

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

20th October 2022

Planning for Advent and Christmas?

Churches around the Diocese are planning for the coming seasons, and there are many suggestions and themes for events and services. The Children and Youth workshop is now close, and if Christingle services are being planned, there are resources and a request for support from Aberlour Children's Charity: see details below.

REFRESH! ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS: Workshop for children and families in church: Very close now: please RSVP to sign up!



Saturday 29 October 10am – 1pm at St Mary Magdalene's, Dundee

Do you want to try something new this Christmas? Wondering how to engage families since the pandemic? No time to research new resources? Looking for fresh inspiration?

This workshop is for everyone, whether you have children and young people in your church or not. There are so many ways of engaging with families and young people in our churches and in the communities where we are set.

Claire Benton-Evans, our Children and Youth Officer, will lead an interactive half-day workshop for the Diocese, full of fresh ideas, recommended resources and new things to try for Advent and Christmas. All clergy, lay readers, lay leaders and volunteers are very, very welcome.

For planning purposes, please book your free place by emailing Claire at youth@brechin.anglican.org

Aberlour Christingle appeal 2022

Please find below a message that Bishop Andrew wishes to share with you, from Aberlour, the SEC-supported children's charity:



By holding a Christingle service in aid of Aberlour this Advent or Christmas, you can show children across Scotland that there is hope. Any money raised will directly help children and families living in poverty. 2022 hasn't quite been the return to normality we hoped for, with many families across Scotland continuing to struggle due to the cost-of-living crisis. Since April 2020, Aberlour has awarded over £2.3 million in small cash grants to over 6,500 families, to buy basic necessities for their children, such as food, clothing, bedding and utilities.

Aberlour are only in the position to help children thanks to the incredibly generous donations from our wonderful supporters, but demand for our Urgent Assistance Fund continues to rise. Due to lack of funds, we are currently only able to help 1 in 4 of the families who apply for an emergency cash grant. It is heart-breaking to turn down desperate families who have nowhere else to turn to. By holding a Christingle service in aid of Aberlour, your congregation can help us make sure that we never have to do that again.

Download a toolkit and a prayer card to help with planning here: <https://www.aberlour.org.uk/christingle>

The toolkit provides tips on holding a Christingle celebration, information on how to request more Christingle envelopes and guidance on how to donate to our online giving page, www.justgiving.com/campaign/christingle2022 where supporters can also let us know which church congregation they belong to.

From the children and families that will be able to access life-changing help because of your support, thank you again!

Music in the Diocese this Autumn

There is a range of excellent musical offerings of interest to all taking place in the Diocese this autumn.

Visiting Choir from St John's, Princes Street, Edinburgh heading to Brechin Diocese churches this weekend!

The choir of the Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Edinburgh is visiting some of our Northern Cluster churches next weekend. They start the weekend with an Evensong in St Palladius' Church, **Drumtochty** on Saturday, 22 October at 5.30 p.m. The setting and anthem will be by Orlando Gibbons.

They will then travel to **Stonehaven** on Sunday 23rd October and sing the Communion service at 10:00 am as well as an Evensong at 3:00pm including responses by Smith of Durham; canticles, Stanford in C; and anthem, Stanford - Beati Quorum Via. Everyone is very welcome to attend these services.

Lunchtime Concerts at St Paul's Cathedral on Fridays

St. Paul's Cathedral is hosting their lunchtime concerts again, following a pause during the pandemic.

The next concert will take place on Friday 21st October at 1pm with guitarist Matthew McAllister. Further concerts will include Scots fiddle player Alastair Savage accompanied on piano and accordion by Gregor Blamey, as well as Kim Duncan on oboe and recorder, accompanied on piano by Robert Duncan... hopefully, something for everyone this term! Details are at <https://www.saintpaulscathedral.net/concerts/>.

Each concert will last 45 minutes. Tickets can be purchased at the door on the day and coffee/tea and cake will be served after each concert giving the audience the chance to meet and chat with the performers as well as with each other.

Late News: Bishop's Lent Appeal

The Lent Appeal from earlier in 2022 was never formally reported. The total raised by donations from around the Diocese was £2,093, which has been paid in equal shares to Energy Action Scotland, a fuel poverty charity, and the Diocese of Swaziland. Bishop Andrew would like to express his sincere thanks to all who donated so generously.

"Big Coat" Project at St. Mary Magdalene's Church

Donations of warm winter jackets and coats are needed for St. Mary Magdalene's 'Big Coat' Project over the winter months. Women's and men's coats are accepted but they are especially short on men's. Please contact Rev Canon Kenneth for further details: Tel: 07825554419 or email: kenneth.gibson1@btinternet.com

"Big Book Browse" 10th Birthday Bash in St James Stonehaven

St. James, Stonehaven is celebrating the 10th year of its big book browse taking place on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th November. This huge milestone will be celebrated in a number of ways. First, birthday cake will be had. Hopefully enough to keep going from 10:00 till 16:00 on the Saturday and 11:00 till 16:00 on the Sunday. Secondly, the Communion Service on Sunday will be designated as Bible Sunday, celebrating the best book of all!

University of Dundee looking for volunteers to help Ukrainian refugees

The University of Dundee are engaging with a number of Ukrainian refugee families and students. They are currently looking for people who might be able to volunteer to help at events and who might be able to invite two or three Ukrainians for a meal at home as a way that they can build connections with local families.

If you might be able to help in one of these ways please contact Rev'd Roxanne Campbell (roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net)



Any news to share in the Bulletin?

If you have upcoming events of interest to the whole diocese and stories and photos of events around the diocese, we would love to share these in the bulletin.

Email Elliott Scarfe in the office on office@brechin.anglican.org