



October 5th ~ Harvest

Every Sunday 10.15am
2nd & 4th Sundays 5pm
3rd Sunday 5.15pm
Wednesdays 11am
Thursdays 10am

Cathedral Sung Eucharist
Fellowship @ 5 Informal worship in the Narthex
Cathedral Evensong
Shorter Cathedral Eucharist
Morning Prayer

ST JAMES ARDBRECKNISH
EPISCOPAL EUCHARIST IN KILBRANDON

Oct 19th @ 11am with Revd Canon Tony Sparham
Oct 5th on Luining @ 3.30pm **Cancelled**

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY OCT 5

10.15am **HARVEST FESTIVAL—gifts to Hope—see below**
INAUGURAL SERVICE with new ORGAN
3.30pm **Episcopal Eucharist in Kilchattan Church—Luining**
CANCELLED due to weather

Tue 7 10.30am Faith in the Second Half of Life—see poster below
Wed 8 11am Shorter Eucharist followed by coffee

Thu 9 10am Morning Prayer
10.30am **Bike Ride start—Oban—to Norwich....please come and**
support Mel as she leaves for Norwich from St John's.
10.30am Coffee and Chat
7pm Cathedral Choir Practice

SUNDAY OCT 12

10.15am **Sung Eucharist**
Celebrant: the Provost Preacher: Canon Paul
5pm **Fellowship@ 5**

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN
ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025

OBAN CATHEDRAL TO NORWICH CATHEDRAL BY BIKE

FROM OCTOBER 9TH—18TH
Mel will cycle 581 (ish) miles for the Organ Appeal
plus separate sponsorship for 100 miles for Autism

Our new organ was commissioned by Norwich Cathedral whilst their pipe organ was being refurbished—so we love this link!

SPONSOR FORMS in Cathedral
DONATE via QR code to Crowdfunder
Or via BACS—details on Weekly Sheet
Please clearly mark Bike Ride 581

See p 3 for full details

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

WILD HARVEST FOR ST FRANCIS

EUCHARIST & THANKSGIVING

SUNDAY OCT 5TH @ 10.15 AM

HARVEST GIFTS FOR HOPE KITCHEN

Fresh produce for our café soups—feeding 20 daily...
Onions, carrots, parsnips, squashes, potatoes, apples, satsumas.

Food parcels...
Bags of sugar/ Diluting juice / Tinned Veg /Tinned meat meals / Toilet Rolls / Microwave packets of rice / Pasta & sauce meals / Long life milk

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

GOING DEEPER IN FAITH

Reflecting with Canon Paul Watson on

FAITH IN THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE

Join Paul for an exploration of some of the ways our faith can change over time. We will be drawing on the Bible, literature, personal experience and psychological insights for a varied and life affirming discussion.

Tuesdays 10.30am
Open to all

October 7th/ 21st & 28th
in St John's Cathedral
please invite others

Thank you to all who have prepared our Cathedral and worship for our Harvest celebration.

Even through the atrocious weather, gifts were brought in, flowers arranged and the Cathedral cleaned and tidied; as well as music prepared and practiced. We are so grateful to all who give so much and who make such a difference! On Sunday 5th October we will come together and celebrate all that God gives to us to sustain life in land, sea and skies. We will remember St Francis and his example of care for humanity and all God's creation....we will pray for wisdom and generosity in our stewardship and rejoice in the wonders of this earth—even as the Autumn storms have begun! And we will sing in praise with our new organ, a joy filled celebration! We hope that you are able to join us.

ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025



FROM OBAN TO NORWICH BY BIKE...see p 3 for this epic fundraising event starting from St John's Cathedral on Thursday October 9th at 10.30am....please come and support Mel.... please sponsor and spread the word! Updates daily on St John's fb page... [stjohnsoban](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsoban)



Cathedral T-shirts/ polos/ sweatshirts/ micro-fleece

ALL ORDERED ITEMS NOW READY FOR COLLECTION ...FOR NEW ORDERS PLEASE SPEAK TO VANESSA ANDERSON

DRINK COFFEE & TEA

at Cathedral services & events....



All donations PLUS All souvenir purchases go to the Organ Appeal

STILL UPCOMING

During Winter Festival Provost Marg will offer **tours of the Cathedral** to explore its history, tell some its stories look at the work of 2 famous artists who contributed to our Cathedral.....details to come...

Sat Nov 15th A WINTER CONCERT in the Cathedral—musicians from Oban celebrate through music....more details soon....

Dec 6th 10.30—2.30 GALLERY CAROLS – Come and Sing Workshop led by James Campbell on 18/19th century carols sung before the advent of church organs/ robed choirs. Experience in part singing helpful. £10pp includes music.

Still to come: Calendar....

Plus Cathedral Christmas cards soon to be available....



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN APPEAL FUND		
£20,745		£55,500
£17,500		£55,000
£16000	62 draw stops	£50,000
£12000		£45,500
£10000	183 keys	£45,250
£9000		£45,000
£8000	49 thumb pistons	£42,500
£7000		£40,000
£6000	16 channels	£37,500
£5000		£35,000
£4000	9 speakers	£32,500
£3000		£30,000
£2000	32 pedals	£27,500
£1000		£25,000
£500	18 toe pistons	
		£23,627.44



'An Hour at the Organ'
of St Columba's Cathedral

Friday 3rd October from 7-8pm

Sadly, due to the weather, this event was cancelled....we hope that it can be re-arranged soon.

Recipe Book

A Recipe Book produced by the St Margaret's Guild

to raise funds for the 1994 Bradford Organ...now reprinted by generous sponsorship to raise funds for the 2025 Organ Appeal.

A donation of at least £5 is requested.



ORGAN APPEAL DONATIONS

Can be made through this QR CODE

via CROWDFUNDING

Line up phone camera on QR code and link to crowdfunding. Then follow instructions to pay into Cathedral account directly.

THANK YOU

to all who are donating and attending all our Organ Appeal Events.

We have reached an amazing £ 23,627.44

So many donations are coming in, with many being anonymous, thus we cannot write and thank everyone – but please be assured that **we are truly grateful that you are so generously contributing and being a part of the purchase of your new organ for your Cathedral!** Please take this as the Cathedral's ongoing thanks.

If you are worried whether an amount has gone in, we can check but it can take us a few days (we do not online banking!)

We are looking, at the end of fundraising, at a way of marking all those who wish to have names mentioned as donors.

OBAN CATHEDRAL TO NORWICH CATHEDRAL SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

PLEASE SPONSOR MEL ON THIS INCREDIBLE JOURNEYAND SPREAD THE WORD!

If you would like to join Mel along the way—she would warmly welcome you....have a chat with her...

Please come to see her off from St John's Cathedral on Thursday Oct 9th at 10.30am

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN
ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025



**OBAN CATHEDRAL
TO
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Hi.....I'm Mel, and through a circuitous route of living both in Lowestoft and Norwich, have found myself in Oban for nearly 20 years – a journey which spans the east to west of the UK. Our children were born in Norwich and I started a pilgrimage from Norwich Cathedral to Santiagode Compostella 30 years ago – so the time is right for another journey! So here I go again- 581 miles (ish) but I won't be carrying part of the organ back with me! Don't worry – I will be on the train resting my legs! Although my journey in Episcopalianism is a bit different, I'm a non-realist in the tradition of Don Cupitt, I celebrate in the Christian tradition and liturgy - of which music is such a significant part. I am also journeying in the month of October for the National Autistic Society as part of their 100 miles in October. This is close to our hearts since we have lived through the brokenness and carnage after the suicide of our beautiful 19 year old son, Sasha, from undiagnosed autism. We are part of the suicide community in Scotland, making connections and advocating for diagnosis and support, meeting the challenge that the highest cause of death for people with autism and no intellectual disabilities, is suicide. There is plenty of time and space to give to both causes.

1	09/10/2025	St. John's Cathedral, Oban to Inverneil Hostel, Lochgilpead via Glencruitten, Kilmore	40	40
2	10/10/2025	Inverneil to Rothesay via Tarbert, Portavadie, Kames, Ballochandrain, Auchencroft, Colintrave, Rhubodach, Port Bannatyne, Rothesay	40	80
3	11/10/2025	Rothesay to Newton Stewart via Weymiss Bay and Route 7 National Cycle Route	82	162
4	12/10/2025	Newton Stewart to Carlisle via Dumfries and Route 7 National Cycle Route	85	247
5	13/10/2025	Carlisle to Kirkby Stephen	50	297
6	14/10/2025	Kirkby Stephen to Richmond	35	332
7	15/10/2025	Richmond to Westow	55	387
8	16/10/2025	Westow to Lincoln	75	462
9	17/10/2025	Lincoln to Kings Lynn	62	524
10	18/10/2025	King's Lynn to Norwich	49	573

THE 2025 SEI LECTURE: 'SCOTTISH THEOLOGY & SCOT-LAND' THU 30 OCTOBER 2025 @ 5PM

Dr Dafydd Mills Daniel, Lecturer in Divinity, School of Divinity, St Andrew's University, will offer the Tenth Annual Scottish Episcopal Institute Lecture on Thursday 30 October at 5pm via Zoom, entitled, 'Scottish Theology and Scot-Land'.

The majority of private land in Scotland is owned by just a few hundred wealthy individuals and international corporations. It was in response to the concentrated ownership of Scot-land that the Scottish Land Commission was established in 2017. This lecture will argue that it is possible to trace the language used in recent Scottish Land Commission policy documents to two competing theological discourses within the Scottish Enlightenment, in line with fact that the Scottish Enlightenment was not, as is often supposed, an era of secular philosophy verses Calvinist theology, but in fact a competition between two opposing parties within the Kirk: Moderates and Orthodox. Looking at contemporary political discussions through the lens of Scottish Enlightenment theological controversies, not only changes our impression of the Scottish Enlightenment, but raises the question of whether the central question for contemporary debates is not who owns Scot-land but how it is used?

Online via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84672178513?pwd=UbDLOwN6wuLHi1QebITj8it7M6EkTY.1>

PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT - WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE SEC?

The impressive city centre offices of the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway provided the venue for the September meeting of the Provincial Standing Committee, where members were given a warm welcome by Bishop Nicholas Bundock and his team. Before the formal business of the meeting began, committee members took part in an exercise on good governance, focused on the General Synod of the SEC's Constitution, comprised of the Code of Canons and the Digest of Resolutions. Individual contributions opened up discussion over the strengths and weaknesses of provincial governing structures.

This proved to be a useful focussing tool as the committee went on to consider a draft of the Provincial Strategy 2026-2033, provided by the Secretary General, Dr Dee Bird. The strategy is under development in consultation with the Standing Committee, College of Bishops, General Synod and vestries from across Scotland with the purpose of allocating resources appropriately to empower, support and enable the Church at diocesan and charge levels. The committee discussed a draft strategic vision statement and five broad categories of strategic priorities. Further work on the strategy will now take place as part of its development process.

The Secretary General also briefed Standing Committee on **options for the hosting of next year's General Synod meeting, including a proposal to hold the meeting outside Edinburgh**.

The Chief Operating Officer, Dr Patricia Krus, provided a series of **updates detailing revisions of General Synod policies and practices**, including health & safety, HR policies, staffing structure and a GDPR review of the Red Book. There was also an **update on the move out of Forbes House** to alternative accommodation in Edinburgh because of on-going issues with the existing building. An opportunity for relocation had been identified and negotiations were underway to progress interest in securing a lease.

Paul Williams, Net Zero Delivery Director, was invited to give a presentation on **revisions to the Active Travel section of the Net Zero Action Plan**, which include the introduction of a Sustainable Travel Grant to support charges who wish to encourage and enable more sustainable travel choices, thereby reducing the impact of work-related travel by everyone who travels on behalf of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Standing Committee approved the updated section and the administration of the accompanying grant.

The committee approved the recruitment of a full-time researcher on a 12-month contract to support the work of the Legacy of Slavery Working Group. The appointee will be responsible for conducting archival research to locate, assess and map historical materials relating to the Scottish Episcopal Church that demonstrate ties of the Church to transatlantic slavery.

Also approved were proposals for Mission & Ministry Support Grant funding from the dioceses of Aberdeen & Orkney, Glasgow & Galloway and Brechin.

The meeting closed with a sense of positive progress having been made on several fronts, and the committee will convene again in November for its final meeting of 2025.

MISSION BOARD REPORT

The Mission Board held a hybrid meeting during September based at the Diocesan Centre in Glasgow, with several colleagues joining online, *writes the Rev Keith Thomasson, Convener of the Mission Board*. The meeting was rooted in prayer and the study of scripture.

As the representative of the College of Bishops, the Rt Rev Dr Nick Bundock, Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway, spoke of his previous experience in mission in Manchester, and the opportunities that are emerging in the diocese and province. One key aspect is the importance to identify what is a barrier to mission and to carefully remove it. There was a discussion of the role of the Mission Board within the General Synod Office and Province. The Digest of Resolutions 2024 states that: 'The Mission Board shall have responsibility for the strategic oversight of the mission of the Church within Scotland, the United Kingdom and abroad'. In light of this the Mission Board seeks to develop a greater synergy with the Standing Committee and College of Bishops. It was a delight to receive an initial draft of the emerging Provincial Strategy and to contribute ideas and affirm the direction of travel. Mission Board wondered how we might actively contribute to the resourcing and delivery of the strategy.

Reports were given from the dioceses and the pendant committees of the Mission Board, namely Church in Society, Global Partnerships, and Youth. An example of the excellent work being done is that of Cletus who receives a scholarship from the Global Partnerships Committee for his doctoral studies in church leadership at Napier University. Cletus was part of the teaching staff for the SEI orientation week held recently in Perth.

Mission Board will be releasing additional funds for one-off missional projects within the dioceses. Please watch for your diocesan communications on this matter.

I would be delighted to explore further with anyone their vision for mission within the Province and who, with the blessing of their bishop, wishes to share their skill and expertise with Mission Board. (*Rev Keith Thomasson can be contacted at troonrector@myphone.coop*)

MORE REPORTS NEXT WEEK



SHOE BOX APPEAL

COMPLETED SHOEBOXES TO ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL BY 27 OCT - 2 NOV

LEAFLETS TO ATTACH TO SHOEBOXES ARE IN THE CATHEDRAL

Thank you so much for your continued support for our Shoe Box Appeal. Last year your unwavering support enabled us to send over 85,000 shoeboxes to eight different countries – Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. From those we deliver these gifts to, thank you so very much. Since our first Shoe Box Appeal in 1993 we have sent more than 2.8 million boxes, each one different, each one personal, each one an expression of your care and kindness towards a stranger in need.

Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine.

If you are not able to fill a shoebox yourself, you can still bring warmth, joy and hope this Christmas by sponsoring a shoebox [here](https://blythswood.org/shooboxappeal/) (click link if reading online or go to <https://blythswood.org/shooboxappeal/>)



Shoe Box Appeal 2025 Filler Ideas

Woman

- Make-up
- Sanitary products
- Shampoo
- Nail varnish
- Small scissors
- Tape measure

Man

- Dominoes
- Pack of cards
- Tools
- Tape measure
- Tin cup
- Wind-up torch
- Shaving brush
- Pen

Elderly woman

- Hand cream
- Folding walking stick
- Slippers
- Candle
- Tin cup
- Small clock
- Tights

Girl/Boy age 3 - 12

(Please choose items appropriate to the age of child you have chosen)

- Sewing/craft kit
- Chalk
- Paint by numbers
- Paints
- Colouring/sticker book
- Crayons/Stationery
- Jewellery/Beads
- Socks
- T-shirt
- Pyjamas
- Toy car/truck
- Skipping ropes
- Lego
- Board game
- Small ball
- Playing cards

Teenage Girl/Boy

- Make-up
- Craft kit
- Jewellery
- Hair brush
- Nail varnish
- Hair band
- Diary
- Manicure set
- Tennis ball
- Puzzles
- Board game
- Wind-up torch
- Dominoes
- Deodorant
- Thermal vest

For £28 Spread joy – sponsor a shoebox

Every year, thousands of people pack shoeboxes filled with love for children and adults in need. Now it's easier than ever to join in – from anywhere in the world – to help disadvantaged people in Eastern Europe and Africa. To find out items we may be purchasing on your behalf, [click here](#)

You can also see the impact our shoeboxes have to those in need by watching out most recent [Shoobox Appeal video](#).

How it works

1. Choose whether you would like to pack for a child or an adult, and click on the correct link below.
2. And leave it to us – we will do the rest! It really is that simple.

Click links above or go to <https://blythswood.org/sponsor-a-shoobox/>

Blythswood request that each shoebox contains a toothbrush and toothpaste, underwear, soap, sweets, toy/gift, scarf, gloves and hat

October 5th

Eucharist Readings Deut 8: 7– 18 Matt 6: 25-33

Hymns NEH 259, Sheet, NEH 397, NEH 261, NEH 262
Communion: Sheet

COLLECT God, in whom all things are possible, you crown the year with your goodness and give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, so that none may hunger, none may thirst, and all may cherish the gifts of your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Province—Primus Mark, Diocese of Brechin with Bishop Andrew

Diocese— Bishop David; Provost Margi; Canon Paul, Rev'd Tom Ebbens - Chpl RN/ Asst Pr ; Canon Ian -Priest (rtd) the people of St Columba's, Gruline, Mull

Anglican Communion— Archbishop Designate of Canterbury—Bishop Sarah Mullaly; Zanzibar, our link diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh; Anglican Church of Tanzania: Archbp Maimbo Mndolwa

Porvoo Communion Haderslev, Denmark: Bp Marianne Christiansen; Liverpool, Eng: Interim Bp Ruth Worsley, Monmouth, Wales & Archbishop Cherry Vann

Our congregations— for our congregation members on Seil and Luing. For all who attend 'Faith in the 2nd half of life—that we may reflect well and be strengthened in trust, hope and love.

Oban Churches—for thoughts & plans to worship and witness together - that each community of faith may grow in faithfulness, discipleship & confidence in our God.

Hope Kitchen & Green Shoots & Re-Store— as we offer Harvest Gifts—we pray for all who will receive them that they may know strength and support.

For places of conflict—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and the West Bank and all places of violence & unrest. For the innocent caught up, those enduring starvation, the grieving, injured and lost, scared and those without homes or family... May your love fill the hearts of all who can bring peace, & healing fill emptiness and injury.

For all we know who are unwell, awaiting, undergoing or recovering from treatment; for the lonely & those who have lost hope...May your Spirit bring wholeness and healing, hope & the joy of new life.

Open our hearts and minds to share your Kingdom

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

Canon Paul would love to meet members of the congregation and have Conversations...

he is offering

Home Communion, social and pastoral visits.

If you would like to meet him, talk, and/or have home communion if you are unable to get to the Cathedral...

please call or email Paul on:

07943026773

missioner@argyll.anglican.org

St John's Cathedral Music welcomes

DUNEDIN CONSORT STRINGS

with soprano

Charlotte Bowden

Presenting

Bach, Handel & Biber



Thur Oct 16th

7.30-9.30pm

in St John's Cathedral

Online Tickets and more details

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/handel-biber-bach-tickets-1365948732429?](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/handel-biber-bach-tickets-1365948732429?aff=ebdsoporgprofile&keep_tld=1)

[aff=ebdsoporgprofile&keep_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/handel-biber-bach-tickets-1365948732429?aff=ebdsoporgprofile&keep_tld=1)

On the door

£20 General admission

£5 Under 30's / students/ unwages

£8 Disabled

CATHEDRAL VESTRY MEMBERS 2025

EX-OFFICIO

Provost as Chair

Rectors Warden—Ken Oxland—*plus Assisting Finance*

Peoples Warden & Synod Lay Rep—Colum Scott

Alt Synod Lay Rep—Daniel Stollard

Lead Property—Ken and Colum

Link for Finances—David Pollard

Secretary—Margaret Sime

4 CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

Stewardship/ Gift Aid—Susannah Hughes

Members: Mark Evetts, Jenny McEvoy, Joy Blakeney

ACTING ON BEHALF OF & REPORTING TO SYNOD

Safeguarding: Catriona Petit **Assisting:** Mel Crossley

WAYS of GIVING to the CATHEDRAL We are so grateful to all who give to the Cathedral to safeguard our present & future

BANK: RBS, George St, Oban Sort Code: 83-26-04
Acc: 00178722 St John's Cathedral Oban

For BACS gifts please enter name or 'anonymous donation' to help with book-keeping.

STEWARDSHIP /GIFT AID contact Susannah Hughes for more information

CONTACT DETAILS & INFORMATION

CATHEDRAL PROVOST & DIOCESAN DEAN

The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell *Non work days (2) Friday*

Cathedral: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org
01631 562323

Diocese: dean@argyll.anglican.org

Assisting Priest: The Rev'd Canon Paul Watson

07943026773 *limited hours at Cathedral*

missioner@argyll.anglican.org

Assisting Priest (Rtd) The Rev'd Canon Ian Walter

Assisting Priest: (NSM) The Rev'd Tom Ebbens Chapn RN

CATHEDRAL WEBSITE stjohnsoban.org.uk/

CATHEDRAL FACEBOOK: stjohnsoban

ST JAMES' WEBSITE stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: argyll.anglican.org/

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.scotland.anglican.org/