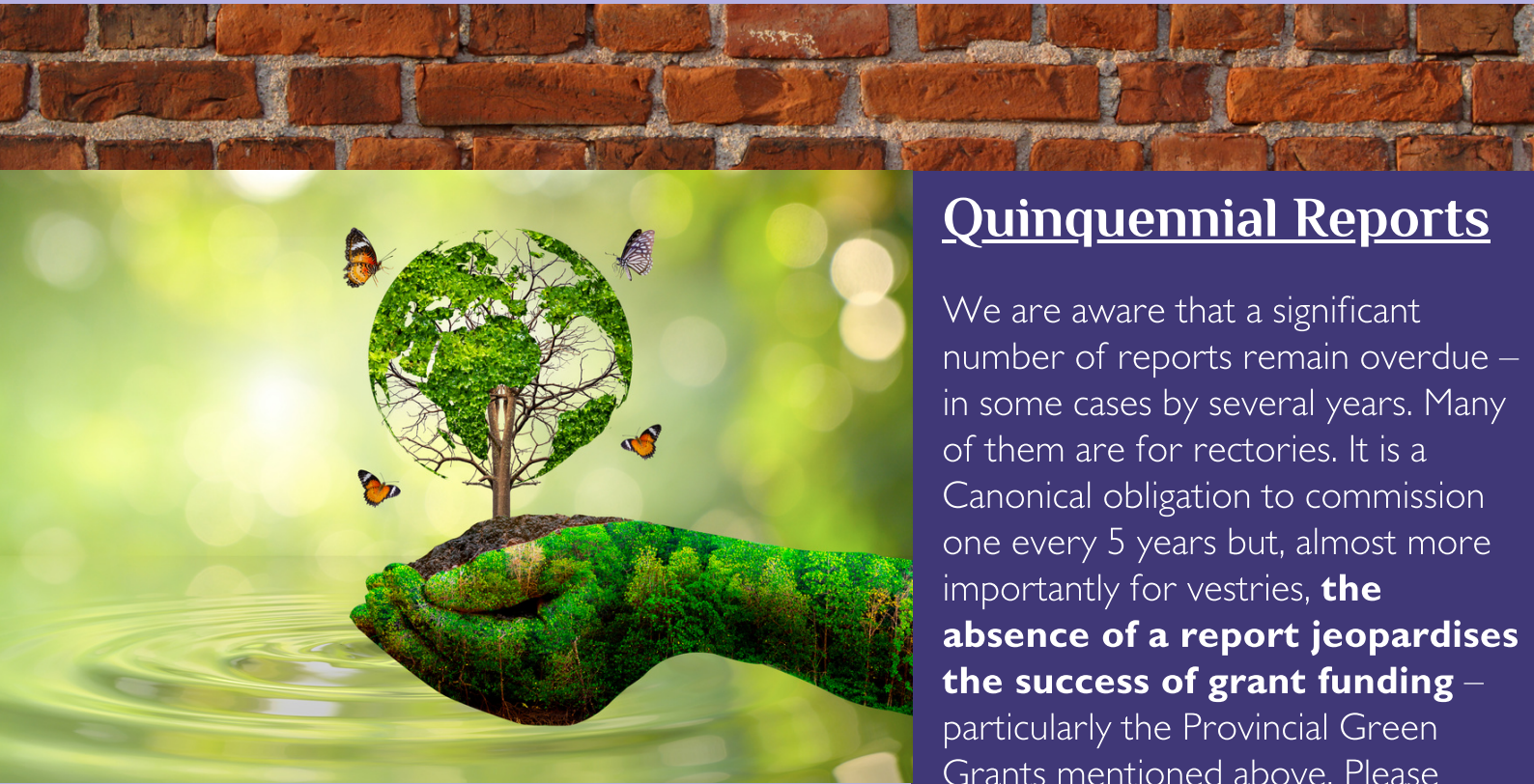
If anyone has any questions regarding safeguarding please contact myself or John Wyllie on safeguarding@scotland.anglican.org.

PVG queries can be sent to pvg@scotland.anglican.org.

Joanna

Joanna Appleby
Diocesan Protection Officer
JAppleby@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Office News & Notices



Quinquennial Reports

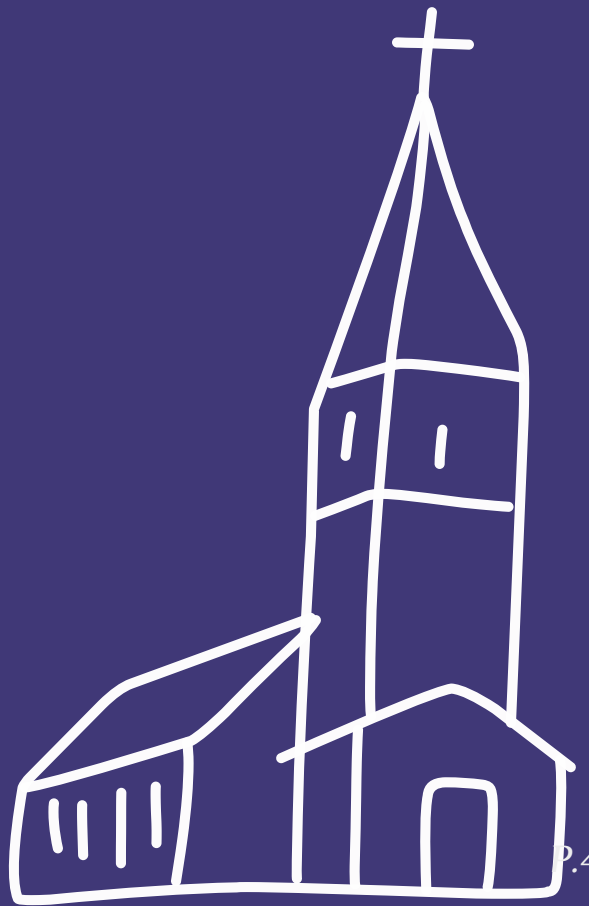
We are aware that a significant number of reports remain overdue – in some cases by several years. Many of them are for rectories. It is a Canonical obligation to commission one every 5 years but, almost more importantly for vestries, **the absence of a report jeopardises the success of grant funding** – particularly the Provincial Green Grants mentioned above. Please check when your last ones were done on each property. Further details, including the required Pro-forma, can be found at: <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocese/n-vestry-resources/resources-diocesan-office-buildings/>

Provincial Green Grants

Over the last month the Diocesan Buildings Committee has received a number of applications for Provincial Buildings Grants which include work to improve energy efficiency etc. Several were prefaced that the basis for the application was due to having heard that “grants were available for Carbon Zero projects”. We know that they will be available soon, but any applications at this point are premature. All we know at present from the Province is:

“It is currently anticipated that new grant application forms and process will be introduced in April. There will be two new forms – one specifically for work to rectories, the other for work to all other church buildings. We are hoping to hold a Zoom meeting in the second half of April to provide an opportunity for dioceses to learn more about the new funds, forms and process”

Until we have attended that meeting, we will not know anything about the process or what the financial commitment of the diocese might be. We will let you know (here) as soon as we know ourselves.



Lent Appeal



This year's **Bishop's Lent Appeal** is in aid of the Jerusalem Princes Basma Centre, located under the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. The centre provides rehabilitative services to children with disabilities from Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza and operates under the umbrella of the Arab Anglican Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. It serves as a place of hope, healing and inclusivity for all. Our Dean, the Very Revd Frances Burberry, has visited the centre

Dean Frances writes,

It was February last year when I visited the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre (JPBC) which is located on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives and operates under the umbrella of the Arab Anglican Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East – under the supervision of the Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem, Bishop Hosam Naoum – in the fields of health, disability and inclusive education. The JPBC is also a part of the East Jerusalem Hospitals Network and like its near neighbour the Augusta Victoria Hospital, it plays a vital role in the Palestinian Healthcare system.

First established in 1961, when there was a need for physiotherapy services for children with disabilities as a result of polio becoming widespread amongst the Palestinian population, the Centre took its name from Princess Basma of Jordan (sister of King Hussein of Jordan) who inaugurated the building during her visit there in 1966.

The JPBC is an inclusive school, and is also a child rehabilitation centre for disabled children and their families from the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem. The school has children from ages 5 to 18, one third of whom are disabled. The rehabilitation centre provides inpatient and outpatient support for children (from birth to age 15) with a range of congenital and neuromuscular conditions including such as autism and cerebral palsy.

Lent Appeal



Both inpatients and outpatients can receive speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, hydrotherapy, music therapy and psychosocial support. Rehabilitative treatments often involve more than three-week stays at the centre.

Children receive individualised rehabilitation programmes and their parents and/ or grandparents are trained as 'shadow therapists' to continue the programmes at home, supported by follow-up appointments as needed and/ or telephone consultations with staff at the JPBC.

The JPBC was scheduled to open a new centre inside the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem's Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza in November 2023. At the war's conclusion, that new centre's services will be more necessary than ever. For not only will thousands of newly maimed children need physical therapy, nearly all of Gaza's children will also be suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and in need of psychological counselling.

On my visit in February 2023, I saw a place which grows hope by offering a lifeline of support, education and rehabilitation; transforming the lives of children with disabilities and empowering their families to care for them.

The JPBC receives financial support for the care of children with disabilities. It is also dependent upon international fundraising to sustain the Centre's vital and inspiring programmes.

Dean Frances

Please feel free to download and print this poster for use in and around your church

Events



Events Calendar on Website

Don't forget you can now submit your own events on our website! Please find details of upcoming events and how to submit your own [here](#).

Events Highlights

Some highlights over the coming few weeks are:

Friday 22 March: [Place for Hope: Nonviolence: Jesus' radical invitation ONLINE](#)

Friday 22 March: [Speaking Truth to Power: Dorothy Day - Christian Activist, Christ Church, Morningside](#)

Saturday 23 March: [Vestry Training, St Peter's, Luton Place](#)

Saturday 23 March: [Bible Journaling Retreat Day, St James's Goldenacre](#)

Saturday 23 March: [Earth Hour Meditations, St Ninian's, Comely Bank](#)

Sunday 24 March: [Come and Sing: Stainer's Crucifixion, St Mary's Cathedral](#)

Monday 25 March: [I Am Mark, King's Hall, Newington](#)

Saturday 30 March: [Princes Street Easter Play](#)

Monday 1 April: [Diocesan Family Afternoon](#)

Mission and Ministry



Vestry Training

There is one more vestry training events for all vestry members--including clergy--in March 2024. This morning session provides the fundamental information vestry members need when undertaking roles on Vestry and as charity trustees ([more information on website](#)). [Book attendance via the Form provided](#). **Saturday 23rd March at St Peter's, Luton Place**, 9am-1pm.

Earth Hour

This Saturday, 23 March, [Earth Hour](#) takes place between 8.30pm and 9.30pm. Anyone, anywhere can join the Biggest Hour for Earth by spending 60 minutes doing something - anything - positive for our planet. [St Ninian's, Comely Bank is hosting an hour of candle-lit meditation](#) on themes of climate change and conservation; more info here. Is your church marking this event? Let us know!



Family Fun Portobello Beach



Monday 1st April 2024

1-4pm

All Ages Welcome

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult



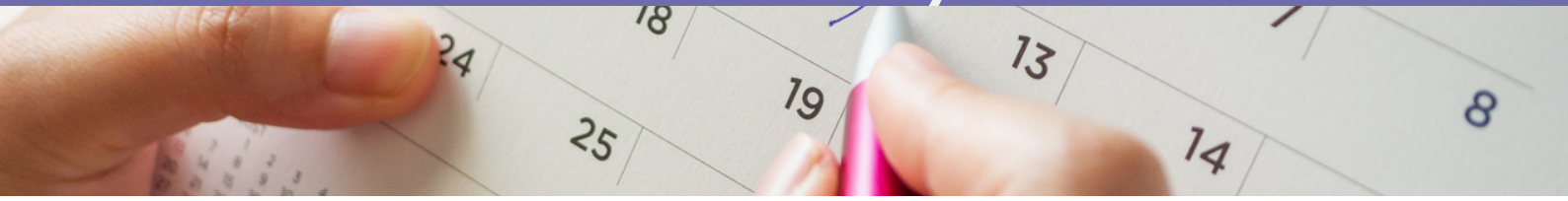
Prayer Diary

Diocesan Prayer Diary for 2024 is now available on the website: <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-prayer-diary/>

Please feel free to check when your church features in the diary, and let us know if there's anything specific in your church, congregation or community you would like us to pray for.



Diary



Monday 25th March Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

28th March +John is attending a civic reception for the opening of the Perth Museum. White Rod and regalia are on display as part of the debut exhibition "Unicorns".

Thursday 28th March Diocesan Office Closed for Staff Development

Friday 29th March Good Friday Service at St Mary's Cathedral

Friday 29th March Diocesan Office Closed for Good Friday

Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday Service at St Mary's Cathedral

Monday 1st April Diocesan Office Closed for April Fools Day/Easter Monday

Vacancies

Pastoral Worker, St Mark's, Portobello

Full Time Priest in Charge, St Peter's, Musselburgh



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.





— Diocese of —
EDINBURGH

THE BIG DAY

Let Us Pray!

SATURDAY
11 MAY
10:30-3:30



Worship and Song



Prayer Workshops



Individual Prayer Stations



edinburgh.anglican.org



St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh

