

Brechin Bulletin

25th January 2024

Installation of Cathedral Canons

New Canons were installed on the evening of Sunday 21st January at St Paul's Cathedral, Diocese of Brechin, Dundee at a celebration evensong. Mr Allan Duffus is the first ever Brechin Lay Canon, in honour of his thirty years of service as Diocesan Treasurer. The Rev Jim Benton-Evans joins the Chapter as a Canon having been elected by the clergy as the Synod Clerk in October 2023.



Canon Allan Duffus and Rev Canon Jim Benton-Evans with the Bishop after their installations. (Photo C Benton-Evans)

In what is now becoming a Brechin custom, trees had been dedicated on behalf of the Canons as part of the "Anglican Communion" Forest. The trees, at a Woodlands trust plantation at Backmuir Woods to the north-west of Dundee, were marked with the presentation of certificates and seed-bombs (for planting in warmer weather).

The service was a great occasion with family, friends and others gathering for the celebration, organised by Provost Elizabeth Thomson and Rev Roxanne Campbell from the Cathedral team. The excellent choir were led by Stuart Muir. Refreshments and a chance to congratulate the new Canons followed.

Kathleen Cummins RIP: Funeral Details: 26th January, Dundee Crematorium.

Last week we shared the sad news that Kathleen Cummins, the wife of the Rev Ashley Cummins (retired priest-in-charge 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 their re-

tirement. They ministered for many years in the Diocese of Brechin.

The funeral will take place at **11:30am on Friday 26th January** at the **Dundee Crematorium**. Please keep the family and Kathleen in your prayers.

Holocaust Memorial Day Vigil: 27th Jan at St Paul's Cathedral Dundee

On Saturday 27th January, between 10am-4pm, St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee will be open for a Vigil to mark "Holocaust Memorial Day".

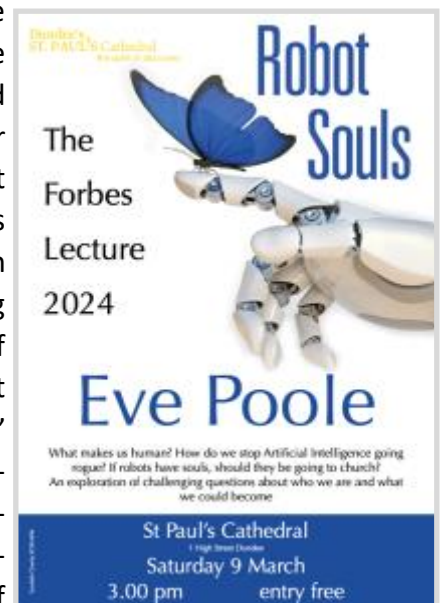
On this day we remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

Read more about the day at <https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

Forbes Lecture: "Robot Souls", 9th March at 3pm with Dr Eve Poole OBE

The Forbes Lecture is an opportunity for people in Dundee and the Diocese of Brechin to hear about matters of topical interest. The lecture is followed by questions and then by tea, hosted by the Friends of St Paul's Cathedral .

This year, Dr Eve Poole OBE will give the lecture, entitled 'Robot Souls'. In her new book of that same title Eve looks at what we've been deliberately leaving out of the design of AI. It turns out that all that 'junk code' left on the floor contains the very essence of our humanity. As hallmarks of soul, this code is vital to our flourishing. Might it be vital to the flourishing of AI too?



Dr Eve Poole OBE is an academic and writer who specialises in leadership. Her books include *Capitalism's Toxic Assumptions*, *Buying God*, and *Leadersmithing*. Eve was the first female Chairman of Gordonstoun School in Moray from 2015-2021. She also served as Third Church Estates Commissioner for England from 2018-2021, and was Interim Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2022. She was awarded an OBE in the 2023 New Year Honours List for services to education and gender equality.

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 Tapestry—Unesco Panel

The “Cathedral stitchers” have completed the work on the Dundee Unesco panel, and the whole tapestry - 35 panels - will be on show in the V&A Dundee from now till 28th April, with free entry. The group are now discussing further work, and meet regularly on Fridays at 10.00 in St Roque's hall.



The stitchers meet the Lord Provost (Photo A Simpson)

All interested parties are welcome - you don't need to be a stitcher - you can bring knitting, crochet, sketching, painting - or just come for the chat - and coffee!

For more information please contact admin@saintpaulscathedral.net.

Open Retreat: May 2024

A retreat is planned for 17th - 19th May 2024. It will be at Whitcheater Christian Guest House, a beautiful and tranquil setting in Hawick, and will be led by Cathedral clergy. The cost is approx £180 pp (full board). If you want to go then fill in a booking form and return to Rev'd Roxanne Campbell. Form can be downloaded [here](#). For more information contact roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net

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 working 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.

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](#).