



Scottish Episcopal Church

# The Diocese of Edinburgh

*Growing together in following Christ and sharing God's love*



*St John's, Jedburgh*



*Published by the Diocesan Office fortnightly, and circulated to all Clergy, Lay Readers, Treasurers & Vestry Secretaries, and Diocesan Synod Lay & Alternate Lay Representatives.*

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# *The* Communicant

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

**7 March 2024**

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# 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](#)**:

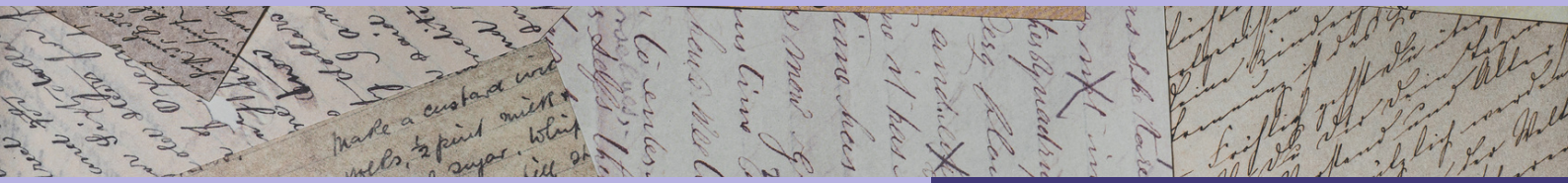
It explains the areas that all the staff are responsible for and it will help you get a quicker and more-informed reply. Simon's inbox and voicemail has been overwhelmed recently so we would be very grateful if you would check the information, as above, rather than using a 'default' contact method.

Much appreciated!

*Simon*



# Office News & Notices



## Signposts

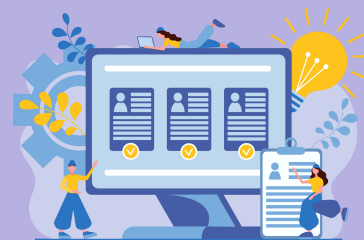


Did you know we have a resource page on our website? This contains answers to many frequently asked questions.



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](mailto:safeguarding@scotland.anglican.org).

PVG queries can be sent to [pvg@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:pvg@scotland.anglican.org).

*Joanna*

Joanna Appleby  
Diocesan Protection Officer  
[JAppleby@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:JAppleby@dioceseofedinburgh.org)

## Obituary Notice

We are sorry to share the sad news of the death of Reverend Alexander (Alex) Black former Rector of Haddington. We will provide details of funeral arrangements in due course. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

# 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 8 March:** [Operation Unicorn - a personal reflection](#), 7pm, St Cuthbert's Colinton

**Saturday 9 March:** [A Future with Hope: Resurrection not Restoration](#), 10am, New College

**Saturday 9 March:** [Ring Our for Climate Justice](#), 11.30am, St Mary's Cathedral

**Wednesday 13 March:** [The Place of Hope PART TWO](#), online

**Thursday 14 March:** [Power of One Webinar](#), 10am, online

**Saturday 16 March:** [Vestry Training](#), 9am, St Peter's Galashiels

**Saturday 16 March:** [Crafted in Love: A Quiet Day for Lent 2024](#), 10.30am, Christ Church Morningside

**Saturday 16 March:** [Dunedin Consort: St John Passion](#), 7.30pm, St Mary's Cathedral

**Wednesday 20 March:** [The Potential of Anna Chaplaincy](#), online



# Mission and Ministry



## Vestry Training

There are two 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 16th March at St Peter's, Galashiels**, 9am-1pm and **Saturday 23rd March at St Peter's, Lutton Place**, 9am-1pm.



## Lent

**The Diocesan Lent Course for 2024**, entitled 'The Emotions of Jesus', is now available on the website. **Hardcopies can be printed for posting or collection: please contact the Office to arrange.**

## 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



**Saturday 9 March** Bishop John speaking at A Future with Hope Conference, New College

**Sunday 10 March** Bishop John presiding at St Peter's, Musselburgh

**Tuesday 12 - Thursday 14 March,** Bishop John attending Faith and Order Board, Kinnoul

**Monday 18 March** Diocesan Buildings Committee

## Vacancies

Pastoral Worker, St Mark's, Portobello

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



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://edinburgh.anglican.org)



St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh