

Brechin Bulletin

23rd May 2024

Brechin Messy Church Starts Creation!

Canon Jim Benton-Evans writes: A new Messy Church project began in Brechin on Saturday 27 April. This is an ecumenical initiative between the Church of Scotland, the Salvation Army and St Andrew's Episcopal Church, and is taking place in Brechin Cathedral Hall. Our first session focussed on the theme of Creation: we heard the Creation story from Genesis; made some amazing things out of clay and Lego; created a wonderful collage depicting the seven days of creation; played some games and spent a short time in worship and prayer.



Brechin Messy Church buzzes about creation (J Benton-Evans)

We then had an amazing shared meal of mince and tatties/mac and cheese, all prepared and cooked for us by the wonderful team from Brechin Soup Initiative. We were delighted to welcome nearly 30 people to the Messy Church and look forward eagerly to our next gathering on 25 May, when we'll be looking at the story of Zacchaeus.

Clergy Changes in the Diocese of Brechin

Provost Elizabeth Thomson and Rev Roxanne Campbell will be changing roles in the Diocese from this summer. Announcements were made in the Cathedral and St Martin's Dundee last Sunday.

Elizabeth Thomson takes on Provincial role

The College of Bishops has appointed the Very Revd Elizabeth Thomson, currently Provost of this Cathedral Church, to be Provincial Director of Ordinands, the priest in charge of recruitment and selection for all who wish to explore training for ordained or lay reader min-

istry in the SEC. Elizabeth will be taking up this post at the beginning of August 2024 and she will end her time as the Provost of the Cathedral at the end of July 2024. Elizabeth will continue to live in Dundee as she starts her new role, so will receive a permission for voluntary ministry in Brechin as a 'self-supporting' cleric.

Roxanne Campbell to be Cathedral Interim

The Bishop has appointed Rev Roxanne Campbell as a full time Interim Rector for the Cathedral during their time of vacancy. Roxanne is presently the Priest for Outreach and Priest in Charge of St Martin's Dundee. At the Bishop's request, Roxanne will step back from her duties at St Martin's as she takes on this role in the Cathedral. St Martin's will be supported with suitable interim ministry while the various charges in vacancy in Dundee are helped to their next stages in ministry.

The Bishop writes: Please keep Elizabeth and Roxanne and the church communities in your prayers in this time of change and transition.

Special Appeal for Winter School Shoes for the Diocese of Eswatini

Our Companionship Diocese of Eswatini has launched a special appeal for school shoes for children in their Diocesan schools. As Eswatini are entering the colder months now they are reaching out to orphaned and vulnerable children, in their Diocesan schools, to provide them with school shoes. In order to attend school, pupils are required to have the basic uniform **and to wear shoes**. Many families struggle to make ends meet and as a result their children often do not have proper footwear to keep their feet healthy and protected. Most children walk long distances to and from school and some walk barefoot and only put their shoes on when they reach school; sometimes because the shoes are broken or too small and uncomfortable and often because they are not able to replace worn out shoes.

We in Brechin Diocese (and Bishop Betsey in Iowa is joining us) are invited to respond to this special appeal with donations (not shoes – the cost of post/carriage is hugely expensive and the postal services extremely unreliable).

Donations are open until Sunday 30th June 2024. That would allow us to transfer donations to Eswatini in the first week of July. Holy Trinity Monifieth will, manage the collection and transfer of donations. Cash donations can be handed to Keith Florence or to me (Canon Pat Millar) and cheques should be made payable to Holy Trinity Church. Bank transfer details are available from Keith or from me at patriciamillar2509@gmail.com.

Scottish Episcopal Church Provincial Youth Week: A week for teenagers that's "out of this world"!

Booking is open for the Provincial Youth Week (Yeek 24). This annual event for young people at High School is a week-long immersive experience, blending faith and fun in a community where everyone values kindness, respect and mutual support. Yeek is a place with a long-standing culture where young people support and lift each other up.

Our theme this year is 'Another Planet' and it promises a week filled with discovery, creativity and connections. If you know a teenager who is connected to your church, give them the gift of an unforgettable experience at Yeek (28 July – 3 August 2024). For further information and registration, visit www.yeek.scot Please encourage families with teenagers to find out more!

Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse: 2pm, This Saturday: 25th May at St Mary's Broughty Ferry

A pilot session for Brechin Diocese will be held at St Mary's Broughty Ferry at 2pm on Saturday May 25th. Encouraged by the Bishop, Mrs Isabelle Pottinger from the Scottish Mothers Union Domestic Abuse Committee will give an illustrated talk on this important topic. The talk will be followed by questions, discussion and tea.

Hopefully some people from each charge have chosen to attend this talk to be able to further inform all our churches about this often hidden and difficult topic. Entrance is through the main church door in Queen St and though on street parking is limited there is a public car park 100 Mt east along Queen St.

All are very welcome at this very important event. Please do spread the word to all in your church communities.

Book Launch at St. Mary's, Broughty Ferry—31st May at 7:30pm

Bookhouse, an independent book shop operating in Broughty Ferry, is hosting a book launch and talk with author Victoria Mackenzie in St Mary's Church on Friday 31st May at 7.30pm.

The Rector, Rev Mark-Aaron Tisdale will conduct the interview as they explore her debut novel, For Thy Great Pain Have Mercy on My Little Pain, a story about Margery Kempe and Julian of Norwich fictionally meeting. All very welcome! Tickets at £5 are available from Bookhouse or from their website: at the QR code below.



Victoria MacKenzie



What can we offer children and families? "Messy Church" event 7th June.

If your church is asking this question, invite people to attend the upcoming Messy Church training day for encouragement and inspiration! This event taking place on **7 June in Dundee** will feature Messy Church Goes Wild and Fischy Music, so you can learn more about how Messy Church works, but also get excited about other things that could thrive in your context, such as music that gets children singing and working with families outside. The day costs £20 including lunch: it is recommended that churches pay for their volunteers' attendance, so that they are officially 'sent' and equipped for ministry to families in your community. If money is an issue, Diocesan help is available: please contact Claire at youth@brechin.anglican.org. Information and booking here: <https://www.brfonline.org.uk/collections/messy-church-events/products/scottish-messy-church-training-days-dundee>

Dundee Pride March - 15th June

This year's Dundee Pride March will take place on Saturday, 15 June. If interested in attending as part of an organised SEC presence please contact Rev Roxanne Campbell at: roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net.