

Brechin Bulletin

12th January 2024

Retirement of Linda Walls as long-serving Monifieth Lay Reader

Sunday 7th January: The Feast of Epiphany was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church Monifieth as the congregation celebrating the many years of service that Linda Walls had offered as their Lay Reader. Linda was retiring after nearly 17 years of active ministry. She trained at the Theological Institute of the Scottish Episcopal Church and, after retiring from a career in teaching, was licensed in 2007 by Bishop John Mantle.



Linda is presented with a gift from the congregation by Rev Martin Allwood, priest in charge. Sue owe, Warden of Lay Readers, and Bishop Andrew also gave presentations (Photo M. Swift)

Bishop Andrew led the worship and celebration, and Sue Rowe, the Diocesan Warden of Lay Readers presented on behalf of Linda's Reader colleagues in the Diocese. Colleagues and other friends of Linda from her time as a Reader were also present and joined the congregation for a lunch afterwards.



Linda is presented with a certificate of thanks. (Photo M. Swift)

Linda will remain as sacristan and intercessor and many other roles in Holy Trinity. She also remains a Lay Reader, but by retiring will no longer be a regular leader of worship in the church. A Lay Reader is trained to preach and lead worship and often shares the pastoral ministry in a church with the ordained clergy of that church.

Kathleen Cummins RIP

We are sad to share the news that Kathleen Cummins, the wife of the Rev Ashley Cummins (retired Rector of Invergowrie), died on 9th Jan. She had been ill for some time. Ashley and Kathleen have been living in Gaudry near Newport-on-Tay in retirement. The funeral will take place at Dundee Crematorium on Friday 26th January. Please keep the family and Kathleen in your prayers

2024 Diocesan Intercession List Now Available for Download

The three companion dioceses (Eswatini, Iowa and Brechin) have issued the 2024 diary of intercessions with daily prayer intentions for all three of the Anglican Communion Dioceses. Please download your copy from the Diocesan website at <https://www.thedioceseofbrechin.org/resources/by/category/companion-dioceses-joint-intercession-list>

If you would prefer a paper copy (the download is formatted to be printed into a paper booklet) please contact the office to have a copy produced and posted out.

Installation of Cathedral Canons: 5pm, 21st Jan 2024 at St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee

On Sunday 21st January Canon Jim Benton-Evans will be installed as the Synod Clerk of the Diocese of Brechin and Allan Duffus will be installed as a Lay Canon of the cathedral in honour of his many years' service as the Diocesan Treasurer. The bishop will install the canons, supported by the Cathedral Chapter and the wider diocese.

All are very welcome at this celebratory service of evensong.

Holocaust Memorial Day Vigil

On Saturday 27th January between 10am-4pm, St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee will be open for a Vigil to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. On this day we remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

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 in their work to help the those suffering including victims of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Details of international partners in the UK where donations can be made are: JMECA (UK): <https://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.

Dundee Event: "Explorations in Prayer" **20 January at 10.30am**

The next open session of 'Explorations in Prayer' with Dean Kenneth Gibson is taking place on Saturday 20th January from 10.30 am -12.30 pm at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Dundee. We shall be focusing on Lectio Divina and 'Praying with our Bodies'. All are very welcome at this session.



Healthy Environment: Net Zero Cards now available for churches

The Provincial Environmental Group has released sets of "Net Zero cards". The Net Zero Cards help churches engage with actions a church can take that will reduce your energy use and move your charge towards Net Zero. The cards are designed to let a group within a church (maybe the vestry or a work-

ing group looking at environmental issues) make sense of what can feel an overwhelming range of issues and possibilities. The cards in the pack cover Energy Efficiency Improvements, Clean Energy, and Positive Finances, the priority areas from our Net Zero Action Plan.



The Net Zero cards available from the office

Packs of the Net Zero cards are now available from the General Synod Office in Edinburgh, and sets are also available from the Diocesan Office. Please contact Elliott to order a pack for your church or to explore guidance on how they can be used in a church setting use.

Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects

The Cost of Living crisis continues in the winter of 2024, and in this colder weather the pressure on people trying to heat their homes with continuing high utility costs. Churches and charities are also feeling the pressure of raised bill. Inflation is dropping—but that just means that prices are rising less quickly, rather than the cost of living dropping back down.

Some churches continue to share 'cosy spaces' in their churches or halls to give a warm space, activities and a warm welcome to members of the public. Watch social media pages for details of the times and places.

The Diocese is 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.