



# Diocese of Edinburgh

*Scottish Episcopal Church*



St Mary's Cathedral, credit: Peter Backhouse

# *The* *Communicant*

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

**5 February 2026**

*In this edition...*

News & Notices: p.2 - 3

Mission & Ministry: p.4

Events: p.5



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# News and Notices

## Bishop Search



Last month, the Preparatory Committee met to interview and prayerfully consider which candidates to shortlist to present at the Electoral Synod of 7 February.

We ask you to continue to hold all involved in your prayers, particularly the Preparatory Committee and those who have made themselves vulnerable in considering this discernment.

You can find more information about the process on the Bishop Search page of our website: <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/bishop-search/>

## St Mary's Bells

St Mary's Cathedral has just launched a fundraising campaign to carry out essential repairs on the Cathedral bells. The repairs are estimated to cost approximately £15,000, and the bell ringers are hoping to raise these funds by the time work starts in July. This is a once-in-a-lifetime project with some of the work being essential repairs that have not been carried out since 1935!

Susannah Ewens, the Tower Captain, said: "Our Cathedral bells are a valued part of life at St Mary's and in the West End, calling us to worship and marking both occasions of celebration and reflection. Essential work is now required to ensure the bells can safely ring out for years to come. We will be very grateful for any support in helping to preserve this part of our community."



Credit: Peter Backhouse

### Futher information & how to donate

[Repairing the Bells of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral | Stewardship](#)

[Home | St Mary's Edinburgh](#)

### Have you got news or stories from your church that 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!*

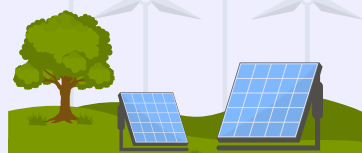


### ENERGY FOOTPRINT TOOLKITS

Around 45% of charges were on renewable energy tariffs at the last count - has your church changed? The SEC Net Zero Team would love you to complete your latest toolkit (EFT) and they have sent a message round to all churches. Could you see if you have had the message? If not - please email Neil Rawlins:

[NeilR@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:NeilR@scotland.anglican.org)

Thank you!



# News and Notices

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to George and Hedy of St Vincent's, Stockbridge, Edinburgh, who were confirmed by the Most Revd Mark Strange on Sunday 25 January. We wish them well as they make their way forward on their Christian journey as new members of the church.



A warm day was had as the congregation also celebrated St Vincent's Feast of Title with Eucharist and a group lunch.



Congratulations to Revd Harriet Johnston, who was instituted as Rector at St Anne's, Dunbar on Sunday 25 January. Pictured next to Harriet is The Most Reverend Mark Strange, Primus and Acting Bishop of Edinburgh, and the Very Reverend Frances Burberry, Dean of the Diocese. We warmly wish Harriet the very best for her new ministry.

## DO YOU HIRE OUT YOUR PREMISES?



We are looking to further develop our website so that we can identify to visitors which churches have spaces for hire to organisations in their communities. Although we won't be able to give full details of what is available, enquirers looking for churches and halls available will be able to see that this is something you offer and click a link to get in touch with you.

Drop a line to Mollie, our Communications Officer, at: [communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org](mailto:communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org)

## Free Printers



As the move of the General Synod Office to its new premises gets closer, they are offering some of their redundant printers to churches. Here is a list of what they have available. They are ALL **black & white** and A4 only.

- 2x Ricoh IM 350 (w scanner/copier)
- 2x Ricoh P311
- 4x HP M402DN
- 1x HP401DN

They are all laser printers.

Please contact Ross Hunter at the **GSO** if you would like one: [ross.hunter@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:ross.hunter@scotland.anglican.org)

# Mission & Ministry



**Just announced!** The next Provincial Youth Overnight Event is taking place in the stunning location of Kinlochleven, between Glencoe and Fort William, in the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles. The usual pattern of these events will be followed: fun, games, and creativity in the afternoon before preparing to help lead worship for Palm Sunday in the morning. All meals are provided and a non-residential option is available. Click the link below for more information and to register by **12 March**.

## [Information and Registration Form](#)

## Resources for Lent

There is no Diocesan Lent Course for 2026. Previous Lent courses are available on the diocesan website, along with signposts to other resources and a useful PDF detailing new courses and books for 2026. [Access here.](#)

**Resources for Lent - New for 2026**  
(Last updated 23 January)

**Physical Books**

- Worship and Reflection Through Lent with the Bible** (with the aid of the Bible) by Susan Hanson. [Click here to purchase](#)
- DAPPLED BEAUTY** by Cathy Trainor. [Click here to purchase](#)
- A Season of Silence** (with the aid of the Bible) by Susan Hanson. [Click here to purchase](#)
- SEASON OF SILENCE** by Susan Hanson. [Click here to purchase](#)

	<b>Dew of Life Lent</b> Daily Readings, Weekly Themes, Associated songs, prayers, and reflections for Lent 2026. Includes a list of 28 daily reflections and 7 weekly themes.
	<b>Draw New</b> Daily Readings & Reflections. This resource encourages children, families, schools and church groups to draw a new picture with the words of the Bible. Includes a list of 28 daily reflections and 7 weekly themes.
	<b>Sacred Space</b> Daily Readings, Weekly Themes, Sacred Space for Lent courses, resources to provide a quiet space for prayer, reflection and contemplation. Includes a list of 28 daily reflections and 7 weekly themes.
	<b>The Lord's Prayer</b> Daily Readings, Weekly Themes. This resource provides a list of 28 daily reflections and 7 weekly themes, each with a reflection on the Lord's Prayer.

TRUSTEE

## Training

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

**Saturday 25 April**  
St Ninian's, Comely Bank,  
Edinburgh, EH4 1AG

**Saturday 24 October**  
St Peter's, Abbotsford Road  
Galashiels, TD1 3HS

<https://tinyurl.com/Trustee26>

## CMD Day in March

The next CMD Day for clergy and Lay Readers is on **Tuesday 3 March 2026**. Come and join the Revd Keith Thomasson (Rector of St Ninian's, Troon, and Chair of the Provincial Mission Board) as he leads our thinking on **Leadership and Collaboration**.

**[Register here](#)**

## DMMC News

Have you read February's DMMC News? It contains all the usual news, updates, and signposts to events and resources, plus there's a special focus on research among millennial and Gen A Christians. [Read here.](#)

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Scottish Episcopal Church

## DMMC NEWS

FEBRUARY

Welcome to February's Newsletter!

Information on courses, awareness dates, events, etc, are available via our [Adventures in Faith](#) pages:

[Homepage](#) [Newsletter](#) [Calendar](#) [Courses](#) [Awareness](#)

Welcome!

# Events

## Diocesan Diary

- Saturday 7 February:** Electoral Synod  
**Tuesday 10 February:** Mission & Ministry Committee  
**Thursday 12 February:** Finance & Management Committee  
**Saturday 14 February:** Electoral Synod



**Saturday 14 March:** Diocesan Synod, Ps & Gs, Edinburgh

## Bishop's Diary

- Sunday 15 February:** Confirmation at Melrose (with Bishop Kevin Pearson)  
**Saturday 7 March:** Confirmation at Melrose (with Bishop Kevin Pearson)

## Community Events

- Until 19 February:** 'Interreligious Encounters & Creative Practice' Exhibition, Edinburgh University Chaplaincy  
**7 February:** Godly Play Circle  
**10 February:** The SCVO Gathering 2026  
**15 February:** 'Being Your Authentic Self': A Day of Celebration, Reflection and Conversation for LGBTQ+ Folk, Allies and Friends  
**23 February:** God's Invitation to Relationship: An Introduction to Ways of Praying  
**24 February:** Christian Aid in Scotland: The Gathering 2026  
**26 February:** Preaching & Public Speaking Online Leadership Focus  
**28 February:** A Moment at the Well: Online



## Online Events Calendar

You can submit your own events on our website! Please find details of upcoming events and submit your own [here](#). It's easy to do!

