

# Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

## 12th October 2023

### Rev Mike Harris is officially welcomed to Brechin Diocese



Mike receives his PTO from Bishop Andrew. Photo M. Swift

The Rev Mike Harris, from Brechin, received a warm welcome and a 'Permission to Officiate' from Bishop Andrew and the Diocese of Brechin at a joint service of the Montrose, Bervie and Brechin churches in late September. Mike, who has retired to live in Brechin after serving his ministry in the Church of England, spent time especially in the Diocese of Birmingham and latterly the Diocese of Hereford.

The Rev Jim Benton-Evans, Rector of the churches, arranged the joyous occasion which also included a baptism and was very well supported by members of all of the churches he serves.

### St. James' Stonehaven Finalist at the National Church Awards: link to watch

As reported last week, the "National Church Awards" are given to churches throughout the UK for outstanding achievements in a variety of categories. This year these are architecture, maintenance, tourism, community and volunteer and friends as well as a "Church of the Year" award. St James Stonehaven is a finalist in the Church and Community "Volunteer" category with their work with Ukrainian refugees and a Garden Scheme with the members from inclusion charity 'Inspire'. Find out who the winners are by booking a free ticket to watch the awards ceremony live online on YouTube on Monday 6th November at 4pm from the Mercers Hall in London.

The link to book tickets can be found [here](#).

### Net Zero Toolkit and Net Zero Cards released by Provincial Environment Group

From the SEC website: To celebrate the beginning of the Season of Creation the Provincial Environment Group (PEG) is pleased to announce the release of the updated Net Zero Toolkit. This online resource has been completely redesigned to complement the ten core objectives identified in the Scottish Episcopal Church's Net Zero Action Plan (2023-2030), approved by General Synod in June 2023.

Read about the toolkit and the Net Zero cards here:

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/new-net-zero-toolkit-and-net-zero-cards/>

### Celebrate and Hear about the Companionship 'Young Adult Pilgrimage' in Iowa: Sunday 15th October 4pm

The young adult pilgrims who returned from Iowa will be presenting some memories and reflections on their time with the Companion Diocese at a celebra-



tion worship in the Cathedral in Dundee on Sunday 15th October at 4pm. Please do come to celebrate and hear more about their experiences of Iowa, the Companionship and the newly formed relationships that have been made.

### Poverty Forum at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee: Saturday 21st October 10am

A space for individuals, churches and faith groups to develop practical ideas about how to respond to the ongoing cost of living emergency and welcome people in local contexts during Winter 2023/4.

This has been organised by members of the Cathedral 'Micah' Group who are working with Faith in Community Dundee and Dundee City Council, and follows on from Challenge Poverty Week 2023, 2 - 7 October.

Everyone is welcome: please sign up via Eventbrite [here](#).

## **SECMA Service of Thanksgiving - Saturday 4th Nov 2023 at 11.30am**

The Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association is drawing to a close after many years of faithfully supporting projects in Scotland and overseas. A service of thanksgiving for all of SECMA's work will take place on November 4th 2023 at St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH 12 5AW

As well as a chance for all to joyfully giving thanks to God, the Most Rev Dr Mark Strange will be preaching, a Ugandan family choir will be singing and we will hear about SECMA's far-reaching impact past, present and future.

A light lunch will follow.

For catering purposes it will be good to have an idea of numbers attending so please respond to Gill Campbell at [secma.convener@gmail.com](mailto:secma.convener@gmail.com).

## **Upcoming Events in the Diocese:**

### **Friends of St Paul's Cathedral Autumn Concert: 14th October 3pm**

Friends of St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, is hosting a concert from *The Louisiana Fairytale Riverboat Jazz Band*. This event is a fundraiser, so there will be a charge of £8, with £4 to members of the Friends of St Paul's, with the opportunity to take out membership on the day.

### **Explorations in Prayer - St. Mary Magdalene's Church: Next Date 14th October 2023**

A series of 2-hour workshops exploring some of the riches of our spiritual heritage. These monthly workshops, over six months, will offer a place in which we can learn, discuss and experiment with various aspects of prayer. If you wish to be involved or want more information, then contact Dean Kenneth by email - at [Kenneth.gibson1@btinternet.com](mailto:Kenneth.gibson1@btinternet.com) or message through St. Mary Magdalene's Church Facebook Page. The sessions are free. They are designed for beginners, "for that is what we always are!" Please note the change of date for the second session. It will now be held on Saturday 14 October from 10.30 am - 12.00 pm.

### **Cathedral Lunchtime Concerts Autumn/Winter Term: 20th October 1pm**

The next Cathedral's lunchtime concert will be on Friday 20th October at 1.00pm, with Luke Anderson

playing the guitar. Tickets and are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or £3 for students.

### **Pisky Sessions in Montrose - Alison Eales: 27th October 7.30pm**

St Mary's and St Peter's Church are extremely excited to be bringing Glasgow singer-songwriter Alison Eales to the Pisky Sessions in Montrose. Alison's debut album, 'Mox Nox' has been a stand-out of this year and will likely feature in many national 'best of the year' lists. As a long-standing member of indie band, Butcher Boy, Alison is an experienced and accomplished performer, and it is very exciting to have the chance to see her in a solo setting.

Alison is supported by Adam Ross, front man of Scottish underground faves Randolph's Leap.

Tickets available in advance from <https://alisonaleas.bpt.me> or contact Rev Jim Benton-Evans, 07702 8942727

### **Diocesan Autumn Synod—28th October at St Ninian's Dundee**

The Bishop has called the Autumn Synod to approve budget and quota and to discuss a revised Diocesan Strategy. The official notice was sent to Synod members inviting them to join us at this year's Autumn Synod with the agenda and papers to be issued this week.

### **Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects**

The Cost of Living crisis continues, so we have placed information and resources to help with living costs on a new page on the Diocesan website. The page can be found here: Cost of Living Crisis page [here](#).

If you are aware of any special projects that are running for the school holidays with food or activities for young people, please pass details on to the office who can share them in future bulletins.



### **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](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).