

# Brechin Bulletin

## 22 May 2025

### **Installation of Rev Roxanne Campbell as Provost of St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee: 31st May at 2pm: All Welcome**



All are very welcome to attend Rev Roxanne Campbell's installation as the Provost of St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee on Saturday 31st May at 2pm. Roxanne will be instituted as the Rector and installed as the Provost of the Cathedral having been the interim priest for the past few months and the 'Priest for Outreach' for some years beforehand. All are very welcome to attend this celebration and new beginning for the Cathedral community and the Diocese. A reception will follow the service. Please RSVP if you wish to attend (and for clergy and lay readers if you wish to robe) to [admin@stpaulscathedral.net](mailto:admin@stpaulscathedral.net).

Please keep Roxanne and the Cathedral community in your prayers in these last few days of preparations.

### **Scottish Episcopal Church General Synod in Edinburgh: 5th to 7th June**

The annual General Synod of the SEC meets in Edinburgh this June. Representatives of the clergy and lay people of Brechin will attend as usual. The business includes reviewing the annual work of the General Synod Office support structures, and legal and other governance matters. This has been a time of great change in the staff of GSO, and work will be explored on strategy

developments for the whole church. There is a session to explore assisted dying, a matter of concern and interest in Scotland and the UK. There will also be a debate about a declaration of friendship between the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland and the SEC, the 'third leg' of agreements between the Kirk, the SEC and the RC Bishops.



The General Synod: Thursdays in Black (Photo SEC)

Please keep all at the General Synod in your prayers as they prepare for this meeting to guide and support the life of our church in Scotland. We will share reports on the Synod in due course.

### **Assisted Dying: an important matter in our individual and church life**

Following the vote last week to start legislation in Scotland to change the law in this area, this is clearly a very important matter in our churches and one which evokes strong emotional responses on both 'sides' of the debate. The SEC was invited to comment on proposals last year, and the relevant committees, on their own behalf, responded. They noted the different views and expressed concerns over adequate safeguards in the legislation <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/response-made-to-assisted-dying-call-for-views/>. The clergy and lay readers of this Diocese have a planned session to review issues around assisted dying. The General Synod in June is also engaging with these issues.

Please watch this space for further resources and information to inform us as these changes are debated.

## **Important Charity Law & Safeguarding Information for Vestries**

Each Vestry Secretary should have received an email from the General Synod Office highlighting an important change in charity law and a survey to help in the development of a provincial strategy. From this summer, all charities will need to provide OSCR with details of trustees. Please see the two briefing papers from OSCR attached. You can also find information online here: <https://www.oscr.org.uk/about-charities/charity-law/charities-act-2023/>

Please note that the following survey only requires one submission per charge. The closing date for the survey is 20 June.

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XMTMKB7>

**Safeguarding Update:** all clergy, PVG Coordinators, vestry secretaries and office holders with PVG responsibility should have received a notice from the GSO Safeguarding Team with details of the changes to the PVG scheme effective as of 1st April 2025. If you have not received this mailing, please contact the PVG team in GSO ([PVG@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:PVG@scotland.anglican.org)) or Elliott in the Diocesan Office



## **Cathedral Lunchtime Concert: Saturday 24th May at 1pm**

The next Cathedral lunchtime concert is on Saturday 24th May at 1.00pm. Come and join as we listen to Kathleen White (soprano) and David Mowle (piano) as they share the music of Schubert and Beethoven.

Tickets are available at the door and cost £8 for adults or £5 for children (15 or under).

## **Net Zero News and Updates**

### **Changes to the 'Rectory Green Fund' for improving clergy housing energy performance**

The Provincial Rectory Green Fund is a vital source of funding for Scottish Episcopal rectories, helping to enable the decarbonisation of the SEC housing stock used to house our clergy.

At a recent meeting of Provincial Standing Committee, changes were approved to the eligibility criteria of the Rectory Green Fund. These changes were made to ensure the fund is fit for purpose. Any works intended to raise the EPC of a rectory property continue to be eligible for support as part of this funding programme. Please do contact the Net Zero team or the Diocesan Office for more details.

Further details can be found through the Net Zero Portal: <https://netzerochurch.scot/funding-changes-to-the-rectory-green-fund/>

### **Energy Footprint Tool: Deadline now past—please complete if not already done!**

The deadline has now passed: but still please complete the EFT input if you have not had a chance to do so. Contact Elliott in the office if you need any guidance or other information. We will be contacting those charges that yet to complete to see if we can assist in any way.

### **Deadline Notice for Provincial Building Grants**

If your church is planning on submitting and application for a provincial building grant please have it sent to the Diocesan Buildings Committee (DBC) (via the office) by the 18 August. This will allow the DBC to review applications and Diocesan Council to confirm approval in time for the Edinburgh meeting.

For guidance on Provincial Grants, please contact the office or access the Provincial website at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/vestry-resources/buildings/> where a wide range of technical guidance is available alongside information on finance.