



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church



St Andrew's, Kelso

The *Communicant*

News & Notices for the Diocese of
Edinburgh

20 February 2025

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News and Notices

Diocesan Synod 2025



First, a thank you to everyone who attended last Saturday for the Diocesan Synod meeting. A particular thank you to those members who have been in touch with some lovely comments about the meeting – they are all truly appreciated.

Second, we have now put the presentations on the website (left) – a few still to upload, but if you want to show any of those to your congregations please feel free to do so.

ELECTIONS

Here are the results of the elections held last Saturday:

Preparatory Committee:*

- The Revd Andi Hofbauer (Clergy)
- The Revd Elizabeth O’Ryan (Clergy)
- Jennifer Floether (Lay)
- Josese Rokotakala (Lay)

General Synod Clergy:

- The Revd William Shaw
- The Revd Jane MacLaren (2nd term)
- The Revd Susan Ward (2nd term)

General Synod Laity:

- Alan Baker
- Alistair Dinnie
- Lei Garcia (2nd term)
- Ian Gardner
- Duncan Hughes
- Helen Mitchell (2nd term)

General Synod Laity – Area Councils:

- Dr Vicki Clark (Mid & East Lothian, 2nd term)
- Steven Gillespie (EDI Forth)
- Michael Wood (EDI Southwest, 2nd term)

* There will be more details about the timeline and processes for the Episcopal Election in future editions, as well as a dedicated web page.

Also, an apology. We are aware that one or two people arrived for the meeting who were not on our invite list. We have double-checked and, unfortunately, we had not been told that there had been a change of Lay Representative in a few charges. Could we urge you to inform us of any Vestry Officer changes by using this form on our website?

VESTRY OFFICER UPDATES

BISHOP’S SYNOD ADDRESS

We have put up a **post on our website** which also contains the text of Bishop John’s final address to Synod.

LENT APPEAL

The beneficiary – Abraham’s Children In Crisis – was announced at Synod. Here are the links:

Charity’s website:

<https://acincrisis.weebly.com/>

Donations page:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/BLA2025>

News and Notices

St Ninian's Climate Café, 8 February



The Climate Café at St Ninian's, Comely Bank on 8 February looked at what we can all do in response to the climate crisis.

Green energy tariffs and travel were among the subjects discussed. Did you know that taking the train rather than flying from London to Barcelona cuts your carbon emissions by 91%?



Photos by Andre Akheer.



Diocese of

EDINBURGH

THE BIG DAY

Blessings on The Way!



**SATURDAY
10 MAY
10:30-3:00**



Sharing and Celebrating



Blessings and Gifts



Worship and Prayer



Continuity and Change

edinburgh.anglican.org

[St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh](#)

The Diocese of Edinburgh (Scottish Episcopal Church) is a Registered Charity SCO1214

Check your online Directory entry!

We've recently updated the [Church Directory](#) on the diocesan website. Please can you take a look at your page to ensure all the information, including service times and contact details, is up to date. We'd be delighted to receive updated photographs, too, if you'd like to replace any for your charge.

Please email changes to Cathy at communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org

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



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

Vacancies in the Diocese

- **Rector:** [St Columba's-by-the-Castle, Edinburgh.](#)
- **Volunteer Assistant Manager, Community Food Initiative:** [St Salvador's, Stenhouse.](#)

For all vacancies, visit our [Vacancies page](#).

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 around 100 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

2025 Lent Course



Christ has no body now
but yours

[Click here
or on the
image to
access the
course.](#)

Trustee Training



TRUSTEE

Training



Saturday 15 March

Join us at 9am for some breakfast

Get into the training at 9:30am

Finish by 1pm

@ St Ninian's, Comely Bank, Edinburgh, EH4 1AG

[Click here or on the image to register for
Trustee Training on 15 March.](#)

Buildings!

There are some interesting events coming up in the Diocese, all about buildings: which might interest you?

Saturday 1 March – Celebrating Art and Architecture: A Study Day at St James Goldenacre.

You can join in this fascinating day of talks on the artistic and architectural gems of St James for just £20, including refreshments and lunch. Head to their [website](#) for more information.

Friday 21 March – OSP Radiant Heating Open Day.

Experience and learn about the new heating system at Old St Paul's from 12noon–3pm. See [Net Zero website](#) for more information.

Tuesday 1 April – Maintaining

Scottish Churches. A free and practical workshop day at St Peter's Galashiels for all involved in caring for church buildings. [For more information, or to book, click here.](#)

Teens & Young Adults

Provincial Sleepover: 1–2 March is taking place in Paisley. [More details and link to registration form here.](#) (Note the sign-up deadline of Sunday 23 February!)

A Pilgrimage to Taizé for young adults 18–35 is taking place 29 June–6 July (plus travel). There is an information meeting taking place on Sunday 2 March at 4pm on Zoom. [Register interest here to join that Zoom call or be part of the trip.](#)

Mini-Golf Adventure! We are holding an event for young people in P6–S2 on Sunday 26 April, 3–7pm. This will be a chance for those not facing big exams to meet with friends and make new ones, whilst having some fun in the process. [Register here: tinyurl.com/MiniGolf25.](#)

Yeek 25: 27 July–2 August is taking you to The Deep! Registration for S1–6 is now open for this summer camp: [check out yeek.scot.](#) There is an early-bird discount if you book by 21 April.

March 10: Personnel Committee

March 10: Buildings Committee

March 19: Diocesan Office CLOSED (Staff Training Day)

March 16: Preaching at Holy Cross, Davidson's Mains, Edinburgh

March 17: Ireland's National Day Reception at the Assembly Halls, Edinburgh

March 23: Confirmation Service at St Andrew's, Kelso



Confirmation at St Cuthbert's, Colinton, 2 February 2025.
Photo: Huw Riden



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

- **22 February:** Godly Play Discovery Day, Duddingston Kirk Manse
- **22 February:** Ring Out for Climate Justice, St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral
- **23 February:** Lunchtime Recital, St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral
- **25 February:** Christian Aid Annual Gathering, online
- **25 February:** An Introduction to Ways of Praying, start of six-week online course
- **27 February:** SEC Net Zero Team: Solar Panels and Other Energy Retrofit for Listed Church Buildings, online
- **28 February:** Be a Chorister Afternoon, St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral
- **1 March:** Exploring Art and Architecture, St James, Goldenacre