



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

ST JAMES, ARDBRECKNISH & KILBRANDON

January 25th ~ 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

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

Easter Day: 11am with Bishop David
Feb 1 @ 3.30pm with Provost Margi



SUNDAY JAN 25 3rd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10.15am	Sung Eucharist followed by coffee
2.30pm	Oban Music in St John's —all welcome
5pm	Fellowship @ 5—all welcome to this informal worship
Wed 28	11am Shorter Eucharist with coffee
	6.30–8pm Climate Café @ Hope
Thu 29	10am Morning Prayer
	10.30-11.30 Coffee Morning URGENT NEED for helpers to continue this
	7pm Cathedral Choir Practice
Fri 30	10.30-12noon Womens Group—see below



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1 Presentation of Christ in the Temple / Candlemas

10.15am	Festive Eucharist celebrating Light
3.30pm	as our season around the Incarnation draws to its close

Episcopal Eucharist in Kilbrandon



The calm before the amazing influx of what felt like every family in Oban spread over the afternoon

WHAT AN AMAZING DAY!

Churches Together in Oban came together to put on an amazing free fun afternoon—so many families having fun and children enjoying crafts and bouncy castles, face painting, lego etc... This, combined with some beautiful worship at the Baptist Church for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—it has been a

great week of witness to our churches worshipping together and living out our faith together in the community.

St John's Cathedral, George Street, Oban.

Women's Group

We will start a 6 session focus on Joyce Rupp's book "The Cup of our life",

meeting fortnightly, 10.30am-12.00pm, on Fridays, starting: **FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY**, by the coffee tables in the Cathedral.

The idea of the book is to use the symbolism of a physical cup to explore prayer about every day life. We will learn to pray with a cup in a creative, light way. Topics covered are:

The cup of life,
The open cup,
The chipped cup,
The broken cup,
The cup of compassion,
The blessing cup.

Contact Mal: 07548366545 or Ina: 07854562210 for more information.

Otherwise, please join us on Friday 30th at 10.30 am and please **bring your own cup** that is special to you, to use in the session :)



The group hopes to use an actual cup as a symbol of ourselves, helping us to explore our faith, to understand how God dwells in us and to reflect on how our "containers" are doing these days. It's not a prayer group as such, but just a time to chat and reflect together, encourage us on our journeys and hopefully light fun"





St John's Cathedral AGM BRIEF REPORT

Helping our Churches live and grow in God

38 came together to reflect on the last year and look forward to all that the Cathedral has planned for the coming year.

We agreed our draft accounts and recognised the incredible generosity of so many, not only to keep the Cathedral's day to day expenses covered—but the phenomenal response to the Organ Appeal. A note will soon be going out from the Vestry to collect the names or those who would like to be recognised as donors. We received the reports

of all that is happening as part of our Cathedral life—both those who assist in our worship and all the weekly activities. Do pick up a copy to see what you could be a part of....there are also small leaflets available which summarise the richness of our life to offer to others. We recognised in the short property report—the immense amount of work carried out this last year by a few people and the tremendous results of installing new Cathedral heating, the chairlift, repairing the downstairs heating, as well as the new organ installation. In my report I thanked all who play a part in the upkeep, governance, finances, property, music, cleaning, communication, the worship, hospitality and activities—the list is enormous and each person is greatly valued. I also reported that St Columba's Gruline on Mull will be coming under our care this year as a dependent church....we maintain our links with Ardbrecknish in the same way and continue to take monthly services in Kilbrandon. The Vestry is planning a *Cathedral Canidean* (Cathedral Friends) for those who would like to keep in touch and support us....this would also offer events: an annual lecture and organ recital....and I introduced the desire of the Bishop and myself to reintroduce the Chapter of the Cathedral. Written in the Statutes of 1920 at our Inauguration, the Canons act as advisors to the Bishop. We will also be bringing into being the Greater Chapter—where Honorary Canons have the gift of a canonry and stall in recognition of services to the Diocese or community. More on both of these will be shared at the Diocesan Synod and Synod Service.

Our Vestry was appointed and we are delighted to welcome 2 new members—John Murphy and Catriona Petit—and the full list can be final on the final page. We gave immense thanks to David Pollard and Susannah Hughes who continue to assist, but have stepped back from the Vestry. Their contribution has been invaluable and over many years. Our gratitude goes to them.

In my final remarks we looked forwards—the transcript of this part follows.....

As we step into the coming year we will be working with Canon Paul in his missional capacity as he encourages us in our reaching out with the good news of the gospel. Because ultimately – the reason we clean and fundraise, maintain our building and worship...is because we believe that God is fundamental to our lives and this world.... And the big question is – how do we share that in a way that rings true for others....

There's talk of a quiet revival....and some of it is being linked to *a world of uncertainty and fragility – people seeking the deeper point...open to hear and find that deep gift..* some of the research amongst the younger generation hits other social issues of our time... *They are caught by the concept of being loved.*" In their comments, love meant "giving people the freedom to be themselves, not judging them, and accepting others no matter who they are".

And where they are finding the church living the story of Jesus, walking amongst the rich, poor, ordinary or statused, sick, well, angry or saddened—it is powerful! The story of the Incarnation encompasses all that our faith is about, and our story then about the difference makes for us is vital. Us saying that in the midst of madness and heroism, the selfless and the violent, amid joys and fears, God is simply walking, listening, healing, bringing meaning and hope! We worry – like everyone about the actions of leaders and the manipulation of the vulnerable, BUT we are the ones who can point to Jesus and say....*Here is the Lamb of God.....*

here is the one way in this world which can show the path to live in peace,
to care about those we look into the faces of...
to enable all to benefit from the world and life....

The early saints of our land were ordinary people who walked amongst their kin and pointed to Jesus...pointed to the Christ's healing of the fractured world around them. Their lives were a daily pilgrimage of seeking to grow closer to God through word and sacrament, through the land and through others....

And that is our role, our reason for being here.

AGM Report continued....

Our Cathedral is the place we gather and deepen our faith so that in the rest of our time we can point to Christ. It is the place we come to meet the Divine Incarnational Love that frees the oppressed, heals the wounded, includes the outcast, welcomes the stranger and challenges systems of evil.

So our vision for the year?

Maybe is to wonder what it is to look at others, to look around us, with the eyes of Jesus. How do we see then – what do we see?

It is in our everyday lives to recognise him walking with us, so that in the words of the theologian Brian McLaren, *'through our daily contemplation and daily down-to -earth action, we may become agents of healing and wholeness'*

In the coming year - through our daily contemplation and daily down-to -earth action in the Cathedral, in our lives, may we become agents of healing and wholeness....

Provost Margi
18 January 2026



Congregational Invite to the DIOCESAN CONFERENCE and SYNOD 2026 Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February

The Corran Halls, 54 Corran Esplanade, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5AB.

Dear Friends,

I am writing on behalf of Bishop David who warmly invites and encourages you to attend the Diocesan Conference Day on Tuesday 10 February 2026 and the Diocesan Synod on Wednesday 11 February 2026. This is a valuable opportunity for the Diocese to gather together in worship, conversation, and shared discernment.

The Diocesan Conference – Tuesday 10 February 2026

This day is open to both clergy and members of congregations.

We will be focusing on intentional discipleship and local mission during our first day of Synod. The Conference will be led by the Canon Missioner, the Revd Paul Watson. The sessions will be varied and engaging, participative and stimulating as we explore the hope that Jesus offers us personally and the communities in which we are placed. We will be unpacking what the local church is the hope of the world may mean for us in surprising and unexpected ways in our scattered and beautiful locations.

The day will begin with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, with tea and coffee available from 9.30am, and will conclude with Closing Prayers at 3.30pm.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be available.

Details continued overleaf

Synod Eucharist – Tuesday 10 February 2026

All are warmly invited to attend this service.

The Diocesan Synod will be constituted at the Synod Eucharist at St John's Cathedral, Oban, beginning at 5.30pm.

Clergy, Lay Readers, Lay Chaplains, and Lay Leaders are asked to robe (cassock, surplice and scarf, or cassock alb with white stole).

As one of the few occasions in the year when the Diocese gathers together, this Eucharist will include the Chrism Rite, with the renewal of Baptismal and Ordination vows and the Blessing of the Oils (Baptism, Chrism, and Healing).

Synod Dinner – Tuesday 10 February 2026

All are warmly invited to attend the Synod Dinner, which this year shall be held within the Corran Halls. We ask if those attending can arrive for 7pm, for dinner to be served from 7.30pm.

The Diocese will meet the cost of the meal for Clergy and Lay Representatives (or alternates where appropriate). Other attendees are asked to contribute £40.00 payable by BACS or cheque, details of which are included with the Menu, which is attached separately.

Diocesan Synod Business Sessions – Wednesday 11 February 2026

All are warmly invited to attend

The Diocesan Synod business sessions will begin with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, with tea and coffee available from 9.30am, and will conclude with Closing Prayers at 3.30pm.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be available.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Logan
Interim Diocesan Secretary for the Diocese of Argyll & The Isles.

INVITATION FROM BISHOP DAVID

A letter from Bishop David inviting us to attend this time of gathering in the Diocese is available in the Narthex, and for those who would like to attend the Conference, Synod and/or Synod Dinner, the menu and reply papers are also in the Narthex.

Replies are requested prior to January 30th.

CATHEDRAL SYNOD EUCHARIST

We hope that as many congregation as possible will be able to attend the Diocesan Synod Eucharist in the Cathedral, a wonderful opportunity to unite together in worship as the Diocese and to offer our welcome and hospitality.

INTERCESSIONS January 25

Eucharist Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4 Matthew 4:12-23

Hymns: SP 119 SP 306 SP 9 NEH 466 Comm: NEH 399

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Almighty and eternal God, behold us in our weakness: and stretch out your hands to protect us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

INTERCESSIONS

Province—Primus Mark, the Scottish Episcopal Institute - staff and ordinands and all within the discernment process.

For all involved in the electoral process for a new Bishop in Edinburgh.

Diocese—Bp David; Provost Margi; Canon Paul: Canon Missioner; The Rev'd Tom Ebbens, Chaplain R.N.; Canon Ian, assistant priest (rtd); the people of St Kiaran's, Campbeltown, St Columba's, Bridgend, Islay, and those on Jura: The Revd Justin Griffith, The Revd Canon Keith Pagan, The Revd Michael Selby (retired clergy assisting)

Anglican Communion – Zanzibar, our companion diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh; the Anglican Church of Chile: Primate Enrique Lago Zugadi

Porvoo Communion – Birmingham, Eng: Bp Michael Volland; Cork, Cloyne & Ross, Ireland: Bp William Colton, Helsingør/Elsinore, Denmark: Bp Peter Birch

We pray also for the Episcopal Church and all faith communities in the United States who have asked us to pray with them for peace, justice and love.

We pray for peace in the world, in homes and hearts that all may know God's Kingdom in their lives;

in the unrest and disquiet in so many countries....for those in authority.... for those living in fear.... for all whose homes and livelihoods have been lost or damaged in the violence of war or nature.

We pray for our community, schools and workplaces beginning this new year, emergency services and all caregivers: that each of our gifts to society's enrichment may be valued and enabled to flourish.

We pray for all who are unwell, troubled or distressed: may they know God's healing and strength, hope, renewal.

We give thanks for the lives of those who now worship in God's nearer presence and pray for those who mourn: that they may know God's comfort.

May the song of the angels and the light of the star continue to inspire and guide us in the coming days and months.

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

Secretary—Margaret Sime

CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

Members: Mark Evetts, Jenny McEvoy, Joy Blakeney, John Murphy, Catriona Petit

Safeguarding: Catriona Petit

Assisting: Mel Crossley (not vestry)

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 overseas donations

our IBAN is : GB46RBOS83260400178722
IBAN BIC (SWIFT) RBOSGB2L

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

STEWARSHIP /GIFT AID contact Susannah Hughes
Via website contact page

OSCR: SC016664

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](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsoban)

ST JAMES' WEBSITE stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: argyll.anglican.org/

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.scotland.anglican.org/

CAF—Charities Aid Foundation

We are now registered for direct payments through CAF—as 'Cathedral of St John the Divine' find under that title or at

<https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbc8f5ac>

Not got cash? The Cathedral can now take CARD PAYMENTS

The Cathedral now has a Card Reader and can take Weekly collection, Organ Donations and or Coffee donations by card. Please do give it a go! It will be on the book desk on arrival and at coffee. We hope that this will help as less cash is carried and help those banking!

