

Brechin Bulletin

9th January 2025

A Happy New Year 2025!

From Bishop Andrew and all at the Diocese of Brechin: as we celebrate the revelation of Jesus Christ this Epiphany tide, wishing all the church communities and all of our friends a very Happy New Year for 2025. May this year be a peaceful, fruitful and healthy year for all here in Brechin and throughout the world!

Christmas Celebrations Held in Communities Around the Diocese

Christmas 2024 was celebrated in the church communities of the Diocese with services, celebrations and social gatherings. The Scottish Episcopal Church national Christmas Eve online eucharist was broadcast from St Paul's Cathedral in Dundee this year.



The Midnight Mass from St Paul's Cathedral broadcast as the SEC National service (photo Mary Swift)



Advent wreath with all candles finally lit to celebrate Christmastime.

St Martin's Dundee celebrated with a special eucharist with carols on Christmas Eve. (Photo M. Swift)

Christmas Day Community Lunch at St. Andrew's, Brechin

Rev Mike Harris reports: A group of around 30 people (including cooks and servers) enjoyed Christmas Day lunch at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Brechin.



The Christmas Day lunch in full swing at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Brechin. Photo: M.Harris.

It was open to all in the local community who were looking for company on Christmas Day. The festive food served was plentiful and delicious and a great time was had by all, guests and volunteers.

Service Celebrating Dundee-Nablus Links—26 January at 5pm

There will be a special service at the Cathedral, on Sunday, 26th January 2025, at 5:00 pm to celebrate the links between Dundee and Nablus, Palestine with which Dundee is twinned. The service will also celebrate the link between St. Luke's Church in Dundee, and St. Philip's Church in Nablus. This service will honour the twinning of our two cities, with prayers for peace in the Holy Land and a spirit of unity. We are delighted to welcome a delegation from Nablus, including Fr. Jamil, priest of St. Philip's Church.

Following the service, there will be a reception in the Cathedral to meet our guests and strengthen the ties of friendship between our communities. We hope to see you there for this evening of prayer, connection, and shared commitment to peace.



Our Net Zero logo from the Provincial Environment Group
(Image: SEC Website)

SEC Net Zero Webinar: National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All - 16 January from 1:00 – 2:00pm

Join Dougie Spencer, Funding Manager for the National Lottery, for an overview session of the National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All programme.

This SEC focused webinar will provide context on funds available for works to SEC buildings, best practice for applications and provide the opportunity for all interested to ask questions.

You can read an account of a charge in Edinburgh Diocese accessing this funding [here](#).

Please contact jackn@scotland.anglican.org to register your interest.

SEC Net Zero Webinar: Rectory Green Fund: 6 February (Thursday) from 1:00 – 2:00pm

Led by Jack Nevin, Net Zero Innovation Coordinator, and other members of the SEC Net Zero team, this session will provide an overview of the processes, eligibilities and opportunities presented by the Provincial Rectory Green Fund. Case studies will be presented and the opportunity to ask specific questions regarding projects and options will be afforded.

For more information about the Rectory Green Fund, please visit this [page](#).

St James Stonehaven: A “Resilience Hub” for the Town

Paula Fogiel (St James’ Stonehaven) writes: St James church hall is now an emergency resilience hub with-

in the town in partnership with the Stonehaven and district community council.

The Community council has a robust action plan/procedure should our hall need to be used, this can be viewed on the community council’s website.

We have a Generator point in the hall which will power the heating and lighting to enable people in the town to come to us in the case of an emergency such as a power an outage or flooding. We also now have a socket with USB points which will help to charge peoples phones as necessary.

The Generator will be bought to the hall and plugged in by an approved person, this will enable us to help in any way we can.

A member of the community council will be on hand as this will cover insurance compliance and we (volunteers) will be on hand to supply Teas/coffees (a supply of this will always be available in church) and basic support.

Paula is the named person with the community council, so contact her (via the office) if you have any questions.

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?

Why not reflect on a Welcome Audit for the new 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/>



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.