

# Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

## 16th November 2023

### Interfaith Week: “Faith Covenant” Signed Between Dundee Faith Leaders and Dundee City Council



The signing ceremony at Dundee City Chambers (Photo DCC)

Bishop Andrew and Provost Elizabeth were the Scottish Episcopal Church representatives at the signing of the ‘Faith Covenant’ between Dundee City Council and Dundee faith leaders Monday morning in Interfaith Week in Scotland. Councillor Nadia El-Nakla and Cllr John Alexander and the DCC team hosted the event which comes out of nearly five years of discussions and a great deal of work by Jacky Close and Faith in Community Dundee.

Dundee is the first Scottish city to have a signed agreement of shared values and respect between faith leaders and local politicians. The SEC was the national Christian denomination able to be present on the day, with others such as the Church of Scotland fully involved in the meeting and discussions that lead to the Covenant.

The Covenant says: “Faith communities are free to practise their beliefs and religious observances without restriction, and to raise their voice in public debate and to be respected, within the framework of the law.

“Public services and faith based social action should respect service users from all backgrounds, with no discrimination on the grounds of religion, gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation or disability.

“The voice, participation and solutions that faith communities bring are important, and consultation should enable them to be brought to bear for the benefit of the wider community.”

### Iowa Youth Pilgrimage: The Pilgrims' Experience in Their Own Words

Following this summer's visit to Iowa, pilgrims reflected on what difference the Companionship Pilgrimage made to them. Leaders from the dioceses of Brechin and Iowa collaborated on this short film, which features interviews with pilgrims plus many photographs to illustrate the different elements of this pilgrimage: the fun, the fellowship, the shared worship and our activities which helped us to reflect on some of the Calls to Mission that had come out of the 2022 Lambeth Conference. These included Creation Care, Racial Reconciliation, Mission & Evangelism and Anglican Identity.



The film is about 7 minutes long and subtitled throughout, and with the sound up you'll hear plenty of joyful singing. So grab some popcorn, sit back and enjoy! You can view the film here: [link](#).

### War in Israel-Palestine: Anglican Emergency Appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Archbishop of Jerusalem Hosam Naoum have issued a joint emergency appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The full text of the appeal letter is attached to the bulletin email. Details of international partners in the UK where donations can be made are:

JMECA (UK): <https://>

[cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585](http://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585) Friends of the Holy Land (UK, Joint Anglican-Roman Catholic): <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/donate/christmas>.

As ever, please pray for peace in this terrible time of war and violence in the Holy Land.

## **Help for Young Asylum Seekers in the City of Dundee**

From Faith in Community Dundee: The UK government has placed 110 young unaccompanied male asylum seekers in Dundee. They have arrived with nothing. Because they are asylum seekers they cannot work, and get barely any support. Connections café, a conversation and English practice project of The Steeple in Dundee saw young men arriving to learn English, in flip-flops and t-shirts; in Scotland, in October.

The specific needs at the moment are:

- Young men's winter clothes and shoes, most needed are medium-large and for shoes 42 and 43 or 8-9 UK
- Phones chargers
- It would also be great if some dignity packs of (New) underwear, socks, toothbrush/paste, shower gel and deodorant could be provided, especially if they could include a rucksack or similar bag also.

If you or members of your congregations would be able to help with any of these items, ScrapAntics has agreed to host collections and sort out the distribution in conjunction with the Scottish Refugee Council.

Items can be dropped off:

- ScrapAntics Wellgate community space, near JD gym; Tuesdays 10am - 2pm and Thursdays 12pm - 3pm
- ScrapStore, Unit 2, Meadow Mill, W Henderson's Wynd, Dundee Dd1 5By, United Kingdom, Dundee DD1 5BY: Saturdays 10am - 2pm

## **Cathedral Lunchtime Concerts Autumn/Winter Term: 17th November 1pm**

The next Cathedral's lunchtime concert will be on Friday 17th November at 1.00pm, featuring the Trojan Trio of Tim Beattie playing guitar, Sofia Ros playing accordion and Marysia Turowska playing violin.

Tickets and are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or £3 for students.

## **Rock Choir Concert at St. James, Stonehaven: Saturday 18th November 7:30pm**

On Saturday 18th November at 7:30pm, St. James Stonehaven will host a concert by the Rock Choir. Tickets cost £10 and include a glass of wine or warm cup of coffee/tea. Tickets are available from Paula on 07710 529694 or Anne on 01569 765793 and at the door on the night.

## **Want to Hold Musical Events at St Salvador's, Dundee?**

Musicians, singers, organists, etc., that are interested in putting on an event at St Salvador's church please contact Martin Andrews (07947 380620) (or e-mail: [saintsalvadors@gmail.com](mailto:saintsalvadors@gmail.com)). Our exceptional acoustic has made the church a preferred venue for professional recordings and is ideal for concerts and recitals of all types. We plan to establish regular events as resources become available.

## **Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects**

The Cost of Living crisis continues, and as the colder weather arrives the pressure on people trying to heat their homes with continuing high utility costs will increase.

We are continuing to place information and resources to help with living costs on a page on the Diocesan website. The page can be found here: Cost of Living Crisis page [here](#).



## **Any news to share in the Bulletin?**

If you have details of upcoming events, stories and photos of events around the diocese, please email Elliott Scarfe in the office on [office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).