

Brechin Bulletin

12th December 2024

Christmas Celebrations in the Diocese

The Advent season is now moving fast towards Christmas, and Carol Services, Christingles and other celebrations are starting to be held in our places of worship.



Christmas trees in St. Mary Magdalene's, St. Mary's Broughty Ferry, and St. Ninian's. (Photos: Church Facebook pages)

Carols and Community Tree 'Switch-on' at St. Mary Magdalene's, Dundee



(Photo St Mary Magdalene's Facebook)

The congregation at St. Mary Magdalene's braved the cold last week for a community event to light their Christmas tree outside the church. The gathered people sang Carols, switched on the Christmas tree lights, and shared in refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies.

Christingle at St. Ninian's

A Christingle Service and Community Lighting of the Christmas tree took place at St. Ninian's, Mid-Craigie in Dundee. Girls Club, a community group from St. Ninian's, made the Christingles and lead the readings and prayers. This popular regular event was very well attended and the Christingles were enjoyed by all, young and old!.



(Photo St Ninian's Facebook.)

Joyce Celebrates 100 Years Young!

Joyce Lyon, a member of Holy Trinity Monifieth, celebrated her one-hundredth birthday on Monday 9th December. On the Sunday before there was a small celebration for her in the Hall after the service in Holy Trinity with a special cake prepared by church member Fiona Buchan.



Joyce with her son Phil, having enjoyed the cake!
(Photo Michelle Gavine)

Her son Phil was with her for the celebrations. Best wishes from all in the Diocese of Brechin—and prayers for many more birthdays!

Scottish Episcopal Institute Advent Series: Theology of Creation

From the SEI.scot website. The latest in the series of online short courses provided by the Scottish Episcopal Institute will take place throughout Advent, looking at Creation Theology. The course, led by the Very Rev Stephen Holmes, Provost of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth and Associate Tutor at the Institute, is made up of four roughly 40-minute video's with questions for reflection or discussion.

[Theology of Creation 1 – The Mountain behind the Mountain – 25 November](#)

[Theology of Creation 2 – Creation through the Word – 2 December](#)

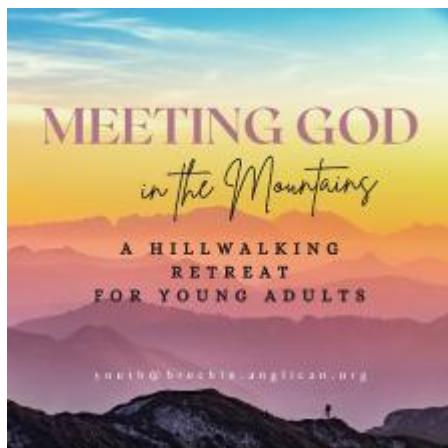
[Theology of Creation 3 – New Creation in the Spirit – 9 December](#)

[Theology of Creation 4 – Creation perfected in praise – 16 December](#)

Three courses have now been broadcast and are available online through the links found in the titles

above. The last course will be on Monday 16 December from 7pm.

Brechin Diocese Young Adult Hillwalking Retreat—Seeking expressions of interest from 18-25 year olds



Plans are afoot for a guided hillwalking retreat next summer for young adults (18-25ish) in Brechin Diocese, to be led by Claire Benton-Evans, Children & Youth Officer and trainee Mountain Leader, and Dr Richard Tiplady, qualified Mountain Leader and author of 'Following Jesus in the Great Outdoors'. Please share this offer widely! Here's the plan so far:

- Escape the daily grind and explore your faith with other young Christians (18-25ish) in the wild beauty of the Angus hills
- Climb Scotland's most easterly Munro, Mount Keen
- Share a short night hike experience under the dark skies of an Angus glen
- Stay in a comfy yet remote Retreat House (St Drostan's Lodge)

Find further information and register your interest without obligation here: <https://forms.gle/UkU3ShrH7bZD3aC16>

The Welcome Audit: Trailblazers in Brechin Diocese wanted to try new Children's Engagement resource!

The Welcome Audit is a brand new resource launched at Synod by the Children & Youth Officer. It is designed to help churches with no children renew the welcome that they offer. Could your church be a pilot project? During the Advent season of preparation, why not reflect on a Welcome Audit for next year? Get in touch with Claire who will be happy to support you on your church's journey from first idea through to successful Welcome Audit and beyond. Contact youth@brechin.anglican.org and find the Welcome Audit here: <https://www.thedioceseofbrechin.org/groups/youth-group/>

Call for Details of Christmas Events and Services to Share on Diocesan Communications

Please send details of Advent and Christmas services and events that you may be planning, to share on the Diocesan website and from upcoming editions of the Bulletin. Please also send photographs of cribs (like the one shown below, in Holy Rood Carnoustie), carol services and other events so we can share all that we are doing!

Any news or upcoming events 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.



The crib scene at Holy Rood Carnoustie (Photo Mary Swift)