



# Diocese of Edinburgh

*Scottish Episcopal Church*



Photo: S Filsell

St Matthew's, Roslin (Rosslyn Chapel)

# *The* *Communicant*

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

**21 August 2025**

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# News and Notices

## DIOCESAN OFFICE RELOCATION



You may have seen in [Inspires Online](#) that, due to operational and maintenance issues, the General Synod Office is moving out of Forbes House – which means the same for us in the Diocesan Office, as we rent our offices from the GSO. There are many discussions taking place about our new home, but we have at least been given the offer of space at the new location of the GSO, which is likely to be in the city centre and close to all the transport links. This is due to happen **before the end of the year**, so please (again!) bear with us as we deal with this relocation alongside the Episcopal Election work, new staff and all the usual autumn busy-ness.

## STAFF NEWS

We are delighted to let you know that we have made an appointment to the new position of **Finance & Support Officer** here at the Diocesan Office. This replaces the Asst Diocesan Administrator role and has been upgraded from a half-time post to 25 hours p/wk.

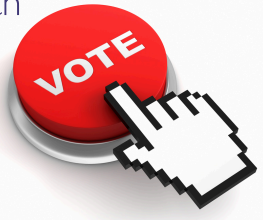


They will take a greater responsibility for finance, payroll, IT, general office admin and committee work as well as helping Hannah with paperwork for clergy (licences, institutions etc.). This will also start to dilute the over-reliance on Simon's Diocesan Administrator role.

We are waiting for references to come in, but we will be able to introduce the new member of staff in the next edition.

## SYNOD CLERK ELECTION

Following the Revd Canon Sarah Shaw's move to Glasgow, the voting Presbyters and Deacons present in the Diocesan Synod will need to elect a new Synod Clerk. The voting will take place on 27 September for which a Special Synod will be called when the Preliminary Electoral Synod gathers at St Mary's Cathedral.



**Nominations with biogs should be sent to [dioadmin@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:dioadmin@dioceseofedinburgh.org) to arrive by Friday 29 August.**

This is advance notice to give eligible clergy time to discern their nomination. The Synod Clerk's Role Description can be found within Canon 44. The nomination form can be downloaded from the [diocesan website](#).

**REMINDER**

## ELECTORAL SYNOD

The Preliminary Electoral Synod will take place on Saturday 27 September at St Mary's Cathedral.

## OSCR REGISTRATION

**A reminder that OSCR is now asking charges to provide them with these details about each trustee:** Name; Home address; Email address; Telephone number; Date of Birth.

This information will be kept securely, whilst the first and last name of each charity trustee will be published on the Scottish Charity Register from 1 January 2026. [Get more information, including how to add trustee details, here.](#)



# News and Notices



## Event: Between Life and Debt

**Christian Aid Scotland invites you to a panel discussion exploring the global debt crisis and the urgent need for reform.**

Chaired by former First Minister Humza Yousaf MSP, and featuring Christian Aid partners, economists, and experts in ethical finance, this panel, to be held at **2pm on 15 September at St Augustine United Church, Edinburgh**, will examine how governments, multilateral institutions, and private lenders can reshape the global financial system to promote responsible lending and sustainable development.

Email [edinburgh@christian-aid.org](mailto:edinburgh@christian-aid.org) to RSVP.



Registrations are now live for **Mental Health, Faith and Community: Rethinking How the Church Cares**, with Professor John Swinton, being held at **St Mary's Cathedral** at **2pm on 11 October**.

In this talk, Professor Swinton will explore how Christian faith can shape the way we think about mental health and how the Church can become a community of genuine belonging.

**[Register 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](mailto:communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org)



Don't forget to like and share what we post on the diocesan social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram and Bluesky). It does make a difference. Links above!

## Ordinations and Installations

**1 September, 7pm: The Revd Janet Spence** to be instituted as the Rector of Holy Cross, Davidson's Mains.

**16 September: The Revd David Bagnall** to be instituted as Rector of St John the Evangelist, Princes Street.

**6 October: The Revd Dr Ross Jesmont** to be instituted as Priest-in-Charge of St Salvador's, Stenhouse.

## Appointments

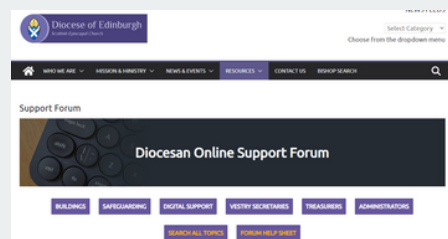


**The Revd Simon Schofield**, currently non-stipendiary Curate at St Philip's and St James', Goldenacre, has been appointed as **full-time, stipendiary Associate Priest at St Ninian's, Comely Bank**, from **6 October 2025**. Simon's post at St Ninian's is a two-year, fixed-term appointment to 30 September 2027.

**The Revd Fiona (Fee) Reynolds**, currently non-stipendiary Curate at St Ninian's, Comely Bank, has been appointed as **non-stipendiary Associate Priest at St Ninian's, Comely Bank**, from **1 October 2025**.

## Online Support

Get answers from your colleagues around the diocese via the Online Support Forum. There are sections for Treasurers, Secretaries, PVG Coordinators, Buildings Convenors, and more. Register **[here](#)** and login **[here](#)**.



# Mission & Ministry



Edinburgh Diocese

**YOUTH**



**YOU are invited...**  
**...Pizza-Bowl 2025**

**When:** 30th August, 4-8pm  
**Where:** Fountain Park, Edinburgh

**Join together with other young people aged 12-18 from across the Diocese of Edinburgh:**

- Spend time with old friends
- Make new friends
- Have fun
- Down some pins
- Eat pizza!



Consent Form  
Register by 24-Aug



The Diocese of Edinburgh (Scottish Episcopal Church) is a Registered Charity SC001214  
[https://edinburgh.anglican.org/mission-and-ministry/youth-and-children/doe\\_youth](https://edinburgh.anglican.org/mission-and-ministry/youth-and-children/doe_youth)

## PizzaBowl: 30 Aug 25

All young people aged 12–18 are invited to join us from **4–8pm on Saturday 30 August 2025**, at Fountain Park for bowling and pizza. Yeek25 Graduates are very welcome.

The obligatory registration and consent form is at [tinyurl.com/PizzaBowl2025](https://tinyurl.com/PizzaBowl2025).

Note: we are asking for a £10 contribution to the event (up to a max of £20 per family) payable by BACS or cash/card on the day.

## Adventures in Faith



Read the latest Adventures in Faith Newsletter at this [link](#), and start planning your next adventure today!



## Vestry Afternoon Teas

This autumn, we are hosting a series of Sunday Afternoon Teas for Vestry Secretaries, Wardens, Lay and Alt Lay Reps, and Treasurers. Start: 3:30pm. Finish around 5pm. [Register here.](#)

- \* 21 September: St Peter's, Linlithgow
- \* 5 October: Holy Trinity, Haddington
- \* 12 October: St Ninian's, Comely Bank
- \* 19 October: St Peter's, Galashiels
- \* 9 November: St Ninian's, Comely Bank



**TRUSTEE**  
*Training*



**Saturday 15 November**

Join us at 9am for some breakfast (provided!)  
Get into the training at 9:30am  
Finish by 1pm

@ Trinity Centre, Church Street, Haddington, EH41 3EX

[tinyurl.com/NovTrustee](https://tinyurl.com/NovTrustee)

Ordained and lay vestry members alike are encouraged to attend Trustee Training on Saturday 15 November at the Trinity Centre, Haddington. Hot breakfast rolls are provided from 9am until the training proper starts at 9:30am! We conclude by 1pm.

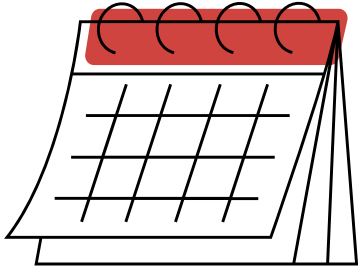
**Register for the training here.**

**September 9:** Finance & Management Committee

**September 15:** OFFICE CLOSED (Public Holiday)

**September 16:** DMMC Committee

**September 18:** CMD Day at St Columba's by the Castle



*Confirmation Service at St Mary's, Dalkeith, 17 August 2025*

**August 24:** Choral Evensong/Farewell Service at St Mary's Cathedral



## 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

- **Until 31 August:** Festival at St Mary's, St Mary's Cathedral
- **23 August:** Godly Play Making Materials Day, Duddingston Kirk Manse
- **23 August:** Fischy Music Christian All-Age Concert, Stockbridge Parish Church
- **25 to 30 August:** St Martin's Art Exhibition, St Martin of Tours, Gorgie-Dalry
- **25 August:** Spiritual Disciplines: A Three-Part Webinar Series – Session 1, online
- **30 August:** Open Church, St Cuthbert's, Hawick
- **30 August:** PizzaBowl 2025, Fountain Park, Edinburgh
- **31 August:** A Wee Sing, St James the Less, Penicuik



## Creationtide Pet Services



### Outdoor Blessing Service

31 August, 3.30pm  
South Lawn  
St Mary's Cathedral

### Pet Service

31 August, 3pm  
St Adrian's Garden  
St Adrian's, Gullane