

THE
DIOCESE
OF ARGYLL
& THE ISLES



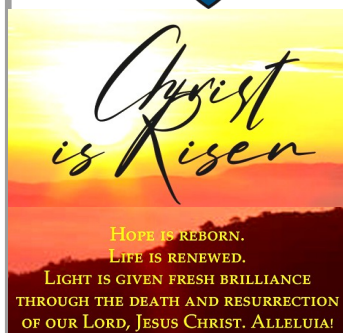
ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

ST JAMES, ARDBRECKNISH & KILBRANDON

May 4th 2025 Easter 3



THE
SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH



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 ~ OPENFORALL: May 4th @3.30pm
Next: May 18th @ 11am Canon Tony Sparham

SUNDAY MAY 4

10.15am

3.30pm

Wed 7 11am

Thu 8 10am

10.30-11.30

6pm

Fri 9 1pm

SUNDAY MAY 11

10.15am

5pm

3rd of EASTER

Cathedral Sung Eucharist
Episcopal Service in Kilbrandon
Shorter Eucharist followed by coffee
Morning Prayer
Coffee Morning in the Cathedral
VE DAY—Quiz, coffee & cakes
Lamp of Peace—please do come to our
VE Day Service & 6.30pm Bell ringing
Funeral for Morag Gartshore

4th of EASTER

Cathedral Sung Eucharist
Fellowship @ 5

DATES FOR THE DIARY MAY

Sat May 10	7.30pm	Bach Choir and Orchestra Concert
Tue May 13	10.45 ...	Cathedral Bible Study (see below)
Sun May 18	10.15	Bishop David preaching & celebrating
Sat May 24	12-3.30pm	Diocesan Net-Zero Day in the Cathedral
Wed May 28	6.30pm	Climate Café—Cathedral
Thu May 29	6—6.30pm	Ascension Evening Service
Sun Jun 1	10.15am	Ascension Sunday

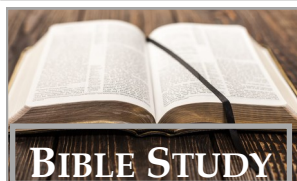
Final Sunday of Curacy for Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN...do join us at the Cathedral



It is with sadness that we share the news of the death of Morag Gartshore, a faithful and wonderful member of the Cathedral congregation for so many years. We hope that you will be able to join Morag's family as we entrust her into God's keeping and give thanks for all that she has meant to us through so many years.

Funeral in the Cathedral—Friday May 9th @ 1pm followed by interment at Pennyfuir.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory



BIBLE STUDY

The next monthly Bible study is on **Tuesday 13th May** and we plan to begin a short series on Titus. As usual, 10.45 for 11, finishing at 12 noon, at Gigulum. *More details from Donald Shell*



ROTA The next Rota will be out for May 11th. If you have not previously been on this and would like to assist, please chat to Margi. We are always delighted to welcome new helpers in our worship and so grateful to all who continue to offer assistance.



MAY 8th 2025

WE JOIN WITH CATHEDRALS,
CHURCHES AND COMMUNITIES
AROUND THE UK ON THE
80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE END
OF WW2

10.30am

Coffee Morning @ Quiz

6pm

Please join us for

A Short Service Praying for Peace
in wars and conflicts now

6.30pm

We join the ringing of Bells to
commemorate the 80th
Anniversary of Peace



BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL

A CHILDREN'S CHARITY PROVIDING
PALLIATIVE CARE

DONATIONS CLOSING MAY 11TH
(Cheques to "The Episcopal Diocese of
Argyll & The Isles").

OR the Diocese has linked with
<https://Wonderful.org/charities/SC005373> to make a donation or
scan this QR code and enter 'Lent
Appeal' to make a donation.



HOME COMMUNION

Please ring Provost Margi

on 01631 562323 Or email:

provostoban@argyll.anglican.org

If you have had, or would like to take
communion at home because you are unable
to be at services, please be in touch with
Provost Margi to arrange a date.

"THE ANTIDOTE TO CONFLICT"

235 MUSLIMS, JEWS, CHRISTIANS, SAMARITANS & DRUZE JOIN TOGETHER IN "HOPE"



In the heart of Nazareth, where the echoes of history whisper through ancient streets, a remarkable gathering unfolded on the evening of March 19, 2025. The Golden Crowne Hotel, perched like a beacon of hospitality, opened its doors to 235 souls from vastly different walks of life. Muslims, Jews, Druze, Christians, and Samaritans, communities often separated by faith, tradition, and time, came together under one roof for the Multifaith Ramadan Iftar Dinner organized by the Abrahamic Reunion. It was more than a meal; it was a story of hope, woven with threads of shared humanity.



The room buzzed with anticipation as representatives of these diverse communities took their places. Rabbi Shlomo Dov Rosen, his presence a quiet pillar of wisdom, sat beside Dr. Rafic Nahra, the patriarchal vicar for Israel and auxiliary bishop of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. Dr. Nahra's voice soon filled the space, steady and resonant, delivering a message that cut through the noise of division. "Let us focus on what brings us closer," he urged, "not what pulls us apart." His words hung in the air, a gentle challenge to see beyond the lines that so often define us.

Nearby, the representative of the Head of the Druze Community stood to speak. With a calm authority, he painted a picture of Ramadan that went

beyond fasting, a time to draw near to God, to cultivate patience, to extend kindness to the needy, and to forgive. His words were a reminder that this holy month, at its core, is about the soul's quiet work, a call to goodness that transcends any one faith.

Then came Mr. Yacov Cohen, representing the Samaritan community from Nablus. His voice carried the weight of a man who knows the cost of separation. "We must meet more often," he said, his eyes sweeping the room. "We must know each other, not fear each other. Our diversity is what makes us unique, but our humanity is what binds us." It was a plea and a promise, simple yet profound, that rippled through the crowd.

The stage continued to host a chorus of voices, each adding a new layer to the night's tapestry. Ms. Ikhlas Qaraqra, a social worker and tireless advocate for education, spoke of the power of community action. Rabbi Leora Ezrachi Vered from the Spirit of the Galilee brought a spark of warmth, while Dr. Sigalit Ur from the Shalom Hartman Institute wove threads of justice and understanding into the conversation. The international director of the Abrahamic Reunion, Sheikh Ghassan Manasra, and Mr. David Less rounded out the voices, each emphasizing a truth as old as time: talking to one another, sharing a meal, breaking bread together, these acts, so ordinary on their surface, hold extraordinary power.

In a region often shadowed by complexity and conflict, this gathering felt like a quiet rebellion. It was grassroots activism in its purest form, people choosing to sit together, to listen, to share. As one speaker put it, "This is the cure to extremism, the antidote to conflict. The solution always comes from the people." The room nodded in agreement, a collective understanding settling over them like dusk. Before the fast was broken, a moment of recognition lit up the evening. Sheikh Ghassan Manasra, a man whose life has been a bridge between cultures and faiths, stepped forward. As the founder of "The Path of Avraham," an initiative blending academia, spirituality, and social good, he had spent years fostering dialogue where others saw only divides. Mr. Mosleh Badaoui presented him with an award, a tangible tribute to his tireless work. The applause that followed was heartfelt, a sound that seemed to say: we see you, and we are grateful. Then, as the sun dipped below the horizon, Sheikh Helme Hamad's voice rose in the call to prayer, a melody that signaled the breaking of the fast. The room shifted, chairs scraped, plates clinked, and laughter mingled with the aroma of shared food. Muslims broke their fast, while Jews, Christians, Druze, and Samaritans joined in the meal, passing dishes and stories across tables. Under the same roof, they ate, they spoke, they laughed. It was a scene as old as humanity itself, yet as fresh as the hope it carried.

In the end, the Multifaith Ramadan Iftar Dinner was more than an event, it was a living testament to what's possible when people choose connection over division. In Nazareth, on that March evening, 235 individuals proved that peace isn't a distant dream. It's a table, a conversation, a meal shared in good faith. And as the night drew to a close, the Golden Crowne Hotel stood as a silent witness to a story that, with any luck, will be told again and again.



DIOCESAN NET ZERO ROADSHOW
MAY 24th
ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL OBAN
12noon—3pm (LUNCH PROVIDED)

THE NET ZERO TEAM IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HOSTING THIS
NET ZERO ROADSHOW EVENT

....BRINGING CHARGES FROM ACROSS OUR DIOCESE TO SHARE STORIES ON
 HOW THEY ARE WORKING TOWARDS NET ZERO.

.....OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER,
 SHARING IDEAS AND CHALLENGES.

.....WELCOMING MANY ORGANISATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EVENT
 THROUGH WORKSHOPS AND STANDS, INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL
 ORGANISATIONS, FUNDERS, INSTALLERS AND LOCAL PARTNERS.

.....PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR CHURCHES THAT ARE STILL TO COMPLETE
 THEIR ENERGY FOOTPRINT TOOL SUBMISSIONS FOR 2024

THE DAY WILL BE HELD WITHIN THE
 CONTEXT OF OUR FAITH AND MISSION
 TO CARE FOR THE WORLD THAT GOD
 HAS CREATED AND CALLS US TO SERVE.

Register at: [https://
 netzerochurch.scot/event/argyll-the-
 isles-net-zero-roadshow/](https://netzerochurch.scot/event/argyll-the-isles-net-zero-roadshow/)




CONCERT
 SATURDAY MAY 10th 2025 at 7.30 pm
 ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN


**OBAN BACH
 CHOIR AND
 ORCHESTRA**

with Rachel Munro, soprano

Haydn: Mariazell Mass

Mozart: Laudate Dominum *and* Alleluia
 Arne: Overture no. 5 in D
 Buhler: Thy memory, O Jesus sweet
 Tchaikovsky: Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (extracts)

Seat with programme (obtainable at the door) £12-00
 Concessions £10-00 Under 18s £3-00






St James, Ardbrecknish
 The Scottish Episcopal Church by Loch Awe
 Part of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Upcoming services in 2025

11:00 18th May - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
11:00 15th Jun - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
 10:30 22nd Jun - Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN*
11:00 20th Jul - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
 10:30 10th Aug - Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN*
11:00 17th Aug - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
11:00 21st Sep HARVEST - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
11:00 19th Oct - Rev'd Canon Tony Sparham
 10:30 16th Nov - Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN*

Find us:
PA33 1BH

SC023296



**STATION SQUARE
 OBAN**

**FREE
 EVENT**

**Oban
 Recovery
 Celebration**

**Saturday 17th May
 1pm-4pm**

FREE FOOD

MUSIC BY :
 THE NOT NORMALS
 AND THE DISCLAIMERS

INFORMATION STALLS

If you would like to perform in the open
 mic slots please contact Catriona Petit
 07775995650 or info@hopekitchen.org.uk



inspires
 ONLINE

Welcome to this edition of *Inspires Online* - the monthly newsletter of the Scottish Episcopal Church. *Inspires Online* highlights news and events from across the Church and also

includes news from organisations related to the Church. Find us at

<https://mailchi.mp/scotland/inspires-online-for-april-2025>

With articles on Pope Francis, the St Ninian Declaration of Friendship, The airstrike on the Anglican hospital in Gaza, message from the Primus, links with the Church in Wales and much more!.....

May 4th

READINGS Acts 9:1-6, John 21:1-19

HYMNS NEH 345 SP 247 NEH 271 NEH 486 Communion: SP 216

COLLECT

O God, who, in the death and resurrection of your Son, have raised up this fallen world: may we and all your people, whom you have saved from the gates of everlasting death, rejoice in your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

EASTERTIDE PRAYERS

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection ... we pray to God
That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter ... we pray to God
That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love ... we pray to God
That, inspiring us, we may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter ... we pray to God
That by his power and wisdom, war and famine may cease through all the world... we pray to God
That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick or injured, the weak and the dying... we pray to God
That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day ... especially remembering the life of Morag Gartshore and Jenny... we pray to God

Province — Primus Mark and all preparing for General Synod in June. Bp Nicholas Bundock ~ Consecrated Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway on May 3rd

Diocese – Bishop David; Provost Margi; Tom: Curate (RN); Canon Ian: Priest (rtd); Episcopalians on Colonsay, Coll, and Tiree and on Rùm, Eigg, and Muck

Anglican Communion – Zanzibar, our companion diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh; The Church of Ireland: Archbps John McDowell and Michael Jackson,

Porvoo Communion – Bjørgvin, Norway: Bp Ragnhild Jepsen; Southwark, England: Bp Christopher Chessun

Oban Churches For our brothers and sisters in faith in Oban and outwith... for those praying for leadersfor those seeking growthfor projects being undertaken.....for a unity within our faith and fellowship to encourage each other.

For Samaritan's Purse—John Murphy and all aid workers assisting with recovery in Myanmar.....for those being given new hope and help in that place, all who support at home and await helpers safe return.

THE BIG BEE EVENT – SEPTEMBER 2025

JOIN THE BUZZ AT 'THE BEAUTY OF BEES'

EXHIBITION AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

17TH – 20TH SEPTEMBER 2025



We're inviting artists, makers, and bee-lovers to be part of a unique community celebration of

'The Beauty of Bees'

a creative event exploring the magic, mystery, and importance of bees in our world.

Whether you're a painter, sculptor, photographer, jeweller, ceramicist, or work in any other visual medium — or if you create with bee products like honey and wax — we'd love to hear from you.

Your work will be beautifully displayed (and available for sale) in the stunning setting of St. John's Cathedral.

This is a chance to reflect on the essential role bees play in nature, food, and culture — and to celebrate their beauty through art and creativity.

• **Live bee demonstrations** by local beekeepers

• **Art sales and displays** in a dramatic historic venue

• **A celebration of creativity, sustainability, and community**

Interested in taking part?

Email us at info.beautyofbees@gmail.com for full details and an application form.



CONTACT DETAILS & INFORMATION

CATHEDRAL PROVOST & DIOCESAN DEAN

The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell *Non work day Fri (Sat)*

Cathedral: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org
01631 562323

Diocese: dean@argyll.anglican.org

- **NSM CURATE: The Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN**
tomebbens09@hotmail.co.uk
- **Assisting Priest (Rtd) The Rev'd Canon Ian Walter**

CATHEDRAL WEBSITE: stjohnsoban.org.uk/

CATHEDRAL FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/stjohnsoban

ST JAMES' WEBSITE stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: argyll.anglican.org/

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.scotland.anglican.org/

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

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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 if you would like more information.