

Brechin Bulletin

12 March 2026

Mr Harold Jack RIP

We are sad to announce that Mr Harold Jack, Lay Reader for St. Mary's and St. Peter's Montrose died on Monday, 9 March. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Details of the funeral service will follow.

Brechin Spring Diocesan Synod Held

The Spring Diocesan Synod for the Episcopal Diocese Of Brechin was held on Saturday 7th March at St Mary's Episcopal Church Broughty Ferry. This gathering of clergy and lay representatives considered the health of our churches, elected representatives to diocesan and national bodies in the Scottish Episcopal Church and engaged with various issues of the day.



Synod gathers in St Mary's Broughty Ferry (Photo M Swift)

Synod approved the local commemoration of Mary Lily Walker, who worked for improvements in living conditions for children and others in Dundee. A presentation was given on Net Zero work, and also on a new project to explore the legacy of Transatlantic slavery on the SEC. The Bishop thanked all for attending and for all that so many do in the Diocese.

The next Synod, to be held in October, will review mission and ministry and set budgets for the following year.

Celebration Evensong: 5pm, 29 March at the Cathedral for Canon Michael Turner

The Cathedral evensong on the evening of Palm Sunday will include a celebration of the ministry of Canon Michael Turner, who served as Rector of Laurencekirk and nearby charges for over 40 years, and has been an honorary canon of the Cathedral since 2013. All very welcome!

Harris/Forbes Lecture 2026: Reverend Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch at Dundee University, Wednesday 18 March from 6pm -7.30pm

This year the Diocese of Brechin and the University of Dundee are delighted to host a combined event of the Forbes Lecture with the Harris Lecture.

This year's Harris/Forbes Lecture will host Reverend Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch as he presents Christianity and Sex: history's unsettling of many settled facts. Religion and sex are deeply entwined in modern politics, often harmfully, and their long Christian history is frequently oversimplified and misunderstood. Drawing on his recent book *Lower than the Angels*, award-winning author Diarmaid MacCulloch offers new ways to understand the past that can ease present fears and challenge accepted assumptions. For more information and to book tickets follow the link below.

<https://www.dundee.ac.uk/events/harris-forbes-lecture-2026>

This event is the latest development in the Forbes Lecture, commemorating Bishop Alexander Penrose Forbes, the Victorian founding bishop of the Diocese of Brechin from the mid 1800s. Partnership with the University of Dundee while they navigate their many challenges is a way of showing support for this vital educational institution in the City of Dundee.

Brechin Diocesan Safeguarding Conference at Holy Trinity Monifieth, 19 March: Call for Clergy, PVG Authorised Lay People to Book

A reminder for the upcoming Safeguarding Conference being held on 19 March at Holy Trinity, Monifieth. Rev Denise Herbert, our Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, joined by John Wylie, Provincial Safeguarding Officer, and Daphne Audsley, Assistant Safeguarding Officer invite all clergy, PVG coordinators, Lay Readers, Lay Worship Leaders and interested vestry members to attend. It is strongly recommended that anyone doing such 'regulated

work' attends this event as their regular safeguarding training. The doors will open at 9.30 am for a 10 am sharp start with a lunch break 12.30-13.15 then finish at 3.30 pm.

For further information and to register your interest in attending please contact Rev Denise Herbert at dbh.herbert@btinternet.com

Chrism Mass in the Cathedral Maundy Thursday (2nd April) at 11am

The Diocesan Chrism Mass with renewals of vows and promises will held on Maundy Thursday at 11am. All clergy, lay readers, lay worship leaders and all who hold Bishop's licences are very welcome to attend. Clergy: white stoles.

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2026—DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal

Bishop Andrew is inviting churches and individuals in the Diocese to support the DEC's ongoing Middle East Appeal. The UK Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC—an umbrella body for the major UK charities) <https://www.dec.org.uk/> and their local partners have been working tirelessly to support families impacted by conflict in Gaza, Lebanon, the West Bank and Syria. The present war will only make such matters worse.

More details of the appeal and how to support are at <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/middle-east-humanitarian-appeal>. Please either give directly, or pass to the Diocese after Easter and we will pass that on.

Friends of St Paul's Cathedral present Voices in Portrait: Reimagining Dementia—Saturday 14 March at 2pm

On Saturday 14 March at 2pm, the Friends of St Paul's Cathedral are delighted to host a talk and discussion, "Voices in Portrait: Reimagining Dementia."

The talk will be given by Dr Tharin Phenwan from the School of Health Sciences at the University of Dundee. Tickets cost £5.00, including refreshments.

Everyone is welcome to what promises to be a valuable and insightful afternoon.

2026 Energy Footprint Tool Now Open for Completion: Please Open the Email and Complete Now!

The 2026 Energy Footprint Tool response period has now opened. The EFT is an important tool in the SEC

journey to Net Zero. All charges have been contacted with details as to how to complete a response.

The deadline to have your responses completed is 1 June. Get in touch with Jack Nevin with any questions 'jackn@scotland.anglican.org'

"Evening Series" at St. Paul's Cathedral: The Eras of Taylor Swift on Friday 27th March at 7.30pm

The St Paul's Cathedral Evening Series continues with The Eras of Taylor Swift on Friday 27th March at 7.30pm. The night will see the space transformed with atmospheric lighting and the sound of string quartet music filling the building, performed by the outstanding Lumbre Quartet. Tickets are now live via the link :<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-pauls-cathedral-dundee>

St Paul's looks forward to welcoming you in for what will be another memorable series of evenings.

Benefact Trust Podcast: How to raise money for your church

In the Benefact Trust's Beyond Funding latest episode, they hear from Andrew Clark, professional fundraiser and Director of Church Grants, to explore how churches can successfully raise funds for their projects amidst today's challenging funding landscape. The video of the 20 minute podcast can be found [here](#). Further information on fundraising from Benefact Trust can be found on their website: www.benefacttrust.co.uk/support/advice-and-resources/how-to-raise-money-for-your-church/

For Canon 35 (Building Change) and Grant Applications: Meeting Date for the Diocesan Buildings Committee

The next meeting of the DBC will take place on **18 May 2026**.

Please note that the deadline for grant applications and Canon 35 matters for this meeting is therefore **11 May 2026**. Contact the office for more information.

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.