

Diocesan Newsletter

for

Argyll and The Isles

No 2 November 2009

St Moluag's Diocesan Centre, Croft Ave, Oban,
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01631 570870
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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your comments. At least we know some people do read this!

Communications

If you have enquiries relating to the Diocese or Province, previously attended to by Bishop Martin, please get in touch with the Diocesan Office. office@argyll.anglican.org 01631 570870 or the Dean, the Very Reverend Norman MacCallum. ProvostOban@argyll.anglican.org 01631 562323.

Office Hours

Sue is usually in the office from 9.30am-2.30pm Mon-Wed (01631 570870 office@argyll.anglican.org). Peter generally works from home but can be contacted by e-mail secretary@argyll.anglican.org. Jean is most easily contacted at her office on 01631 567007 or e-mail jean@jeanainsley.co.uk. We do listen to answer-phone messages and reply as soon as we can.

The Episcopal Election

No, not the General Election that will happen sometime, but our election of a new Bishop for Argyll and The Isles. I plan to write a monthly summary of where we are for the next few months. The process was kicked off on 19th October with the issue of the Mandate by the Primus. This is the document that gives us permission to start the process and starts the clock ticking – the list of three to five candidates for consideration by the Electoral Synod must be published within 120 days – by 16th February 2010. Even this did not go perfectly smoothly. We needed to take the next two steps (submitting the Diocesan Description and the Primus calling the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee) very quickly and both had been done by lunchtime. That was when I discovered that the Mandate was still sitting in the Out Tray at the General Synod Office! A quick email got a good enough copy to Oban to keep us legal!

The Preparatory Committee, convened by the Primus and comprising six Diocesan members and

five Provincial members has the task of producing the list of candidates. It had its first meeting on October 28th to work out exactly how it will carry out its tasks. It will meet four more times between now and February.

Now the important bit for the Diocese. The first meeting of the Electoral Synod takes place on November 11th and it is important that we have the membership exactly right. Its membership is effectively those members of the Diocesan Synod who were entitled to a vote at the last Synod in March 2009. If a Charge has appointed a new Lay Representative since then, the vote remains with the old Lay Representative. Equally, the elections for General Synod that took place at the Synod have no effect on membership of the Electoral Synod. Papers calling the meeting were posted from the Diocesan Centre on October 26th to those who, according to my records, comprise the electorate. If you believe that you are an elector but have not received the papers, it is essential that you contact me as soon as possible and certainly before the actual meeting. Equally, if you receive a set that you think you should not have received, please also contact me.

The Preparatory Committee will probably decide that the nomination process will begin immediately after the Synod meeting, with the availability of Nomination Forms and the Diocesan Description from the Diocesan website and on request from the Diocesan Centre. Anyone may nominate an ordained Anglican priest, using the official Nomination Form. The form requires the signature of both the nominator and the nominee and must be returned to the Primus by the closing date (7th December 2009).

Please pray for the Preparatory Committee and the Electoral Synod as they consider and eventually select a successor for Bishop Martin. They will be working to discern God's will for the Diocese and their choice will be important for every one of us.

PK

Diocesan Retreat - November 2nd - 5th. The Cathedral and College of the Holy Spirit, Cumbrae.

There are still a few places left on this silent retreat led by Revd David James. If you would like to attend, please contact the College at cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com or 01475 530353 as soon as possible. The basic price per person is £130 for laity and £117 for clergy. There are some bursaries available to subsidise the cost, and you can find out about these from the Diocesan Office at office@argyll.anglican.org or 01631 570870

The Rev'd David Hart

It is with sadness that we report the recent death of The Revd David Hart, an Anglican Priest who retired to Lochaline in Morven. There he helped out when health permitted and also helped out during the Vacancy in the West Highland Region and more recently when Adrian Fallows was off sick. Please remember David's wife, Jean, and their sons Gerald and Adrian and their families in your prayers.

Wanted - Young People!

The Provincial Youth Network (PYN) is in the process of formalising its position. As part of this re-organisation, it is proposed to have four representatives from each Diocese – The Diocesan Youth Officer or Chaplain; one young person aged 18-25 and two young people aged 12-18. At present, we have the first two – Sue Pollard and Becca Pollard but are looking for two younger people. There are usually four meetings a year held in Edinburgh or Perth for which travel expenses will be reimbursed. If you are willing to join or know someone who is, please contact Sue at the Diocesan Office (01631 570870 or office@argyll.anglican.org)

Justice, Peace and Creation Network

Fair Trade, Jubilee Debt Campaign, Abolition of Slavery and the new Poverty Over campaign by Christian Aid are all campaigns well known from the media. But just how involved are we as a diocese in raising awareness of these important issues in our communities?

Through my work on the Provincial Overseas Committee, I know that there is a plan to get a Provincial wide **Justice, Peace and Creation Network** in place. This aims to be a network of folk in the 7 dioceses who have an interest in these issues. They would receive relevant information from the GSO and committees such as Church in Society and the Provincial Overseas Committee (which mainly deals with the MiDGies programme – promoting the UN's Millennium Development Goals) and then disseminate this information to those people in the diocese who have the interest, skills and resources to be involved with various campaigns - for example climate change issues, the fair-trade movement (just as relevant to our farmers as it is to farmers in the LDC's), people trafficking and the abolition of slavery.

So if you, or anyone you know, is interested in "doing more" about these issues or are already involved in campaigning on such issues then please contact Catriona Beel on 01546 602082 or email catriona08@btinternet.com

Scottish Poppy Appeal

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Poppyscotland. By giving just a few hours every year, they make a real difference to the lives of veterans and their families. Please help grow the Poppy in Scotland by giving just a couple of hours of your time. To find out how call 0131 550 1542; text volunteer to 81400 or visit www.poppyscotland.org.uk/volunteer or for local groups 0141 427 8490

Women of Faith in Action : Restoring Dignity

Tuesday, 3rd November, 2009 St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art, 2 Castle, St Glasgow G4 0RH

The Scottish Inter Faith Council and Religions for Peace European Network of Faith invite you to attend a Women's Seminar to propose the formation of a Scottish Women of Faith Network and to outline the UN Campaign to End Violence Against Women. Further details from Frances Hume at the Scottish Inter Faith Council on 0141 420 6982 or fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org

Transforming Ministry - making a difference as women.

A day with Christina Rees. We invite women within the Scottish Episcopal Church to participate in this interactive day where we will be exploring and sharing our thoughts and experiences.

Saturday, November 7th - 10:30 – 4:30, General Synod Office

There is no charge for the day but booking is essential as numbers are limited and lunch will be provided. Please contact Marion Chatterley marion.chatterley@blueyonder.co.uk (07771982163) or Elaine Cameron elaine.ging@gmail.com (01821 650482) to reserve a place.

Christina Rees is a writer, broadcaster and speaker. She is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and sits on the Archbishops' Council. She speaks and preaches widely, both within the UK and overseas. Christina's published books include: 'Voices of this calling; experiences of the first generation of women priests' and 'The Divine Embrace: Discovering the reality of God's love'.

CPAS Growing Leaders Training Day

Saturday, November 14th 2009, Perth Riverside Church, Bute Drive, Perth PH1 3DJ

The Church Pastoral Aid Society is running a series of Training Days to equip people to run Growing Leaders. "We need a church where people are helped to take up leadership roles and equipped to carry them out with confidence and skill. We need a church where we grow leaders of every age –

children, young people and adults” Growing Leaders – reflections on leadership, life and Jesus by James Lawrence. Further information from www.cpas.org.uk or 01926 458 425

Café Church

Saturday, 14th November, 2009 Queen’s Park Baptist Church, 20 Balvicar Drive, Glasgow G42 8QS

If you would like to run a café church in your local Costa Coffee or another venue, go to a training day filled with worship, teaching and workshops that will equip you to run a café church. Download a form at www.cafechurch.net; e-mail info@cafechurch.net or call 02086648506

World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims - Sunday 15th November

The third Sunday in November is officially recognised by the United Nations as the World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims. Road tragedies continue to occur at the appalling rate of seven people killed every day on UK roads and 70 people reported seriously injured every day. Thousands of peoples’ lives are affected. Further information from www.roadpeace.org or helpline 0845 4500 355

Christianity, Conflict and the Soul of the Nation

Ecumenical conference **15th-18th November, 2009**, MacDonald Aviemore Highland Resort, Aviemore. The Ministries Council of the Church of Scotland and the Guild are working together to create “A Place for Hope”, an initiative seeking peace and reconciliation. Speakers include Ken Cloke from the Centre for Dispute resolution in Santa Monica, David Brubaker from Easter Mennonite University in the States, Alistair McIntosh, a Quaker from the Isle of Lewis, John Sturrock, a QC and founder of Core Solutions groups, Cecelia Clegg, a Roman Catholic theologian and many others. For further details contact Dorothy Davidson (ddavidson@cofscotland.org.uk ; 0131 225 5722)

Prisoners’ Week 15th-22nd November, 2009

This week, which is an initiative of the Churches, presents an opportunity to remember all in our communities who are affected by crime and imprisonment: prisoners and their families, the victims of crime and those who work within the Criminal Justice System. The theme for Prisoners’ Week Scotland 2009 is “Dreams for our Children”. Further details from www.PrisonersWeekScotland.co.uk

Children in the Church Community

A conference to explore the role of children in our churches

Saturday, 21st November, 2009, Premier Inn, 187 George St, Glasgow

Keynote speaker – Viki Shaver (Children’s Ministry Specialist, International Christian College)

What’s happening for children in our churches? How are children being encouraged to use their gifts? Do children feel part of the Christian community? Participate in a range of workshops. Contact Tom Moyes on tommoyes@acts-scotland.org

Come and Sing John Rutter’s Magnificat

Saturday, 28th November at St Cuthbert’s Church, Lothian Road, Edinburgh

This is Waverly Care’s main fundraising event for World Aids Day. The conductor will be Stephen Doughty. On the day, rehearsals start at 2pm with a concert at 7.30pm. Further details from Jane Griffin 0131 556 9710; jane.griffin@waverlycare.org; www.waverlycare.org

The Wave

Glasgow 5th December, 2009

Ahead of the crucial UN climate summit in Copenhagen, thousands of people from across Scotland, from all walks of life will flow through the streets of Glasgow to demonstrate their support for a safe climate future for all. This is organised by Stop Climate Chaos Scotland. Further details from www.the-wave.org.uk/scotland

ACTS Scottish Churches Rural Group

Rural Futures: A look towards the Rural World of 2025 **Wednesday, 9th December**, Church of Scotland Offices, 121 George St, Edinburgh EH2 4YN. For more information and to book before 27th November contact Shona Paterson 01259 222362 or look at the website acts-scotland.org

Diocesan Lay Readers, Chaplains and Leaders Conference. 7th – 9th May 2010.

Scottish Police College, Tulliallan.

All those involved in Lay Leadership in the SEC are invited to participate in this conference. Among the keynote speakers will be the Primus, +David Chillingworth and Dr Christina Baxter. For more information, email Brian Woodburn: woodburn@homecall.co.uk – 01556 610519.

Revised Standard Visions

Holy City 2009-10 seeks to explore the re-imagining and re-visioning of faith, our lives and our times through a series of events running from **October 2009 to May 2010** in Glasgow. This is

organised by the Wild Goose Resource Group (of the Iona Community) in collaboration with an assortment of Glaswegians. Further information from www.holycity-glasgow.co.uk or 0141 332 6343.

Dr Guthrie's Association

The Association gives grants to support organisations devoted to the care and welfare of children and young people with a preference for supporting smaller charities. If you feel that in your congregation there might be a project in which you are involved that might find a small grant helpful please see the Scott-Moncrieff website: www.scott-moncrieff.com

Care for the Family.

This organisation has developed as a result of the experience of families who have had sudden bereavement or other traumas which have put huge pressure on family life. Since then CFTF has developed its resources to help families in less difficult times. I would urge you to dedicate one Sunday to a special collection for CFTF and to be creative about your intercessions in that direction. www.cffdonate.org or call 029 2081 0800.

Energy Assistance Package.

Helping vulnerable people prepare for a warmer winter is a process that can take several months. Please be aware of this package and make its resources known as widely as possible. [Energy efficiency; Benefit and tax credit checks; low cost energy tariffs; Insulation; Improved heating systems.] Anyone wishing to access the EAP should call their local Energy Saving Scotland advice centre on 0800 512012. If you wish to receive email updates, please email: energyassistancepackage@ess.org.uk

Rowan Revealed

The Archbishop talks frankly about his faith, prayer, poetry, the press, politics, the future of the Church, his hopes and disappointments, 'fresh expressions', what Jesus means to him....Cost £5 but free when you buy a taster pack of new materials for Lent 2010 (£14.50) from York Courses before 10th November. www.yorkcourses.co.uk 01904 466516

Angelus Singers

The main object of this small group of singers who are (mainly) Episcopalian is to help churches throughout Scotland who have no choir or only a

small choir. Since they are all church attendees, they are generally involved with helping to organise Evensong, along with the clergy and organist and any other local choristers. Most recently, they were involved at St John's Ballachulish earlier this year. www.angelussingers.wordpress.com

Mothers' Union's East Africa Famine Appeal

23 Million people across East Africa are facing starvation following a further failed harvest and the ongoing drought situation across the region. Alongside relief funding, Mothers' Union are seeking to provide seed to families to plant should the expected October rains arrive. Each family with a successful crop will be asked to bank some of the seed for other families in need. Visit www.themothersunion.org and follow the link to the famine appeal or phone 020 7222 5533.

Bibles and Medical Care for China's Poorest

The Scottish Bible Society is raising funds to print Bibles and provide vital medical care for people in Sichuan Province, the area of China that was so devastated by an earthquake last year. The aim is to raise cash to buy paper to print Bibles and to equip special Bible distribution vans with much-needed medical equipment. Donate via 0131 347 9806 or www.scottishbiblesociety.org

Share God's Gift – Merry Christmas

The American Family Association is making a stand against companies and individuals who want to ban "Merry Christmas" and replace it with "Holiday Greetings". Christians can take a stand and proclaim to their communities that Christmas is not just a winter holiday focused on materialism but a "holy day" when the birth of our Saviour is celebrated. This can be done in a gentle and effective way by wearing the "God's Gift – Merry Christmas" badge. Order through the website <http://action.afa.net>

<p>The December Newsletter (Please remember to send information to the Diocesan Office) – material to be received by Monday 29th November 2009</p>

Diocesan November Diary

Monday 2nd - Thursday 5th November - Diocesan Retreat
Saturday 21st November - Lay Readers & Leaders Training-Day.