

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

16th February 2023

DEC Appeal for Turkey-Syria Earthquake



The UK Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC—an umbrella body for the major UK charities) has launched an online appeal for the disastrous earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The news from those regions is harrowing with the horrendous loss of life, massive destruction of shelter and resources and urgent need for humanitarian aid. The political situation in Syria makes this situation even worse. Please pray for all those affected and for those providing care and support. And please donate to the DEC Appeal if you are able:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/donate/earthquake>

The UK government have match funded the first £5m donated through this appeal: the need continues.

Brechin Diocese, St. Luke's Café Church welcomes Fr. Jamil and Loma from Nablus in the West Bank



Vanessa Stark, Fiona Dixon, Loma and Fr Jamil with Mike Whitehead (Dundee-Nablus Twinning Association). Photo courtesy of Christine Berry.

Last week, Dundee had a visit from Fr Jamil Khader and his wife Loma of St Phillip's Anglican Church, Nablus, in the West Bank, Israel-Palestine. St. Phillip's is the partner church of St. Luke's Café Church. Fr Jamil preached

at the Cathedral Eucharist on Thursday 9th Feb with a chance to meet and greet over coffee afterwards. A social ceilidh was held at St. Luke's the following day, with many people from around Dundee and the diocese coming to meet the visitors.

Bishop Andrew also met with the visitors who shared some stories of the difficulties and joys of church life in the West Bank.



Canon Kerry Dixon, Fr Jamil, Bishop Andrew and Loma

SEC Net Zero Consultation Webinars

Yesterday (15 Feb), Bishop Ian Paton (Convener of the Provincial Environment Group) launched the consultation phase of the SEC Net Zero Action Plan. The launch event is being followed by a more detailed online webinar, which will go into further depth about the plan, the specific targets therein, as well as provide an opportunity for informal feedback.

The Provincial Environment Group would like you to note these webinar dates in your diary, and invites you to register for one of these. Both webinars will cover the same content, so please register for just one.

[Online Net Zero Consultation - Webinar 1: Tuesday 21st February \(16.30-18.00\)](#)

[Online Net Zero Consultation - Webinar 2: Thursday 9th March \(11.30-13.00\)](#)

The consultation phase of the Net Zero Action Plan (2023-2030) will close on Tuesday 28 March.

To find out more about the consultation, visit the [dedicated webpage](#) on the provincial website.

Hymnathon Fundraiser at All Saint's Glencarse, 24 and 25 February 2023

All Saint's Glencarse will be filled with music from every season of the year as Ven Canon Ian Young plays his way through every single hymn in their hymn book to raise funds for the rebuilding of a small church primary school in Eswatini, recently destroyed in an arson attack. Please support this excellent project to help the Diocese of Swaziland. You are very welcome to come to Glencarse and join Ian on the days he will be playing—sing a verse or two of the hymns, or you can support the project by giving directly to the appeal. Donations can be sent through a crowdfunding page set up on JustGiving.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/swazilandhymnathon>

SEI Lent Series “Teach Us to Pray: A Close Reading of the Lord's Prayer”

This series, presented by the Revd Dr Michael Hull, reads the Lord's Prayer closely and deliberately to unpack the ways in which it glorifies God and petitions for humanity's spiritual and physical needs. The Series will be offered on the Mondays of Lent 2023 at 7pm in six 30-minute webinars, each of which will be posted on YouTube. The Series is meant to be a resource for Christians to use creatively during the Season of Lent, for example as a refresher course for individuals or a conversation starter for church groups, with discussion questions at the end of each webinar. The presenter will be the Revd Dr Michael Hull, Director of Studies at the Scottish Episcopal Institute in Edinburgh, whose previous Advent and Lent Series have been greatly valued across the Province and beyond. The sessions are:

- (1) Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name (27 February)
- (2) Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven (6 March)
- (3) Give us today day our daily bread (13 March)
- (4) Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us (20 March)
- (5) Do not bring us to the time of trial, but deliver us from evil (27 March)
- (6) For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever (3 April)

The Series is free and open to all. Please register [here on Eventbrite](#).

Change to the Canon for the Election of Bishops in the SEC: Drop-in 19th Feb

A major canonical revision to be considered at Diocesan Synod this year is a proposed change to Canon 4, the process for electing bishops in the Scottish Episcopal Church. This changed process is proposed to help ensure that dioceses choose their bishops in a confidential and effective way. Additional guidance and training for those discerning is being offered, improved confidentiality for selected candidates has been proposed and there are changes to size of shortlists for elections.

There will be a Zoom 'drop-in' with Bishop Andrew and Dean Fay (part of the group who has been producing the changed system) to hear and ask questions about the proposed changes on Feb 19th at 3pm ([Zoom link here](#)).

SOLAS: Creative worship at summer arts festival in Errol

The Solas Festival is a small, family-friendly arts festival that has been held in recent years at Errol Park, outside Dundee. Solas is not a religious gathering, but it is rooted in the Christian tradition of faith and community. This year's theme is “Kindling Hope” and proposals are invited from anyone who would like to devise and lead a creative act of Christian worship for festival-goers. This outreach opportunity is on our diocese's doorstep: would your church like to get involved?

Further details are on the Solas website here:

<https://www.solasfestival.co.uk/blog/2023/2/13/solas-festival-2023-worship-proposal-callout>

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](#).

Any news to share in the Bulletin?

If you have stories and photos of events around the diocese, please email Elliott Scarfe in the office on office@brechin.anglican.org