

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

10th November 2023

St. James' Stonehaven win for Scotland at the National Church Awards

From the SEC: St James', Stonehaven has won this year's Church and Community Volunteer Award for Scottish churches, run in partnership with the Marsh Charitable Trust. There were also winners for each of England, Wales and Ireland.



St James Stonehaven receive their prize: Photo SEC website

St James' was commended for its community work in Stonehaven and the surrounding area. They have provided space in their grounds for members of a local learning disabilities charity called Inspire to grow a vegetable and flower garden. Aimed at learning new skills, and developing relationships, the project has had the support of other local groups including the Men's Shed and the Masons. In addition, a spokesperson for St James the Great said: "We started a Friday evening drop in for Ukrainian Refugees and host families. We also run a Thursday Afternoon Warm Space Drop In (it was here that the Inspire project started). We are very much a group of people who are embedded within our community. We are aware of our limitations but are always open to if possible lend a hand."

A second SEC church, St Anne's Dunbar, also won a Scottish category prize in the church maintenance category of the National Church Awards. Many congratulations to both churches and all those that entered this competition. Why not consider an entry in future years?

War in Israel-Palestine: Anglican Emergency Appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Archbishop of Jerusalem Hosam Naoum have issued a joint emergency appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The full text of the appeal letter is attached to the bulletin email. Details of international partners in the UK where donations can be made are: JMECA (UK): <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585> Friends of the Holy Land (UK, Joint Anglican-Roman Catholic): <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/donate/christmas>.

As ever, please pray for peace in this terrible time of war and violence in the Holy Land.

Help for young Asylum Seekers in the City of Dundee



From Faith in Community Dundee: The UK government has placed 110 young unaccompanied male asylum seekers in Dundee. They have arrived with nothing. Because they are asylum seekers they cannot work, and get barely any support. Connections café, a conversation and English practice project of The Steeple in Dundee saw young men arriving to learn English, in flip-flops and t-shirts; in Scotland, in October.

The specific needs at the moment are:

- Young men's winter clothes and shoes, most needed are medium-large and for shoes 42 and 43 or 8-9 UK
- Phones chargers
- It would also be great if some dignity packs of (New) underwear, socks, toothbrush/paste, shower gel and deodorant could be provided, especially if they could include a rucksack or similar bag also.

If you or members of your congregations would be able to help with any of these items, ScrapAntics has agreed to host collections and sort out the distribu-

tion in conjunction with the Scottish Refugee Council.

Items can be dropped off:

- ScrapAntics Wellgate community space, near JD gym; Tuesdays 10am - 2pm and Thursdays 12pm - 3pm
- ScrapStore, Unit 2, Meadow Mill, W Henderson's Wynd, Dundee DD1 5BY, United Kingdom, Dundee DD1 5BY: Saturdays 10am - 2pm

SECMA Service of Thanksgiving

Thanks to all who travelled to St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh last Saturday for the excellent service of thanksgiving. The event was very well supported and was a very fitting way to mark the support that SECMA has given to so many people and projects over so many years.

Provincial Building Grants: Timescales for Additional Applications

The SEC Provincial Building Grants Group still has a balance of about £91,500 available to award. The Group agreed to schedule an additional meeting in December on Tuesday 12th December to allocate funds against projects. Applications have to have been approved by the Diocese, so a submission deadline of **11th November** to the Diocese is suggested to let Council review and approve. Note: the usual requirements apply: three quotes required, up to 50% of the cost of the work, ideally the work identified in a quinquennial report. Contact the office for more information. <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/vestry-resources/buildings/provincial-building-grants-and-loans/>



Cathedral Lunchtime Concerts Autumn/Winter Term: 17th November 1pm

The next Cathedral's lunchtime concert will be on Friday 17th November at 1.00pm, featuring the Trojan Trio of Tim Beattie playing guitar, Sofia Ros play-

ing accordion and Marysia Turowska playing violin. Tickets and are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or £3 for students.

Want to Hold Musical Events at St Salvador's, Dundee?

Musicians, singers, organists, etc., that are interested in putting on an event at St Salvador's church please contact Martin Andrews (07947 380620) (or e-mail: saintsalvadors@gmail.com). Our exceptional acoustic has made the church a preferred venue for professional recordings and is ideal for concerts and recitals of all types. We plan to establish regular events as resources become available.



Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects

The Cost of Living crisis continues, and as the colder weather arrives the pressure on people trying to heat their homes with continuing high utility costs will increase.

We are continuing to place information and resources to help with living costs on a page on the Diocesan website. The page can be found here: Cost of Living Crisis page [here](#).



Any news 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.