

# Brechin Bulletin

## 17 July 2025

### Assisted Dying Workshop Held for Brechin Clergy and Lay Readers

A training afternoon was held in All Souls' Invergowrie on 2nd July as part of the clergy and lay reader training programme for the Diocese. Co-ordinated by Rev Denise Herbert, the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, the subject was assisted dying, a matter very much in the news as legislation passes through both Westminster and Holy Rood.



Peter Potter, Holly McGuigan and Bishop Andrew as presentations are given (Photo F Lamont)

Input was given by Dr Holly McGuigan, Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Ardgowan Hospice Greenock and the Venerable Peter Potter, former Archdeacon from Switzerland.

Peter talked about the experience of clergy in Switzerland, where assisted dying has been lawful since 1941. The spiritual and pastoral impact of a person's decision to opt for assisted dying can be a complex matter for clergy to handle pastorally. He also talked about the details of the Swiss approach and presented some of the statistics regarding suicide, assisted dying and palliative care in countries where the law permits this practice. Holly shared her experiences of palliative care in Scotland today and how assisted dying might impact on the palliative care sector. Palliative care is significantly funded in Scotland by voluntary donations, with differences in the balance of NHS and charitable support in different areas. She discussed the importance of dignity for end of life work and also the recognition of the reality of 'spiritual distress' in this important work.

Both Peter and Holly expressed the view that it would appear that a form of assisted dying will become lawful in Scotland in the near future, so churches and clergy will have to engage with some of the pastoral and practical consequences of such a change in the law.

### Former Rector and Dean, Reverend Robert Breaden RIP

The Rev Robert Breaden, one time Rector of St Mary's Broughty Ferry and Dean of the Diocese of Brechin, died on 3rd July aged 87.

Robert was born in November 1937, and trained for the ministry at Coates Hall in Edinburgh from 1958 to 1961. He was ordained deacon in 1961 in St Paul's Cathedral Dundee, then ordained priest in 1962. He served his curacy in Broughty Ferry, then was Rector at Holy Rood Carnoustie from 1965 to 1972. He was then appointed Rector of St Mary's Broughty Ferry in 1972, a post he held until retirement some thirty-five years later in 2007. He was appointed Dean of Brechin by Bishop Ted Luscombe in 1984, a post he held, eventually, until retirement in 2007.



Rev Robert Breaden RIP  
(Photo Dignity Funerals)

In retirement he acted as 'Priest with Charge' for St Columba's Portree and associated churches on the Isle of Skye, then he fully retired to the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness in 2012, living in Evanton to the north of the Black Isle.

Funeral Arrangements: A Requiem Mass at St Ninian's Invergordon at 3pm on Thursday, 24th July. The funeral service and interment will be at 11.30am on Friday 25th at St Ninian's Glenurquhart.

Please keep Robert and his family in your prayers .

## **Rescheduled Date for St Mary's Broughty Ferry Teddy Bear Parachute Jump: Saturday 9th August 1:30pm at Balmossie Fire Station**

Come along on Saturday August 9th from 1:30pm to 3:30pm to Balmossie Fire & Rescue Station for St. Mary's, Broughty Ferry's rescheduled Charity Event; all donations to be split 50:50 with Aberlour Children's Charity & Scottish Fire & Rescue Family Support Trust!



## **Diocese of Brechin Net Zero Roadshow: 23 August, St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee 10am-3pm: Please Come Along**

The Provincial Net Zero Team, in collaboration with the St Paul's Cathedral Eco-Group, is organising a day of networking, fellowship, workshops and inspiration, bringing the Diocese together to celebrate progress and motivate us all for future sustainable endeavours.



All church members are invited—this is an important event with vital information for everyone in our churches. Vestry members, property conveners and treasurers will find the sessions of particular value, but everyone, lay and ordained, will find this helpful and inspiring. Various key funding, heritage, technological and community-based environmental groups will be participating and sharing practical and useful guidance on the church's journey to Net Zero.

Everyone is very welcome.

Please RSVP [here](#) or by contacting the Diocesan rep for the Net Zero Team, Jack Nevin at [jackn@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:jackn@scotland.anglican.org).

## **Deadline Notice for Provincial Building Grant Applications to Diocese: 18 August 2025**

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.

## **Situation Vacant: All Souls Invergowrie and St. Margarets Lochee are Seeking a Priest**

The communities of All Souls' Invergowrie and St Margaret's Lochee, two charges on the western side of Dundee, are now advertising for a priest in charge to come and lead them: <https://jobs.churchtimes.co.uk/jobs/Priest-in-Charge-in-Scotland-jn13840>.

This post will be part of a 'support structure' for the clergy in the City of Dundee and surrounding areas. The clergy in these charges will spend time together in prayer and fellowship and share some resource and space in their ministry.

Please keep the charges and any priests who may be discerning a call to serve in those places in your prayers over the next few weeks and months.



## **Any news or upcoming events to share in the Bulletin?**

If you have details of upcoming events, concerts, stories and photos of events around the diocese, please email Elliott Scarfe in the office on [office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).