



Brechin Bulletin

Diocese of Brechin Scottish Episcopal Church

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EQUIPPING OUR LAY MINISTERS

Peter Smart, Diocesan Warden of Lay Readers

At the end of this month, we shall be holding the third of our twice-yearly study days for lay readers and other lay ministers across the diocese. The first, held at this time last year, focused on the liturgical role of licensed lay ministers in the SEC, primarily but not exclusively in the administration of the Reserved Sacrament. There was a second group, new to worship, who were given an induction by Kirrilee Reid, Priest of All Saints Glencarse. The second day, held in February this year looked through a series of case study discussions at how lay ministers might contribute to worship in non-church environments or to non-church groups, such as in residential care homes and to school children.

The upcoming day will change focus from worship to the kinds of pastoral tasks and responsibilities that lay ministers and others might find themselves involved in, including visiting the sick and supporting the bereaved. The day will be based around the words of Matthew 26:34 – 36, 'Lord, when did I see you hungry/sick/in need of comfort?' This study day is being hosted at St James' Stonehaven on Saturday 28 October from 09.30 to about 15.00. We are building up a list of potential attendees. If you have not already had an invitation from Peter Smart and would like to attend, please contact him at smartpeterdr@btinternet.com.

Why the recent emphasis on enhancing the skills of lay ministers? To me, the answer is clear. We continue to have a number of vacancies for clergy in the diocese that rely heavily on lay readers and other lay ministers to keep the show on the road: leading worship, preaching, administering the reserved sacrament, taking funerals, carrying out pastoral duties. Even where there is a member of clergy available, it is unlikely that he or she is able to discharge all that is required/expected of them single-handedly: there will be plenty of scope for team working.

It is therefore incumbent on the diocese to offer days such as these, at which attendees can learn and enhance their knowledge and skills in what we might call 'a safe environment'.

Experience to date has shown that part of this learning comes from the sharing of experiences with one another and in small groups. We are not seeking to emulate the qualification-based work that the SEI is doing, training and forming people for ordained ministry and lay readership, but to meet perceived local needs a couple of times a year. At the previous days, attendance has been around the 20 mark, but there is no cap on numbers. All we ask is that you let me know in advance if you plan to attend, so that we can ensure there is enough coffee and pastries, soup and sandwiches to go round!

Dr Peter Smart, St Mary & St Peter, St David of Scotland
smartpeterdr@btinternet.com.

Scottish Episcopal Church

Mission Association (SECM)A

Invite you to a Musical Afternoon
Wednesday 11th October at 2pm
at St Luke's Church, Dundee
Entertainment by Dee'ukes

Tea & Biscuits
Bring & Buy stall for Mission funds
All welcome

St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee

Lunchtime Concerts

Refreshments after the Concert with a chance
to meet the performers

Saturday 14th October at 1.30pm
Aden Mazur—Violin
Ben Marsden—Piano

Saturday 28th October at 1.30pm
Marie Downes—Clarinet
Walter Blair—Piano

Tickets available at the door, Adults £5.00
Students £3.00

Accompanied schoolchildren free
All Welcome

Survey Monkey

Funeral Poverty

Jacky Close

**Development Co-ordinator
Faith in Community Dundee
Kirkton Community Centre**

Funeral Poverty is a generic term used to encompass a range of issues around the difficulties experienced by people with insufficient funds to pay for a funeral. We facilitate The Funeral Poverty Action Group, which has secured funding to explore ways to help people facing funeral poverty. We are keen to engage with the local community to identify the impact funeral poverty has on individuals and families across Dundee.

Whether you personally have, or know someone who has, struggled in arranging a funeral please take our small survey to share your experiences.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MQGG2VD>

Pisky.scot

Pisky.scot is the online magazine of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

This is the place where the SEC can hold its conversations – publicly, transparently and with the invitation to join in.

More information can be found at

pisky.scot/sample-page/

St Martin's Prize

Bingo

Wednesday 25th October
at 1.30pm

Admission 50p

includes refreshments and free raffle.

All Welcome

St Martin's Church Hall, Dundee

Tea and Bletcher Club

Saturday 28th October 2017

11.00am - 12.30pm

Free entry with Donations Welcome



Woman's Retreat 2017, St Drostan's Lodge,