

Brechin Bulletin

8th February 2024

“Naming Ceremony” Celebrations at St. Mary Magdalene’s Church Dundee

Dean Kenneth writes, “It was wonderful to be with the delighted father and mother, Felix and Felicia, at the Naming Ceremony for their new son Oluwasheyinna at St Mary Magdalene’s Church last week. His name means “The Lord can be praised”.



Dean Kenneth with Felix, Felicia and baby Oluwasheyinna (Photo K Gibson)

The service, held on the eighth day after the birth of a child, was a wonderful occasion, rooted in the ancient customs of our faith. In total, eight names were given by various members of the couples' wider family. Oluwasheyinna is the name that will be used ordinarily. This is a very meaningful tradition from which we in Scotland could learn. “

Cathedral Lunchtime Concerts Restart for Spring Term: Friday 9th February 1pm

The Cathedral’s Friday lunchtime concert series resumes on Friday 9th February at 1.00pm, with Amy Strachan, soprano, and Daniel Silcock, piano, playing a beautiful programme with the music of Schumann, Debussy, and Strauss, as well as Scottish folk songs. Tickets are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or

£3 for students. The concert will last 45 minutes with coffee/tea and cake being served after.

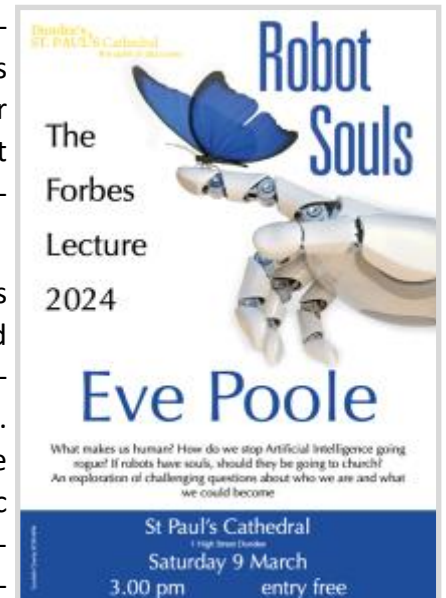
‘Forbes’ Lecture: “Robot Souls”, 9th March at 3pm with Dr Eve Poole OBE

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. Please spread the word about this exciting event!

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.

The Forbes Lecture is a new initiative, to modernise and replacing the ‘Forbes Evensong’ to commemorate Bishop Alexander Penrose Forbes that was held each year in October with a guest preacher.





Music at St. Mary Magdalene's: 14th February 12.30pm

The Wednesday lunchtime concerts at St Mary Magdalene's begin again on 14th February with an organ recital by Alison Malcolm who will be playing music 'on the lighter side'. Concerts will start at 12.30, last 30/35 minutes and tea and coffee will be available. Audience are invited to bring their lunch if they wish.

Interested in a Retreat this Year? Event at Whitcheater in 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 approximately £180 per person (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

Scottish Government Legislation: Register of Controlled Interests—Vestries be Ready for Actions

The "Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 (Register of Persons Holding a Controlled Interest in Land) Regulations 2021" is an Act to improve transparency about land ownership by making information about those who have a controlling interest in land publicly available, even if they are not the official owner of the land. Most vestries fit this category and will be asked (by the diocese) to provide consent for key members to be registered by the end of March 2024. Watch this space for more information in the next few weeks.

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.

Help? Liturgical Cruet set/ Lavabo Set

Does any church have an extra cruet set and/or lavabo set for use in the Liturgy that they would be willing to gift to the Scottish Episcopal Institute. Provincial Ordinands would use these in their training weekends at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull. Please contact Enza Gibson (Ordinand of the Diocese of Brechin) at enza.gibson@btinternet.com if you can help. Thank you.

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.