



Diocese of Edinburgh

Scottish Episcopal Church



St Mary's Cathedral, 9 May 2026



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Diocese of Edinburgh
21A Grosvenor Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5EL
office@edinburgh.anglican.org
0131 538 7033
SC001214

The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

14 May 2026

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News and Notices

One Day at the Cathedral



People from across Scotland, as well as locals, converged on St Mary's Cathedral for a variety of reasons on Saturday 9 May. In one 24-hour period, the following events were held, all dovetailing together into hopeful community:

- **Friends of St Mary's Annual Open Day**, with tours and access to rarely seen archives and vestments;
- **Exhibition and Launch of Each Child a Light**, a global movement of individuals and communities sewing to remember the 20,000+ children killed in Gaza since October 2023;
- **The Provincial Youth Mid-Exam Chill**, a chance for young people to spend some time away from study and with friends;
- **Active Travel Active Hope**, a 24-hour relay and attendant events which sought to demonstrate the power of individual and collective action to foster hope.

You can read a full description of the day through the eyes of our Advisor for Christian Life, Revd Fee Reynolds, [on our website](#).



Confirmation Joy at St Matthew's

On Sunday 3 May, Bishop Mark confirmed five candidates, including two young people, at St Matthew's – Rosslyn Chapel. Congratulations to Graham, Philip, Gloria, Jayden and William!

News and Notices

New PVG Guidance

The SEC's Safeguarding team has made revisions to its guidance on PVG Scheme legal requirements. There is also a new section on five-year membership. Find the new guidance on [this page](#).

Note that five-year PVG Scheme membership replaced lifetime membership from 1 April. Disclosure Scotland has confirmed that there is no change to the existing PVG scheme application process for organisations or applicants. This means there will be no requirement for anyone to reapply for PVG. There will be a separate membership renewal process operated by Disclosure Scotland.

Talking about Talking Faith!

Talking Faith, the new podcast from Revd Lesley Penny of [Saint Peter's Church, Galashiels](#) and [St John's Church Selkirk](#) and Revd Pip Blackledge of [Holy Trinity Melrose](#), was featured in an ITV News Border programme on Wednesday 13 May. You can see the feature [here](#) at about 11 minutes, 30 seconds.



You can catch up with *Talking Faith* in [podcast](#) format or on [YouTube](#).

Beetle Drive at St David's



On 17 May **St David's, Pilton** held a Beetle Drive and raised £126 for church funds. The event was well attended by church and community.

Opportunities

There are a range of vacancies being advertised across the diocese. More details on our [Vacancies page](#).

St Andrew's Kelso, Rector

St Mary's Cathedral: Vice Provost (closes 15 May)

St Mary's Cathedral: Cathedral Administrator (closes 15 May)

St Mary's Cathedral: Bass Lay Clerk

St Peter's, Musselburgh: Children and Families' Worker

WE ARE RECRUITING!

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' WORKER

- ST PETER'S CHURCH, MUSSELBURGH
- 12 HOURS/WEEK
- £15/HOUR
- CLOSING DATE: 31 MAY 2026
- INFO: www.stpeters.scot/children



Mission & Ministry

CMD Day: join us if you can!

If you're a member of clergy or Lay Reader, there's still time to [register to join us](#) on **Tuesday 19 May** at St Ninian's, Comely Bank, when the Revd Dr Gillian Straine will be leading our reflections on *Regenerative Leadership*. The Revd Dr Straine is CEO of [GoHealth](#) (aka The Guild of Health and St Raphael) an ecumenical Christian charity with over 100 years' experience in health and healing. **Registration deadline: Friday 15 May at noon!**



seen | heard | known
Inspiring Leadership in Youth & Children's Ministry

In 2026, all involved in youth and children's ministry are invited to a fresh series of training days at Ps & Gs Church called 'beHeld'. The next is on **23 May** (future dates are 26 September, 28 November).

Each event will be on a Saturday morning, 9am–1pm, with light refreshments, worship, and the chance to hear from experts on key subjects.

beHeld costs £15 per session, but the diocese will cover the cost of one ticket per charge per year. Just email us at

dmmcadmin@dioceseofedinburgh.org with your name and charge, and we'll book you in for 23 May.

“Isä meidän ...”



A reminder that we, as a Diocese, pledged to learn the Lord's Prayer in Finnish by Pentecost! How about using the next 10 days to give it a try? [Find the text and video on our website.](#)

It's not too late ...



... to donate to our Lent Appeal. Aberlour Children's Charity works to provide tailored support to families facing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination. [Find out more on our website.](#)

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come runs from today until Pentecost. Resources for 2026, with the theme God With Us, are now available via [the TKC website.](#)



Finance & Management

Over the coming editions, we will be signposting to new resources, templates, instructional videos and external links all aimed at reducing the sense of isolation we sometimes hear of in secretary, treasurer and other roles.



NEW DIOCESAN OFFICE



Work is continuing at 34 Manor Place to ready the new Diocesan Office for our occupation. There is a tentative moving-in date of 11-12 June but that is dependent on the contractors and the supply of a broadband connection. Leading up to and after that date there will, inevitably, be disruption to our working time and there will be some days when we will only be available by phone - so please bear with us!

Staff Profiles

Over the next few editions, we will feature some short profiles of each of us, so you can get to know us better and get a good picture of what each of us do.



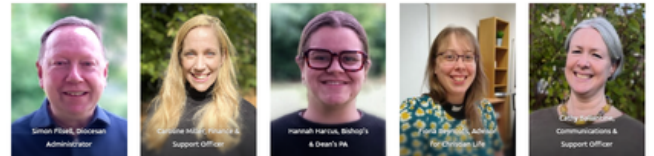
Getting in touch.....

<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/who-we-are/office-staff/>

You can click on the subject titles on this page and it will take you to the person you need to contact.

Governance & Committees

The Finance & Management Committee met last week, receiving reports from both the Buildings Committee and the Personnel Committee. The Buildings Committee was very busy, having considered no less than 10 Canon 35 applications this time and 8 grant applications. Whilst this involves a huge amount of administration, it shows how active congregations are in caring for and developing their buildings. The Standing Committee meets next week and will receive reports from the Finance & Management and Mission & Ministry Committees, as well as from 3 of the 7 Area Councils.



Who should I contact?

I'm looking for:

BISHOP & DEAN	COMMUNICATIONS	FINANCE, BUILDINGS & SYNOD	MISSION & MINISTRY
Bishop's PA and administrative support Bishop's diary Canon 31 marriage permissions Dean's PA and administrative support Energy licensing PVG checking Vacancy Procedures for appointing a Rector	Diocesan news stories Bishop's social media and public profile Communications training and resources The Communicant Internal communications PR Social media Website	Canon 35 administration Canon 35 queries Data management Diocesan Administrator Office Facilities management Diocesan Standing Committee Secretary Diocesan Synod Secretary Finance & Management Committee and pendant committees secretary Finances (day-to-day) Governance Office Personnel & HR	Adventures In Faith Advisor For Christian Life DMMAC News Faith nurture and growth Ministerial development and training Mission and Ministry administrative support Mission and ministry resources Support for people in authorised ministry Youth and children's ministry support and resources Youth and Children's Newsletter

CANON 35 - 2026 CONSENTS GRANTED:

St. Peter's, Musselburgh – **Solar Panels** project

St. John's Princes Street – Siting of Pisces **Sculpture** in curtilage of church

St. James, Goldenacre – Phase 2A of **refurbishment** project

St. Adrian's, Gullane – Building of Centenary **Extension** and Installation of **secondary glazing**

Holy Trinity, Haddington – Building Western **Extension** inc toilet refurbishment

St. James, Leith – **Refurbishment** of Sanitary provision and **installation of radiant heat** provision

Events

Diocesan Diary

Monday 18 May - OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday 21 May - Standing Committee

Monday 25 May - Personnel Committee

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday 22 October

Diocesan Synod (evening)



Saturday 30 May, I I am: Installation of Bishop Dagmar



Thursday 11 to Saturday 13 June: General Synod

Events

Submit your own event details [here](#). It's easy to do!

Thurs 14 May: [David Goodbourn Lecture 2026](#), Online

Thurs 14 May: [Ascension Mass: An Uplifting Celebration](#), St Michael's and All Saints

Fri 15 May: [God as Nothing by Gilbert Markus](#), Holy Trinity Melrose

Mon 18 May: [Starting Session for 'I Will Give You Rest': Summer Retreat in Daily Life](#) from the Epiphany Group, Online

Wed 20 May: [Left to Their Own Devices? A Care for the Family Event](#), Ps & Gs

Fri 22 May: [Ceilidh Party](#), St Ninian's Comely Bank

Sat 23 May: [BeHeld Youth Ministry Training](#), Ps & Gs, Edinburgh

Sat 23 May: [Strawberry Tea & Plant Sale](#), St Mark's, Portobello

Wed 27 May: [ESMS Wellbeing Conference](#), Edinburgh

Sat 30 May: [Music in Peebles Saturday Afternoon Concert: Howells Reid Duo](#) (flute and harp), St Peter's, Peebles



We love hearing your updates! Please email us at 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.

