



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church



St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral



The *Communicant*

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

28 November 2024

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News and Notices

Looking forward to the Diocesan Synod

Please make a special note of the date of our Diocesan Synod, an all-day event, on **Sat 15 February 2025**. The venue will be St Paul's and St George's, Edinburgh.

A warm welcome at St Peter's



A welcome service was held on 20 November at St Peter's, Musselburgh, for Rev. Daniel Muñoz. On the church's website there is a video of this service, and a podcast in which Daniel talks about his move to the church. [Access it here](#).

Congregational statistics

We will be sending out the congregational statistics form in the very near future. This form will contain new questions, so please do not complete the old form.

Nevertheless, please go ahead with your attendance count and number of Communicants this Advent Sunday.

Safeguarding

SCVO Safeguarding Webinar 4 December, 2–3pm

SCVO are offering a free webinar on the new laws on disclosure and safeguarding that are being introduced from April 2025. If you would like to register for this please book [here](#).

Annual Return

There will be a “lite” touch Provincial annual return for safeguarding.

Joanna Appleby
Diocese Protection Officer

Interim Communications Officers

Joining the team temporarily, to cover Mollie Nijam's maternity leave, are Cathy Tingle and Robert Guthrie.

Cathy will be interim communications officer, overseeing communications and editing The Communicant. Contact Cathy at communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org



Robert will be interim social media officer, posting regularly on diocesan news and events. Contact Robert at RGuthrie@dioceseofedinburgh.org



Net Zero Signposts

The SEC website has a very useful [Net Zero Action](#) portal covering:

Resources - guidance on buildings, webinars and case studies

Stories - including blog posts of recent Net Zero action

Funding - external and internal funding sources

Workshops - information on HeatHack for churches

Dioceses - links to each Diocese Environment Group

Events - what's happening in local churches and communities including:

Thursday 16 January: Webinar National Lottery Funding Community Fund Awards for All. Click [here](#) for more information.

News and Notices



Synod Presentations

The presentations on finance, Net Zero and the St Hilda's Fund etc. are now all on the Synod webpage:

[https://
edinburgh.anglican.org/
diocesan-synod-
october-2024/](https://edinburgh.anglican.org/diocesan-synod-october-2024/)

St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral: New Youth Choir

Benedicite is a unique opportunity for confident young singers and former choristers aged 13–18 to sing great music in St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral.

- Fast-paced rehearsals suitable for those with good sight-reading abilities, working alongside others with similar singing experience.
- Regular performance opportunities in services and concerts.
- Wide range of repertoire from medieval to contemporary.
- Vocal training opportunities alongside learning repertoire, for free.
- Preparation for university choral scholarship applications.

To find out more please complete the form: forms.wix.com/ff7259965486295679911

Faith in Older People: Items Going

Now that FIOF has been wound up and the office cleared, are you interested in any or all of the listed items?

- 15 x black box files
- Computer and monitor; computer is approximately 5 years old.

Please contact info@fiop.org.uk

A small donation, if possible, would be greatly appreciated.



Don't forget to email us if you have upcoming job vacancies so we can promote them for you!

Vacancies in the Diocese

- **Full-time Priest-in-Charge:** St Margaret of Scotland and Mustard Seed. More details [here](#).
- **Volunteer Treasurer:** Mission to Seafarers Scotland – home based. [Click here](#)
- **Music Director Required:** St Mary's, Dalmahoy. Email rector@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk for further info and application

Contacting us

When looking for resources/answers, please check information sent out for contact points or look at the [Staff page on the website](#). Contrary to public opinion, the Diocesan Administrator does not know *everything!*

The Online Support Forum is also available:

- Register [here](#) or login [here](#)

Have you got news or stories from your church you'd like to share?

If so, we'd love to hear from you! Drop us a line at: communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Signposts

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



There are now 99 users signed up to our [Online Support Forum](#), where you can ask your colleagues from across the diocese for help and advice.

The areas covered by the forum include

- Buildings Convenors
- Vestry Secretaries
- Treasurers
- PVG Coordinators
- Church Administrators



Mission & Ministry

Annual Lecture

A Psychoanalytic Dialogue with the Music of Bach

The Guntrip Trust, is holding its annual lecture on **Saturday 30 November**, in Augustine United Church, 10:30am-1:45pm.
Speaker = Anthea Gomez (psychoanalyst)
Violinist = Sara Trickey



Tickets are £30 (£25 conc) and are available to purchase via Eventbrite.

Climate Cafe

St Ninian's, Comely Bank, are holding their next Climate Cafe on **Saturday 7 December, 10-11:30am**. This is open to anyone and everyone: share your concerns and hopes (with a Christmas theme this month) over a cuppa and cake.

If you cannot make this Cafe but are interested in future ones, the plan is to hold them every second Sunday of the month.

For more information, please contact Libby on admin@sncb.scot.



Christingles for Aberlour

Resources are now available from Aberlour to help you plan a fundraising Christingle service on their behalf.

Detailed information, including how Aberlour supports Scottish children and families in need, can be [found via this Toolkit](#). There is also a [Prayer Card](#) available for you to download and share.



Free First Aid Training

St Peter's, Lutton Place, and retired GP Dr Janice Allister (NUCO-certified First Aid Instructor) are offering FREE first aid training to churches. The training consists of 2 sessions, both of which must be completed for certification: [Resuscitation](#) (CPR, defibrillation, anaphylaxis, choking) and [Basic First Aid](#) (bleeds, breaks, burns, falls, faints). These sessions will take place in St Peter's between 9am and 12noon: dates are below. Advanced booking, via email, is essential.



ST PETER'S
LUTTON PLACE

11 January ~ Resuscitation
18 January ~ Basic First Aid
8 March ~ Resuscitation
15 March ~ Basic First Aid

For more information email Janice:
janice.allister@gmail.com



2 December: Buildings Committee

Office Christmas opening:

The Diocesan Office will be closed from 24 December 2024, reopening on 6 January 2025.



ADVANCE DATE NOTICE:

15 February 2025: Diocesan Synod (all-day meeting) at St Paul's & St George's Edinburgh

30 November: Confirmation Service at Fettes College

1 December: Nativity Scene Blessing and Carol Concert at The Assembly Hall Courtyard, Mound Place, Edinburgh

11 December: Christian Aid Carol Service at Edinburgh Newtown Church

Events



Add to our online Events Calendar

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](#). It's easy to do!

Events Highlights

- **Saturday 30 November:** A Psychoanalytic Dialogue with the Music of Bach, Augustine United Church
- **Sunday 1 December:** Tree Lighting Ceremony, St Peter's, Lutton Place
- **Monday 2 December:** Memoirs of Love and Loss, New College, Martin Hall
- **Wednesday 4 December:** Safeguarding webinar
- **Thursday 5 December:** St Giles and the larger burgh churches in Scotland, City Art Centre
- **Thursday 5 December:** Advent Retreat, St Michael's and All Saints, Tollcross
- **Saturday 7 December:** Climate Cafe (Christmas Theme), St Ninian's, Comely Bank