

**Scottish Episcopal Church**

**THE DIOCESE OF ARGYLL & THE ISLES**

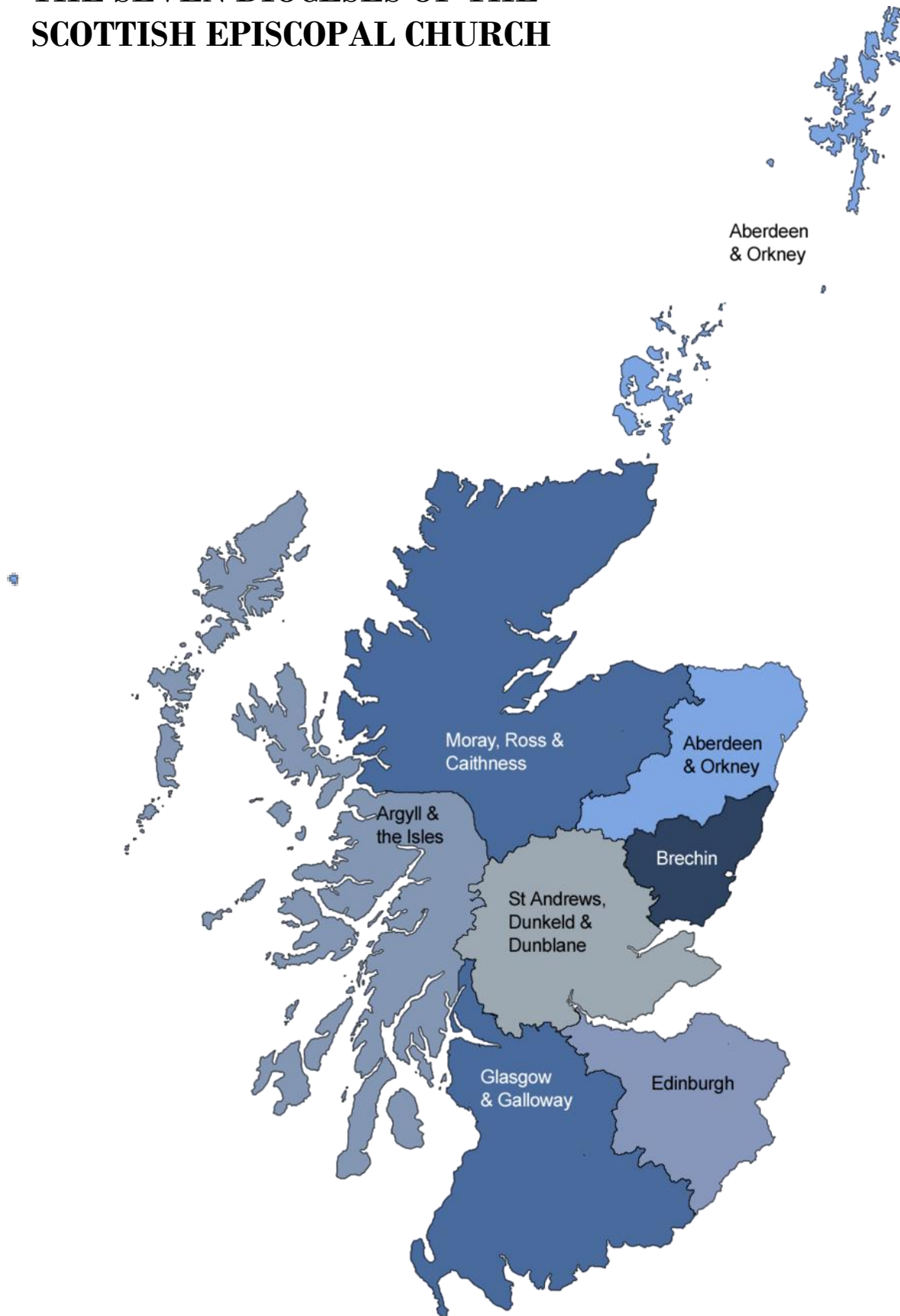


**DIOCESAN  
DESCRIPTION**

**2020**

**TELLING OUR STORY  
SHARING OUR HOPES**

# THE SEVEN DIOCESES OF THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



# CONTENTS

<b>WELCOME to ARGYLL and THE ISLES</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>VOICES FROM OUR CHURCHES ~ ARGYLL and THE ISLES from our PERSPECTIVE</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>A BRIEF HISTORY of THE UNITED DIOCESE</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>AROUND THE CHURCHES</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>DIOCESAN RETREAT HOUSES ~ Island Retreats Ltd.</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>DIOCESAN OFFICE and BISHOP'S HOUSE</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>DIOCESAN STRUCTURE and PEOPLE</b>	<b>17</b>	
<b>DIOCESE AND MISSION, ECUMENICAL LINKS</b>	<b>20</b>	
<b>THREE STORIES</b>	<b>21</b>	
<b>VOICES FROM OUR CHURCHES ~ OUR VISION for our BISHOP</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>SUMMARISING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>24</b>	
<b>APPENDIX 1</b>	<b>CLERGY and LAY MINISTERS</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>DIOCESAN STATISTICS</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>A PICTURE of the POPULATION and ECONOMY OF THE DIOCESE</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH a brief outline</b>	<b>30</b>

# FÀILTE GU EARRA-GHÀIDHEAL AGUS NA H-EILEANAN WELCOME TO ARGYLL AND THE ISLES

We are a Diocese embracing a rich and varied culture in our past and our present.

**Our stories** begin with celtic saints and a history narrated in the language of the Gaels, still strong in areas of our Diocese.

**Our geographical area** is made up of ancient settlements and new townships; we encompass mountains and hills, lochs, rivers and seas, moorland and machair, crofts, land and sea farms, centres of culture and a diversity of trade and occupations. Our landscape of land and sea influences our population numbers and means that we are the largest Diocese geographically but the smallest numerically.

**Our people** are as varied as our landscape – with local families whose ancestors are intrinsically linked to the land and sea, together with those who have chosen to settle here for work, retirement or as holiday home visitors.

**Our travel** is often along single track roads or on ferries at the mercy of the weather, but our journeys take us through some of the most beautiful landscapes. These, together with the HIAL and Hebridean Air Service and West Highland train line, connect us to our Islands and beyond to the cities and towns of the rest of Scotland.

We are at the historic **heart of the Highlands** and our everyday life – whether in new occupations or tending ancient family lands, is dictated by **eachdraidh, dualchas and dùthchas** – the history and heritage, language and culture, traditions and landscape, which shape who we are just as surely and deeply as the history and experiences, traditions and liturgy of our Episcopal church.

**Many Visitors** come to our Diocese to deepen faith and experience the thin spaces through pilgrimage and retreat. Numerous place names reflect the ancient links to saints, sacred places and ancient seats of learning. Lismore remains the home of the Bachuil Mor and the continuous line of the Coarbs of St Moluag. Iona's rich tapestry included the early writing of the Book of Kells, and places such as Teampall na Trianaid on North Uist pre-date most other University foundations.

**Our clergy team** share both the experience and longevity of ministry in this Diocese with those drawn here through deep vocational calling from other parts of the United Kingdom. They work alongside **lay ministers and lay chaplains, retired clergy and lay readers** to share the love of Jesus in communities and congregations, out of church buildings and in homes.

Our **Diocesan Officers and Office team** are also determined through their work, to ensure living, missional, vibrant ministry, and worship that is growing and developing in our small part of God's Kingdom.

Our **Potential** is to flourish, because so much work has been done over the years in this Diocese; so we look forward to continuing our **pilgrimage** of faith and work in **building the Kingdom** in this glorious part of God's creation.

## VOICES FROM OUR CHURCHES ARGYLL AND THE ISLES FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE

These thoughts come from a discussion held at Diocesan Synod in March 2020, as we reflected on our future; together with a questionnaire sent to all charges in June 2020.

outstanding beauty.... remoteness.... wonderful flora & wildlife....  
 outdoor activities.... strong, resourceful communities....creative....  
 broad theological traditions.... diverse landscapes evolved over millennia...  
 clergy who feel called to be in this place.... abundance of nature....  
 challenging travel on land & water.... ancient spirituality....  
 ... an abundance of tourists.... wild weather/tranquil weather  
 rspb reserves.... well-spring of spirituality & fertile ground for faith  
 gardens and castles.... whisky distilleries.... machair, beautiful coves &  
 sandy beaches....chance to touch the wonder of creation & be inspired.  
 a belief that small is beautiful... history as asset.... resilient faith....  
 golden eagles, white-tailed sea eagles, red squirrels & deer, migrating birds, rare  
 geese.... richness of history incredibly important to the people of the diocese &  
 beyond....wide range of churchmanship.... place to deepen prayer life....  
 the Bachuil Mòr linking St Moluag to today and history to present....  
 communities enriched by those who move here & claim it as home....  
 congregations rooted in local communities.... rich diocesan history....  
 inclusive ....older communities and congregations....perseverant....  
 a rich variety of people in both the Christian & wider community  
 distinctive 'Scottish Episcopal offer' which, on some islands in particular, is  
 markedly different from that of the Presbyterian denominations... pilgrim places ....  
 a strong heritage of Christian worship....rich & varied tradition....  
 places where time has not touched the landscape for generations.... 'thin places'  
 waters are highways....ferries are lifelines.... risk of stranding....  
 theologically engaged congregations... distinctive liturgical tradition .....  
 inspirational Celtic saints... liberal to catholic to charismatic....  
 rich in culture & stories of past & present.... committed congregations .....  
 communities who protest for 'what is right' & stand up for marginalised....  
 diffuse & disparate church community ministering in diffuse & disparate areas....  
 supportive sacred places with worldwide appeal accompanying at significant life  
 situations .... small but very strong in faith, spirit and confidence....  
 the spirit of Columba still present....

## HISTORY OF THE UNITED DIOCESE of ARGYLL and THE ISLES

### ARGYLL

Until 1188, Argyll had been part of the Diocese of Dunkeld, but in the reign of William the Lion, the then Bishop, John the Scot, petitioned that Argyll, as a Gaelic speaking region should be served as a separate diocese with a Gaelic speaking Bishop. Harold, his former Chaplain, was consecrated as the first Bishop of Argyll. His Cathedral was first located in Muckairn near Oban, before it then moved to Lismore. Bishops were thus styled *Episcopi Lismorenses* as well as *Episcopi Ergadienses*.

At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Argyll became a suffragan See under Glasgow (which had become an Arch-Bishopric) until the disturbances of 1688 when the Bishop-Elect Alexander Munro was prevented from being consecrated.

### THE ISLES

The early history of the See is lesser known, but its style as *Episcopi Sodorenses* indicates that the seat was on the Isle of Man. In 1266, when Man and the Hebrides were yielded to Scotland from Norway, the Bishopric was transferred, but with the rights still maintained under Drontheim. The English occupation of Man took the jurisdiction to York, but the Hebrides then fixed their seat on Iona and became part of the Scottish Episcopate.

The Diocese of the Isles (comprising Arran, Bute and all the Hebrides, except those connected to Argyll) remained a separate entity, until, together with the Sees of the other Scottish Bishops, the jurisdiction was removed in the 1688 revolution.

During the turbulent period that followed, although Bishops were consecrated, both Sees came under various governances. In the Articles of Agreement in 1731, The Isles were linked with Orkney and Caithness and Argyll merged into Moray and Ross. These were then linked together under the charge of Bishop Falconer in 1743 and subsequently Bishop Forbes, in 1762, whose travel journals attested to the strength and loyalty of Episcopalians even in the times of persecution and without clergy.

Between 1776 and 1846, there was some fluctuation of Episcopal oversight, but in 1847 the first Bishop of the United Diocese of Argyll and The Isles was consecrated - The Rt Rev'd Alexander Ewing. Argyll and The Isles had been endowed with £8000 on the condition that it remained as one See and separate from Moray and Ross. In those first years, Bishop Ewing's congregations numbered 6 with 487 communicants. Ballachulish, Fort William, Portnacroish, Dunoon, Rothesay and Stornoway. Soon after his arrival, a congregation was brought together in Oban and shortly after on Cumbrae. In 1876, the Chapel of the College of the Holy Spirit on Cumbrae was appointed as the Cathedral of The Isles, whilst in 1920, St John's Church in Oban was inaugurated as the Cathedral of the Diocese.

If much has changed in the life of the Scottish Episcopal Church since 1847, Argyll and The Isles has remained as one, serving the Highlands and Islands, encompassing both Gaelic and English speaking communities and maintaining a loyal and stalwart community of faithful followers who take pride and delight in their faith and communities, in the landscape and history, language and culture that make up one of the most outstandingly beautiful regions in which to live and serve God.

### Bishops of Argyll and The Isles

1847 – 1873	The Rt Rev'd Alexander Ewing	1874 – 1883	The Rt Rev'd George MacKarness
1883 - 1906	The Rt Rev'd Alexander Chinnery-Haldane		
1907 - 1942	The Rt Rev'd Kenneth MacKenzie	1942 - 1962	The Rt Rev'd Thomas Hannay
1963 - 1977	The Rt Rev'd Richard Wimbush	1977 - 1992	The Rt Rev'd George Henderson
1993 - 2003	The Rt Rev'd Douglas Cameron	2004 - 2009	The Rt Rev'd Martin Shaw
2010 - 2020	The Rt Rev'd Kevin Pearson	2021 -	

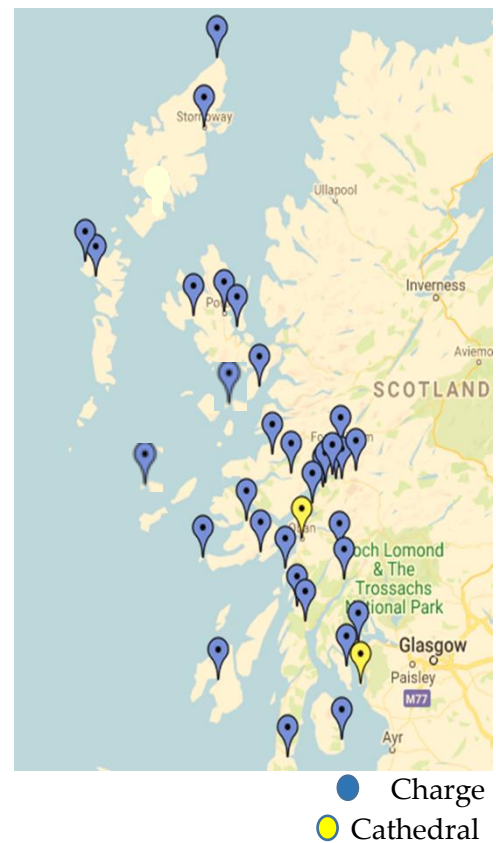


## AROUND THE DIOCESE

In preparing this Description, Charges were asked to reflect on the following:

- What does your charge see as a cause of celebration?
- What is your dream as a part of building God's Kingdom in your context over the next 5 years?
- What does your charge need to do to enable that vision to happen?
- What will you need from your new Bishop?
- What do you see as the unique gifts we have in this Diocese to offer the Province?

Answers to these questions are seen throughout the Description, but specific answers to the charges form the basis of individual introductions to our churches and gathered worshipping communities.



## CATHEDRALS

### OBAN THE CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE

Provost & Rector The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell

Website [www.stjohnsoban.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsoban.org.uk)

Services Sunday: Sung Eucharist and seasonal Evensong

Wednesday: Eucharist and some Feast Days

Status Incumbency



*St John's is a wonderful example of a Cathedral that has grown and changed through its 156 years, where the vision of clergy and people in its early days has continued to grow and be fulfilled. On that journey of development, we delight in the recent move from pews to chairs with the warmth and welcome they demonstrate to our congregation and the new flexibility they offer for many more events. We are home also to Oban Music Society, with its yearlong programme of renowned musicians as well as hosting MODs and Feis events. Our vision is to develop all that we offer now in worship and mission, as well as better inform those who come into the Cathedral about our history of place and the richness and glory of our faith. We seek to embolden our confidence in mission and maximise our chances to be living witnesses, working alongside our ecumenical brothers and sisters and being involved in the community organisations that seek to help and offer hope to those in need and support the vulnerable.*

*As the Cathedral of the United Diocese of Argyll and The Isles, inaugurated in 1920, we seek to deepen the connections and offer a spiritual heart for our rich and diverse Diocese.*

**ARDBRECKNISH****St James**

Services	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Eucharist led by the Provost 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Eucharist April - October Visiting clergy
Status	Dependent Congregation



*St James holds a strong affection in its small, committed congregation who celebrate maintaining worship, for longstanding local families and welcoming occasional visitors. Its widely dispersed congregation have a vision to reach out to residents along Lochaweside through different forms of worship, sadly curtailed by Covid-19 but hopefully to be resumed in the future.*

**KILBRANDON, ISLE OF SEIL****Episcopal Congregation**

Service	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday: Eucharist led by the Provost
---------	------------------------------------------------------



*Kilbrandon Congregation celebrates its place as an Episcopal presence on the Island of Seil and its recent opportunity to take this worship onto the Isle of Luing. We delight in our fellowship and relaxed style, often waiting for the ferry to arrive before we begin the service, and we give thanks for the hospitality of the Church of Scotland in whose church we meet. Our vision is to raise awareness of our presence and worship.*

**ISLE OF CUMBRAE CATHEDRAL OF THE ISLES  
& College Church of Holy Spirit, Millport,**

Provost	Vacant ( <i>previously the Bishop</i> )
Assisting Priest	The Rev'd Canon Alec Boyd (Rtd)
Lay Chaplain	Alastair Chisolm
Website	<a href="http://www.cathedraloftheisles.org">www.cathedraloftheisles.org</a>
Service	Sunday: Morning Prayer, Eucharist, Evening Prayer Daily: Morning and Evening Prayer
Status	Cathedral
Congregation of St Andrews	SC028550 (Closed Church – congregation meet in the Cathedral)



*We are a small church community rejoicing in God's love, learning together to follow The Way and serving across our community inviting others to join us on our "journey". We celebrate being a lighthouse to the thousands of overseas visitors throughout the year and host many returning international groups coming on retreat to the College and Cathedral.*

*We celebrate our musical tradition and our place as an internationally renowned visitor and concert venue. Our vision is to serve the needs of our island community as an ecumenical link in the chain connecting the island churches, the Cathedral, the Guest House and the community. We look to play our part in renewing the life of our retreat house.*

*Our vision requires us to deepen our dependence on God's love in action, meet together for worship and learning, welcome people of all backgrounds and ages and be available within our community. In all of this we value our links with our other island churches to make our Anglican/Episcopal heritage known.*



**INCUMBENCIES**

No Stipend Support

**DUNOON****Holy Trinity**

Clergy	The Rev'd David Railton
Website	<a href="http://www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk">www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk</a>
Services	Sunday: Sung Eucharist Thursday: Sung Eucharist
Status	Incumbency

**ISLE OF BUTE****St Paul, Rothesay**

Services	Sunday: Sung Eucharist Wednesday: Sung Eucharist
Status	Incumbency

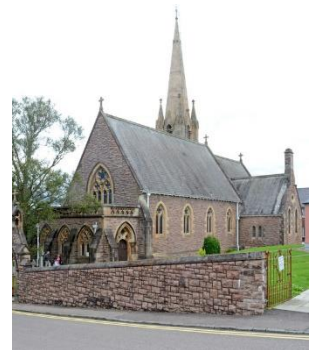
*We celebrate our strong inclusive Christian fellowship within each congregation and across the charges, including good ecumenical links and a mature sense of place and purpose.*

*Our vision is to maintain and grow our Christian presence in the community, to develop the facilities in and around the church and to nurture and grow discipleship and lay leaders.*

*To enable this we know we must access grant funding and use the current skills of our lay leaders as we offer training and support.*

**FORT WILLIAM****St Andrew**

Clergy:	The Rev'd Alexander Guinness
Services	Sunday: Sung Eucharist Tuesday: Holy Communion Wednesday: Holy Communion Thursday: Holy Communion Saints days as announced



*St Andrew's in Fort William celebrates the continuity of loving worship and support for each other. Our vision is to keep our building open and safe, not only for our own congregational family but also for the many locals and thousands of visitors from all over the world who come through our doors. We have been undertaking a repair programme which must continue. Our church is usually open every day and members can pop in at any time. We have a votive stand for candles and thousands are lit each year. We also have a Prayer book in which people can write prayer requests which are then placed on the Altar each Sunday. St. Andrew's Church is listed in Tripadvisor as a top 10 attraction in the area. In order to fulfil our vision we need continuing faith, vigour, money and at times, structural advice.*

*We hope that our new Bishop can assist by loving us and supporting us, by accepting the fact we are an older congregation who like the traditional ways.*

*We have a strong sense of heritage which is important to us.*

## INCUMBENCIES

## Stipend Support

**MID-ARGYLL AND ARRAN****LOCHGILPHEAD****Christ Church**

Clergy:	The Rev'd Canon Simon MacKenzie
Website	<a href="http://www.christchurchlochgilphead.co.uk">www.christchurchlochgilphead.co.uk</a>
Service	Sunday: Holy Communion
Status	Incumbency

**ISLE of ARRAN****St Margaret of Scotland, Whiting Bay**

Service	Sunday: Holy Communion Wednesday: Holy Communion
Status	Dependent Congregation

**INVERARAY****All Saints**

Website	<a href="http://www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk">www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk</a>
Service	contact clergy for details
Status	Dependent congregation



Adjacent to All Saints church stands the 126ft high Bell Tower. Conceived of by the 10<sup>th</sup> Duke of Argyll to commemorate the Clan Campbell war dead, work begun in 1921, and in 1931 the ring of 10 bells was lifted into position. Cast by John Taylor and Company of Loughborough, they are the 2<sup>nd</sup> heaviest peal of 10 bells in the world.

**KILMARTIN****St Columba, Poltalloch**

Service	Sunday: 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion 3 <sup>rd</sup> Eucharist
Status	Dependent Congregation



*In a time of change, we nonetheless feel very confident in God's Mission. We have restored the beauty of our churches and rectory in Lochgilphead and Poltalloch. We attempt to do the same in worship. We have successfully pioneered the Scottish Episcopal Institute's distance learning module for laity on behalf of the Province, and feel passionately about its value. With the support and friendship of other churches and charities, we pray together through an ecumenical prayer website in Mid-Argyll. We have been blessed. Our witness of an inclusive, liturgical church, faithful to tradition and open to the Spirit may be small, but it has something wonderful to offer in this area where church life is changing with rapidity. We have been challenged and supported by Bp Kevin's call to renew our vision, and expect our new Bishop to lead us both jointly and singly in the discernment of God's call to us. The support of the Province and Diocese to this witness is both encouraging, and necessary.*

**ISLE OF LEWIS****St Peter, Stornoway**

Clergy	The Rev'd Canon Peter Moger The Rev'd Canon Sister Clare Lockhart SC
Services	Sunday: Eucharist, Evening Prayer, Tuesday-Saturday: Morning Prayer Wednesday: Eucharist
Status	Incumbency



**EOROPAIDH****St Moluag's Great Church, Eoropaidh, Ness**

Service

Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday EucharistThursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Compline &  
Prayer for Healing

Status

Independent Congregation



*The congregations of Stornoway and Eoropaidh, as the furthest flung charge in the Diocese, celebrate the care and strategic oversight of our previous Bishop during the several recent vacancies and its congregation who are prayerful, active in service in the community and theologically curious, committed, resilient and positive. Our immediate priority will be to see a restoration of worship in our two buildings and to regain a sense of a regular worshipping community. In the future we look to grow the regular congregation, building on the USP of the Episcopal Church, i.e. that it offers a perspective on faith (sacramental, incarnational and inclusive) utterly different from the prevailing culture of conservative Presbyterianism.*

*We need to continue building up the congregation in faith, worship and theological enquiry, grow a younger congregation, in particular children and families, and build on the creative gifts of our congregation. We look to develop, an effective ministry to visitors, based around the Christian history of the island and a sense of sacred place with possibly a pilgrim route.*

*To effect this we shall need effective teaching and learning within the context of a rich liturgical tradition and to develop home / regionally based study and fellowship groups. We will need the Bishop to listen and share with us as we assess our needs for the vision to come to fruition, to draw on expertise within and beyond the Charge for lay training, and develop (as far as possible) relationships of trust with other island churches, searching for a commonality of vision and purpose*

**ISLE OF SKYE****St Columba, Portree**

Clergy

The Rev'd Rosemary Bungard

Website

[www.argyll.anglican.org](http://www.argyll.anglican.org)

Services

Sunday: Eucharist

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday: Taizé hour3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday: Contemplative Prayer**ISLE OF RAASAY****St Michael and All Angels** held at Ceòl na Mara2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday: Eucharist**SLEAT****St Mary** held in Kilmore Church of Scotland Parish Room2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Eucharist

Status

Independent Congregation



*The congregations celebrate being a caring loving community modelled on God's love and being the Episcopalian presence in the heart of the communities of Skye and Raasay.*

*Our vision is the growth in working ecumenically with other Christians and portraying God's love in word and deed. Our mission in the community of meeting needs through 'Bread Basket' is developing through Covid-19 to offer a place of space and sanctuary for those experiencing stress once the church re-opens.*

*Our vision embraces the Diocesan support of a pioneering stipendiary priest to develop the work begun by our current non-stipendiary priest-in-charge who is soon to retire. To enable this to happen, the Vestry is committed to raising funds to support their expenses and underpin the work of the church.*



**WEST HIGHLAND REGION**

Clergy                      The Rev'd Amanda Fairclough  
There is generally one service in the West Highland Region  
each Sunday



**BALLACHULISH**    **St John**  
Status                      Incumbency



**DUROR OF APPIN**    **St Adamnan,**  
Service                      Tuesday:        Open Church 10am to 11.30am  
Status                      Independent Congregation



**GLENCOE**                **St Mary's, Glencoe**  
Service                      3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:    Praise in the Glen  
Status                      Incumbency



**KINLOCHLEVEN**    **St Paul**  
Status                      Independent Congregation

**ONICH**                      **St Bride, North Ballachulish,**  
Status                      Incumbency



**PORTNACROIS**    **Holy Cross, Appin**  
Service                      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:    Evensong  
Status                      Incumbency



*West Highland Region is developing the vision encapsulated by the desire to be 'Living, Loving and Serving our Community'. As the concept of WHR evolves, the vision is of sharing faith: teaching our younger children that knowing God starts with hearing God's stories and continues with living them out and giving young people a means of exploring contemporary ethics from a Christian perspective, without dictating what their views should be. We look to engage with those who think faith, religion and spirituality have no place in a world that reveres science and rationality and reach and draw back those people who have drifted away from Church, but not necessarily God, over the years.*

*Our vision needs us to better understand who we are, structurally and relationally, and to deepen our own discipleship to become effective apostles.*

*To enable our vision to be a reality we must find resources to help us in our mission, money to some extent but mostly people who are allies and supporters. We must be willing to keep those elements of the past that support the mission and let go of what does not, particularly when it comes to buildings but also in respect of our personal desires.*

*The Priest in Charge is a Covenanted Evangelist member of the Church Army Mission Community and there is a long-standing plan to launch a Church Army Centre of Mission in the West Highland Region, with a Pioneer Evangelist funded by the Church Army.*

*Following a Diocesan Synod resolution in March 2019, the Bishop made a Declaration on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 under Canon 36.12 such that the six incumbencies/congregations forming the West Highland Regions should cease as they each are so reduced in numbers/financial resources that they cannot be sustained independently. Processes to bring this declaration into effect and secure the future of the West Highland Region are underway at time of writing.*

## PRIVATE CHAPEL

**ISLE of IONA****St Columba**

Clergy	The Rev'd Joyce Watson
Service	April to October      Daily Eucharist Monday:      Saturday Compline Sunday:      Evensong November to March      Sunday Eucharist
Status	Private Chapel



*St Columba's Chapel celebrates its opportunities to welcome visitors from all over the world, and although services are hardly ever attended by island residents (it being primarily a Presbyterian island) several have said how much they value the presence of the House as a prayerful influence on Iona.*

## CHARGES

## without LICENCED CLERGY OVERSIGHT

**CAMPBELTOWN****St Kieran**

Lay Chaplain/ Lay Reader	David McEwan
Lay Leader	Mrs Judith Macrae
Retired Clergy	The Rev'd Canon Keith Pagan
Service	Sunday:      1 <sup>st</sup> Morning Prayer 2,3,4,5 <sup>th</sup> Family Communion
Status	Incumbency



*Campbeltown celebrates its ongoing worship, maintained and supported by its lay leaders and takes joy from its survival being peppered with signs of growth against the odds.*

*Our vision is to ensure our continued worship and mission by growing more worship leaders and maintaining the active fellowship and communication within our congregation. We look to continue as a happy, outward-looking and welcoming congregation and develop and grow in faith.*

**ISLE of ISLAY****St Columba, Bridgend**

Clergy	Visiting Priests by appointment
Service	Sunday:      3 <sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion
Status	Independent Congregation



*We celebrate being a congregation of a church set in a beautiful, but isolated, spot in the centre of the island of Islay, whose worship together is important to them. Our Vision is to have a church filled with all ages, reaching out to help and in mission to our community. For that we need Diocesan physical and spiritual support and the addressing of our need for priestly support and guidance.*

**ISLE of MULL****St Columba, Gruline**

Clergy	Visiting Clergy
Website	<a href="http://www.grulinechurch.org.uk">www.grulinechurch.org.uk</a>
Service	Sunday:      Holy Communion
Status	Independent Congregation



*The Church community on Mull celebrates its support from the Bishop, the ministry of many visiting clergy through the summer months and regular winter Eucharists led by a retired priest from Oban. Our vision is to continue to make visitors welcome and maintain all that we do in worship. We know our need for active leadership, especially to enable us to become a community.*



**KINLOCHMOIDART****St Finan, By Fort William**

Service	Christmas, Easter May – September      2 <sup>nd</sup> Sundays
Status	Independent Congregation

Linked with **STRONTIAN** meets in the Church of Scotland

Service	Sunday:      1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Status	Independent Congregation



*In these remote, rural communities, Episcopal worship is maintained through the commitment of its Lay leader and small group of families who fulfil the roles necessary to ensure that worship can continue. St Finan sits in the heart of Lochaber and the Moidart Estate.*

**HOUSE CHURCHES****ISLE of EIGG****House Church, Cleadale**

Lay Leader	Karen Helliwell
Service	Lay led midweek
Status	House Church

*On an island where community involvement is strong, the Episcopal presence under its lay leadership continues to be a welcoming place for visitors and islanders. Our vision is to continue good ecumenical work with other denominations – Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and the Iona Community at The Abbey and to remain open to the Holy Spirit and to all the possibilities that brings.*

**ISLE of TIREE****House Church, Balemartine**

Lay Leader	Joseph Bennett
Service	For details contact Lay Leader
Status	House Church

*Tiree celebrates the continuing Christian witness on this island and the breaking down of barriers between denominations. Our vision hopes that the growth in diversity in Christian practice can lead to an increase in commitment and a deepening of discipleship; that sharing the rich heritage of the whole church may draw people in who have previously only experienced a small part of it. Looking to the future, those involved in this house church seek guidance on how to start from the beginning and how to offer distinctively Episcopalian worship where there is no previous tradition and there are few resources.*

**ISLE of NORTH UIST****Chapel of the Holy Cross near Clachan**

Clergy	The Rev'd Donald Strachan
Service	Contact clergy
Status	Chapel

**ISLE OF NORTH UIST****St Brendan the Navigator, Tigh na Baigh**

Clergy	The Rev'd Sue Newby
Service	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday:      Eucharist
Status	House Church

*The worshipping community of North Uist work with the vision that they hold; to promote ecumenical unity across the island and be a part of churches of all denominations working together.*



## THE DIOCESAN RETREAT CENTRES

**Island Retreats Limited:** SC023281

**Company Number:** SC225528

Island Retreats is a company wholly owned by the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles, which manages two retreat/guest houses under a 21 year lease. The IRL board is appointed by Standing Committee and includes both clergy and laity from the diocese plus other independent directors.

**The College of the Holy Spirit** offers accommodation on Cumbrae in the Clyde, and **Bishop's House** offers accommodation on the Isle of Iona.



### COLLEGE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CUMBRAE.

Built originally as a college and collegiate church by the Hon. George F Boyle on his family's lands, work on the Tractarian interpretation of an Oxford College was completed in 1851. For 34 years it was lived in and worship led daily by the choristers, students and clergy. It has seen many changes through the years but the aim of the College of The Holy Spirit remains to offer a place of spiritual refreshment and learning through retreats and as a guest house.

The house allows visitors to enjoy a unique time in a building full of history and character. It offers a selection of 16 bedrooms. These include single, twin or double rooms and two family rooms. Five of the bedrooms are ensuite and there is also a ground floor bedroom and bathroom which is specifically set up for those who are physically less able. Guests have the use of our library and two common rooms and the Cathedral is open every day for services or simply quiet times and reflection. Many have also been able to enjoy the regular concerts held in the Cathedral as a part of their stay.

The Friends of the Cathedral of The Isles do much to support the life, work and witness of the Cathedral and its grounds through the provision of amenities, enhancing and restoring furnishings, preservation of plate and the promotion and maintaining of the organ. Also in the College they support work in the library and other rooms to encourage spirituality, devotion and study. The Diocese has held many of its clergy retreats in the College, a gentle link back to its early days. The annual Diocesan Retreat has also become an established part of the calendar, where clergy and laity from across Argyll and The Isles have welcomed the time in retreat and the rhythm of worship in the Cathedral.

Sadly the rigours of the Covid-19 lockdown have forced the closure of the House for retreats this season, but the IRL Board is looking to find a sustainable and exciting way forward to enable this historic foundation to continue into a spiritually enriching future.

### BISHOP'S HOUSE

was founded in 1894 by the Lord Bishop of Argyll and The Isles, Alexander Chinnery-Haldane, to be a centre of Prayer, Study, Contemplation and the Eucharist on the island of Iona – a charter still upheld.

Originally called Saint Columba's House, named after the dedication of its chapel, Bishop Chinnery-Haldane's persistent involvement



led to islanders calling the house “Bishop’s House”, a name that eventually stuck. We have welcomed guests for over a century, making us the oldest retreat house on the island. Briefly entrusted to the **Order of Saint John the Evangelist**, the Cowley Fathers, the house reverted to Diocesan stewardship shortly after the First World War, and since then has been run by a succession of Wardens.

Iona has, of course, a uniquely rich, spiritual history which continues to inspire and support many pilgrims and congregations around the world, many of whom have a strong commitment to Bishop’s House and return regularly for spiritual refreshment. Some of these are members of the ‘Friends of Bishop’s House’ a separate charity which supports the house in many ways and enables commissions such as the new chapel windows, made by glass artist Anita Pate in 2010 and 2018. The Episcopalian traditions of worship are celebrated in the chapel, including our daily Eucharist and Compline.

The building has a wonderful dining room, cosy library, spacious lounge and coffee station - the home of good company, the odd ‘ceilidh’, and patio area where we often BBQ in the summer! We love the fact that Bishop’s House, having been extended substantially over the past 110 years (most recently in 2013), has grown to become an established place of hospitality, welcoming over 700 people a year from all over the world. We are privileged to offer a unique space where modern-day pilgrims can receive God’s goodness, healing and grace, on this special Isle of Iona.

**The IRL Board seeks to encourage the incoming Bishop and Diocese to spend time in our Retreat Houses to be refreshed and inspired by time spent in pilgrimage and prayer.**

## DIOCESAN OFFICE and BISHOP’S HOUSE

The Diocese is centred on St Moluag’s, our **Diocesan Office**, which is situated in Oban. Owned and managed by Island Retreats Ltd, it occupies the ground floor of a purpose built building which houses offices for the Diocesan Administration Manager, Bishop’s Secretary and Bishop’s Office with integral meeting room. The upper floor is being converted to an apartment to house the incoming Cathedral Training Curate.



The **Bishop’s House** is situated one mile outwith Oban in a modern development (now 10 years old) on Ganavan Sands.

This detached, executive style house has 4 double bedrooms, landing study, upstairs lounge, dining room, kitchen and utility room.

The master bedroom is en-suite (shower) and there are two additional bathrooms.

There is a garage, parking on the drive and an enclosed back garden.



## THE DIOCESAN STRUCTURE and PEOPLE

Our **Diocesan Synod** meets annually in March, most recently at SAMS (Scottish Association for Marine Science) just outwith Oban.

The **Standing Committee** comprises the Bishop as Convener, the Dean, Registrar, Diocesan Secretary and Diocesan Treasurer; 5 people elected by Synod, selected to represent the broad spread of the Diocese. The Mission Enablers are invited as contributing observers.

The Diocesan Administration Manager acts as clerk. This committee acts on behalf of the Diocesan Synod and oversees the work of any pendant committees.

Its members are the Charity Trustees of the Diocese and also Members of Island Retreats Ltd.

The **Diocesan Buildings Committee** is a pendant committee of this Board.

## ROLES WITHIN THE DIOCESE

### DIOCESAN CHANCELLOR

Currently vacant, the role is being fulfilled by the Diocesan Registrar

### DIOCESAN REGISTRAR

**Mr Johnny Bell.**

The appointment is regulated by Canon 61, Resolution 5. The Bishop of each Diocese shall appoint a Registrar, who shall be an admitted solicitor in Scotland, to whose custody shall be committed all deeds of consecration of churches and burial grounds, all constitutions of churches and all titles of ecclesiastical property connected with the Diocese, or authenticated copies thereof, together with detailed inventories of all church goods and ornaments, registers and other property belonging to the several charges of the diocese. Other details are contained within Canon 61:6 & 8.

### DEAN

**The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell**

The office of Dean is regulated by Canon 43. The Dean works closely alongside the bishop in the support and pastoral care of both clergy and laity, playing an active part in the appointment and institution of the diocesan bishop, clergy and lay readers. In the absence of the Bishop, certain roles and duties are undertaken by the Dean. The Dean sits *ex officio* on the major Boards and Committees of the Diocese and is Convener of the Buildings Committee.

### SYNOD CLERK

**The Rev'd Canon Simon Mackenzie**

The office of Synod Clerk is regulated by Canon 44. The main duty of the Clerk is to gather statistics from congregations by way of an annual return, co-ordinated through the Diocesan Office before being formally tabled at Diocesan Synod annually. These statistics are made available to Provincial Office. The Clerk is a member of the Cathedral Chapter and is normally appointed Teller and Clergy Prolocutor at meetings of Diocesan Synod.

### DIOCESAN SECRETARY

**Dr Peter Kemp**

The office of Secretary is regulated by Canon 61, Resolution 1. The Secretary is appointed by Synod and serves at its pleasure. The duties of the Secretary shall include summoning the members to meet in the Diocesan Synod according to the directions of the Bishop, or of the Dean, as the case may be, keeping the minutes, being responsible, subject to the directions of the Synod, for the custody of the Minute books, keeping a copy of the roll of the Clergy instituted, licensed and commissioned in the Diocese as supplied by the Diocesan Registrar and otherwise, in addition to any duties imposed by the Canons and Resolutions of the General Synod, carrying out such duties pertaining to the office of a secretary as the Diocesan Synod may direct.

**DIOCESAN TREASURER****Jean Ainsley**

The office of Treasurer is regulated by Canon 61, Resolution 2. The Treasurer is appointed by Synod and serves at its pleasure. The duties of the Treasurer shall include responsibility for the oversight of the financial affairs of the Diocese, the annual preparation and submission to the Diocesan Synod accounts thereof and, in addition to any duties imposed by the Canons and Resolutions of the General Synod, carrying out such duties pertaining to the financial affairs of the Diocese as the Diocesan Synod may direct.

**DIOCESAN MISSION ENABLERS****Dr Chris and Dr Ros Brett**

The aim of the shared part-time post of Diocesan Mission Enablers is to help to develop mission and working with the Bishop to deliver the Diocesan Initiative. They assist in the co-ordination and delivering of the Annual Conference and lead Lay Training twice annually. They have recently begun to compile Diocesan Study Guides which aim, in both booklet and video form to offer more readily accessible training in a far-reaching Diocese. They are also tasked with organising an Annual Retreat which has been based more recently in the College of the Holy Spirit at Cumbrae.

**DIOCESAN YOUTH ENABLER**

This post will be filled in February 2021 by the incoming Training Curate at the Cathedral. She will be working creatively to encourage our young people, and with the advantages gained recently in using technology through the lockdown period, will be developing means of remote contact and virtual support as well and physical get-togethers both in the Diocese and with Provincial events.

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH MISSION ASSOCIATION****Joy Blakeney**

SECMA is in very good heart in Argyll & The Isles. We have 12 congregations supporting all our work in different parts of the world, raising a very creditable £1,524 in 2019, as we approach the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our inception later this year.

**VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT****The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell****The Rev'd David Railton****The Rev'd Rosemary Bungard****Dr Chris Brett****Mrs Alison Clark**

Following recent changes in Vocation, Selection and Training across the Province, the Diocese is supporting the Provincial process through recently appointed Vocations Advisors and Discernment Panel members. In the new procedure, candidates are guided through a process which involves exploring their vocation in the light of the Criteria for Selection. The Bishop will be advised as to whether a candidate should proceed to the Provincial stage of discernment. Candidates whom the Bishop finally selects for training are formed for ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Institute. One of the Institute's first Mixed Mode students will be ordained in St John's Cathedral, Oban to serve as Training Curate from October 2020.

**WARDEN OF LAY READERS****Dr Chris Brett**

The Warden of Lay Readers is responsible to the Bishop for the discernment of vocations to Lay Readership and the support of lay readers in the Diocese. Candidates meet with the Warden for discussion about their vocation and then are interviewed in the presence of an additional Warden. Candidates whom the Bishop finally selects for training are formed for ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Institute. Lay readers attend the ministerial development days provided by the Diocese.



**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER****Heather Hardstaff**

The Diocese of Argyll and The Isles expects each Charge to carry out fully the Scottish Episcopal Church Safeguarding Policies and Codes of Good Practice for the Protection of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults, and comply with legislation. Each Vestry is responsible for this. Each Charge must appoint a Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Co-ordinator to ensure that any work with children, young people and vulnerable adults in their congregation is carried out in accordance with SEC Safeguarding Provisions and the Law. PVG Co-ordinator Appointments first have to be approved by the Bishop.

Each Diocesan Bishop appoints an Officer to ensure compliance with safeguarding responsibilities throughout the Diocese, who is supported by the Provincial PVG Officers. The Diocesan PVG Officer monitors and supports the implementation of safeguarding measures in the Diocese, supervises and records the appointments of congregational PVG Co-ordinators, undertakes an annual audit of compliance with report to the Diocesan Synod and Provincial Officer, and reports on these matters to the Diocesan Standing Committee.

**DIOCESAN OFFICE****Audrey Walton****Bishops PA****Heather Hardstaff Administration Manager**

The Bishop's Personal Assistant currently works part-time (two days a week) to specifically assist the Bishop in matters pertaining to the role: diary organisation often involves arranging travel and accommodation; meeting co-ordination, correspondence and visits. The PA supports the Bishop in media communication and ensuring he/she is equipped for meetings and interviews. Much of the record keeping is confidential. The Bishop's Personal Assistant ensures the smooth running of the Bishop's diary and work.

The Administration Manager works full-time and manages the Diocesan Office: records and files are maintained, financial transactions are enacted and minutes taken of Diocesan meetings. The AM deals with day to day administration and information dissemination through all manner of digital, phone and paper communication and ensures charges are kept informed of all Diocesan and Provincial matters. The Administration Manager assists the Bishop and Diocesan Officers in ensuring the smooth running of the Diocese.

**DIOCESAN WEBSITE**

The Diocesan website, run by the Diocesan Administrator Manager, is currently being reformatted to better represent and communicate internally and externally the news and information required to keep us in touch, as well as being a first point of contact to those outwith our churches.

**DIOCESAN FACEBOOK PAGE**

The Diocese has a relatively new Facebook page, currently administered by the Dean. It seeks to reach out beyond church boundaries and showcase events or information for the Diocese.

**DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER**

The Diocese continues to provide news and information through its bimonthly newsletter. Contributions come from across the charges and events from further afield can be advertised to broaden our connectivity and strengthen our Provincial links. It is also used as a means to share Synodical proceedings with the wider community.

**REPRESENTATION IN THE PROVINCE**

The Diocese participates fully in our Provincial life through General Synod and its various Boards and Committees

## THE DIOCESE AND MISSION

Mission isn't necessarily easy in a geographically large, scattered Diocese. In 2011, the Diocese began a five-year programme of 'Building the Vision', encouraging individual congregations to articulate their own vision, and giving them help in moving forward with their mission. The visions and the resulting mission activities are as varied as the congregations and their circumstances in this diverse corner of God's kingdom. After-school activities, involvement in community organisations, trauma healing work, hospitality spaces at Highland Gatherings, community lunches, work in schools, street pastor volunteering, as well as the missional opportunities of two retreat houses, tourism, pilgrim routes and fine music – and more – can be found through the length of the Diocese. Lay people and clergy work together in these missional initiatives.

'Building the Vision' has been followed by 'Living our Vision', with a theme each year for the annual Diocesan Conference. The Diocesan Conference is a highly-valued event, with inspiring external speakers, and opportunities for discussion and sharing stories. Study materials provided then enable congregations to take the subject further during the year. The themes have been: From Membership to Discipleship; Stewardship; Education for Mission; Praying our Vision.

Where do we go from here? There are opportunities to engage in Provincial initiatives – the Year of Pilgrimage 2021, and potentially a Year of Discipleship 2022. But from the base of a network of - some small and some not so small - spiritually healthy churches, and with a new bishop, we look to be inspired to a continuing but refreshed mission in this very special Diocese.

## ECUMENICAL LINKS

Ecumenical links vary widely across the Diocese. In some places they are strong, especially at the local level, though in some cases historic and theological tensions between denominations continue.

Several churches hold joint services with other denominations and in some of our recent Ordinations and Institutions there have been wonderful opportunity for hospitality between denominations.

Several of our Episcopal Congregations worship in local Church of Scotland churches, and another Episcopal Church hosts the services of the local Roman Catholic congregation. An interdenominational team runs a hospitality tent at one of the Highland Games, providing tea, coffee and soft drinks and a place to sit and chat. There are several ecumenical youth work initiatives, including summer holiday clubs, a weekly youth club and a residential summer camp. There is also ecumenical involvement in some of the schools. An ecumenical Prayer Breakfast for Argyll takes place annually, in a different town each year.

At a much more informal level, church members frequently attend services and other events in local churches of other denominations and the strong choral tradition of the Episcopal churches makes choral events a particular point of contact.

Many church members from different denominations are active in local community organisations that seek to provide practical help and offer hope to the vulnerable and needy.

## THREE STORIES FROM OUR DIOCESE

The Spirit bloweth where it listeth...

Our Diocese has many small congregations – and is in fact itself a small congregation. But maybe God doesn't look on us that way? Perhaps the Spirit moves among us quite powerfully at times?

...In 2016 two Ordinands were ordained into the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles. Both had come through a process of discernment in their home charges, on small islands, and both were trained through the Scottish Episcopal Institute. Elaine Garman was a resident of the Isle of Bute, and Rosemary Bungard, of the Isle of Raasay. The Priestly Ordinations took place in Rothesay and Portree. No-one from Bute could recall an ordination ever having taken place on the island: all the churches seemed to be thrilled, and all participated, their ministers being a part of the prayerful laying-on of hands. The breadth of churches so doing was amazing; as it was in Portree - from Roman Catholics through to Church of Scotland to Bible churches. Grace abounded. When The Rev'd Amanda Fairclough was licenced to the West Highland Region, the Church of Scotland Minister welcomed her to ministry in the area; and indeed at all of our recent Installations, at the Cathedral and in Dunoon and Rothesay, our ecumenical brothers and sisters have celebrated with us. The Scottish Episcopal Church can be a bridge between denominations, or a safe meeting-ground – in joyfulness.

...Last November, representatives from the whole Diocese travelled across the Minch to the Isle of Lewis for the licensing of the Rev'd Canon Peter Moger to the charges of St Peter, Stornoway, and St Moluag, Eoropaidh. He continues an Episcopalian presence on Lewis which has been unbroken since the Reformation! Peter came from the post of Precentor of York Minster, and to celebrate with him, came three priest canons and a lay canon, dressed in the finest copes the Minster's Broderers' Guild could furnish forth. Friendship, fellowship, colour, fun and joy filled St Peter's.

...The Haven is an ecumenical initiative to provide a rest and refreshment facility at The Cowal Highland Gathering each year in Dunoon. Started in 2012, it is funded by contributions from Church of Scotland churches, Holy Trinity (SEC), and Dunoon Baptist Church, with a generous donation from a CoS bequest. Organised and managed by Holy Trinity, The Haven runs on the Friday and Saturday of the Games weekend, and uses up to 20 volunteers from 5 different churches, working in teams of 3 or 4. Refreshments, a friendly welcome, a place to sit down (the only one on site), a children's corner, a prayer tree, and free Christian literature, including Bibles are provided. As the annual costs of over £2,000 are covered by donations, all of the proceeds are donated to Cowal Hospice. The Good News is shared...together!

Around the Diocese are many similar stories of the Spirit moving....  
The United Diocese is very much alive, praising the Lord!



## VOICES FROM OUR CHURCHES

### OUR VISION OF A BISHOP FOR ARGYLL AND THE ISLES

We need someone who will celebrate with us all that we have achieved and enable us to continue to flourish in new and exciting ways.....

We seek one who is confident in the calling of the church....

The Ordinal sets out the place and calling of a Bishop as:

- one who will follow in the succession of the apostles whom Christ sent to proclaim the Gospel to the world and to bear authority in the community of faith
- with their fellow bishops they oversee and care for the universal Church
- as people under authority they must be attentive to the Holy Spirit who leads us into all the truth; called into the fellowship of Christ's disciples, they must seek God's will
- within the Diocese the bishop ordains and sends out new ministers, guides and serves the priests and deacons who share in the bishop's responsibility to nurture the community of the baptised
- there is one Lord, by whose authority bishops teach and enable others to bear witness, so that God's Word may enlighten the people of God and heal the nations
- there is one Shepherd, at whose call bishops seek to know his flock and be known by them

at their Consecration a Bishop will be asked to affirm they will:

- be a diligent minister of the Word of God, proclaiming the Gospel, teaching the Christian faith and upholding catholic doctrine founded on the Scriptures
- as chief priest and pastor, encourage and support all the baptised in their gifts and ministries
- nourish them out of the riches of God's grace, pray for them and celebrate with them the sacraments of our redemption
- be merciful to all, show compassion to the poor and strangers and defend those who have no helper
- devoted to prayer, to reading the Holy Scriptures and to all studies that will increase faith and deepen understanding of the truth
- will you, in all your dealings with others, in the life of the Church and in your home, seek to show an example of obedience to the way of Christ

We seek one who is able to understand how the calling of the Church relates to our Diocesan and individual needs and balance their place within the needs of the wider church and Province

More words from the discussion held at Diocesan Synod in March 2020, together with a questionnaire sent to all charges in June 2020, as we reflected on our hopes for our new Bishop and our future.

support charges who need help....  
 resilient and with stamina.... be in contact....  
 a people-person, who knows joy and sensitivity....  
 visit and spend time with charges....develop spirituality....  
 organiser ....able to draw people together....  
 a shepherd who is both friend and leader....  
 recognise and use technology as a means of communication and mission....  
 overcome distance in new ways to value,  
 encourage and develop faith and unity....  
 support vision and challenge where needed....  
 calmness and strength of mind, kind  
 and able to cope with challenge....  
 a strategic thinker, encourager of financial scrutiny  
 and believer in budgets....  
 a missional, pioneering bishop.... incarnational theology....  
 recognise unique contexts and draw out contextualised solutions....  
 spiritual guide offering wisdom and vision....  
 positive and confident....interested in fresh ways and ideas ....  
 approachable....filled with energy and enthusiasm....  
 communicator....lover of travel....  
 sense of humour.... integrity....  
 rooted in community and ecumenical understanding....  
 recognises uniqueness of island life and mainland contexts....  
 one who looks to build up and grow, not manage decline....  
 culture and religious distinctiveness....  
 usual requirements of safeguarding  
 and current driving licence.



## SUMMARISING some of the immediate CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

Historically our congregations regarded themselves as too small, too old and too poor to flourish ... but within us there is a **potential** that has been seen and nurtured.

Each charge has indicated their visions to further their mission in sharing the good news of Christ's message. In addition we are working through a number of **challenges and opportunities** in Argyll and The Isles, including the following:

- the **Ordination of a Training Curate** at St John's Cathedral in October 2020. As part of her training, she will have opportunities to develop skills and experiences around the Diocese
- funding is in place for a **three year transition ministry** and the appointment of a stipendiary Priest-in-Charge for the charges on Skye and Raasay. This is to continue and build upon the successful work of the self-supporting Priest-in-Charge as she looks to retire later in 2021
- further developing the work of the Mission Enablers to **support and train lay leadership** across the Diocese and provide additional skills to charges without priestly oversight
- the consolidation of the six charges of the **West Highland Region** in such a way as to ensure a sustainable SEC presence in this historically significant area
- the appointment of a **Church Army funded Pioneer Evangelist** to work with the Priest-in - Charge of the West Highland Region in forming a Centre of Mission to reach out to the children, youth and families in this economically diverse and geographically challenging area
- exploring the potential for mixed mode students and curacy **placements** throughout the Diocese, where there are excellent contexts for training and good supervisors in post
- working with IRL, the Standing Committee and the communities on Cumbrae, to discern the future vision and direction for **The College of The Holy Spirit in Millport and its relationship with The Cathedral of The Isles**

As a Diocese we celebrate that we have no Charge vacancies and our outstanding team of clergy have come from far afield with the real desire to live and minister here.

We are encouraged by our rich and diverse coverage of congregations raring to go.

We have survived and even flourished after past disasters; the Viking raids, the 18<sup>th</sup> century persecution following 1715 and 1745 and we have learnt much in the Covid-19 lockdown of reaching out in **new and innovative ways** ...

Our dream is that **a person of vision** will join our team in **re-creating** the post-Covid church in Argyll and The Isles; engaging with the culture and forward-looking, as together we build on all that has been achieved. He or she will be **flexible and innovative** enough to adjust plans as circumstances change, and lead us through the uncertain environment of the next few years to a **new kind of rural church**. They will be true to Episcopalian traditions, and will work in a team with the other Bishops, to benefit the **Scottish Episcopal Church** nationwide.

**Will you come and join us as our Bishop  
to take Argyll and The Isles forward?**





## APPENDIX 1      CLERGY and LAY MINISTRIES within the Diocese

### STIPENDIARY

The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell  
 The Rev'd Amanda Fairclough  
 The Rev'd Alexander Guinness

The Rev'd Canon Simon MacKenzie  
 The Rev'd Canon Peter Moger  
 The Rev'd David Railton

### NON-STIPENDIARY LICENCE

The Rev'd Rosemary Bungard

### COMMISSION

The Rev'd Canon Sister Clare Lockhart SC

### WARRANTS

The Rev'd Canon G T Kaye  
 The Rev'd Canon Dr M A Kitchener  
 The Rev'd Canon A M Maclean

The Rev'd Canon K V Pagan  
 The Rev'd D P M Strachan  
 The Rev'd I E Walter

### PERMISSIONS TO OFFICIATE

The Rev'd Canon P Allen  
 The Rev'd Canon A J Boyd  
 The Rev'd S A Fallows  
 The Rev'd E Farrow  
 The Rev'd J M Morrell

The Rev'd S Newby,  
 The Rev'd Canon Dr K Riglin  
 The Rev'd H D Toller  
 The Rev'd C G Tongue  
 The Rev'd J Watson

### COMMUNITY

The Carmel Community, Gress, Isle of Lewis

### LAY READERS

Dr C T Brett (*Diocesan Licence*)  
 Dr R Brett (*Diocesan Licence*)

Dr D Fuller (*Diocesan Licence*)  
 Mr D O McEwan (*St Kieran, Campbeltown*)

### LAY CHAPLAINS

Mr A Chisholm (*Cathedral of The Isles*)

Mr D O McEwan (*St Kieran, Campbeltown*)

### LAY MINISTRIES

Many of our congregations, on the mainland and on our Islands are reliant on the tremendous dedication and time given by Lay Leaders, (Responsible to the Bishop) Eucharistic Ministers, (Responsible to the Priest / Rector), Pastoral Assistants, Pastoral and Lay Teams.

#### Lay / Eucharistic Ministers

Mrs L Barford (*Islay*)  
 Mrs R Box (*Lochgilphead*)  
 Mr S Fennell (*Portree*)  
 Mrs K MacDonald (*Lochgilphead*)  
 Mr S Plant (*Portree*)  
 Mr J Tyldsley (*Strontian*)

Mr R D Beckitt (*Ardbrecknish*)  
 Mr J E Kirby (*Strontian*)  
 Mrs J Macrae (*Campbeltown*)  
 Mr R MacDonald (*Portree*)  
 Mr R Trewby (*Arran*)



## APPENDIX 2

## STATISTICS

CHARGES WITH NAMES OF CHURCHES	Rector, Priest in charge or Lay Chaplain	Persons of all ages belonging to the Congregation	Persons on Communicants' Roll (per Canon 41.1)	Total attendance Sunday next before Advent	Total income		Total expenditure	
					£	£	£	£
Oban - Cathedral of St John	Very Rev Margi Campbell	254	141	38	105,932	116,088		
Ardbrecknish - St James	Very Rev Margi Campbell	17	15	6	1,553	5,496		
Arran - St Margaret	Canon Simon Mackenzie	8	8	6	5,141	5,858		
Ballachulish - St John	Rev Amanda Fairclough	5	5	25	6,325	10,824		
Campbeltown - St Kieran	Mr David McEwan	30	19	8	33,784	29,231		
Dunoon - Holy Trinity	Rev David Railton	93	62	22	78,221	71,290		
Duror - St Adamnan	Rev Amanda Fairclough	20	18	21	8,306	8,789		
Fort William - St Andrew	Rev Alexander Guinness	60	50	29	105,909	110,362		
Glencoe - St Mary	Rev Amanda Fairclough	14	14	20	13,778	14,056	2018inc/exp	
Harris - Christ Church	Rev Canon Sr Clare	0	0	0	3,056	2,058		
Inveraray - All Saints	Rev Simon Mackenzie	2	0	13	8,806	11,767		
Iona - St Columba	Rev Joyce Watson	2	0	13	£ -	£ -		
Islay - St Columba	Mrs Lesley Barford	13	11	6	3,026	4,377	2018 inc/exp	
Kinlochleven - St Paul	Rev Amanda Fairclough	19	17	14	8,683	7,245	2016 inc/exp	
Kinlochmoidart & Strontian	Mr John Tylsdley	19	19	10	3,515	4,291		
Lochgilphead & Poltalloch	Canon Simon Mackenzie	65	37	35	60,317	88,841		
Millport - Cathedral & St Andrew's	Mr A Chisholm	38	19	14	26,780	28,304		
Mull, Gruline - St Columba	Rt Rev Kevin Pearson	27	26	15	12,463	14,896		
N Uist, Holy Cross Chapel	Rev Donald Strachan	6	5	0	£ -	£ -		
N Uist, St Brendan the Navigator	Rev Sue Newby	6	6	5	£ -	£ -		
Onich - St Bride	Rev Amanda Fairclough	6	6	45	4,818	5,758	2016 inc/exp	
Portnacrois - Holy Cross	Rev Amanda Fairclough	3	3	27	11,920	9,773	2016 inc/exp	
Portree - St Columba	Rev Rosemary Bungard	55	46	26	47,919	31,821		
Rothsay - St Paul	Rev David Railton	32	35	18	32,694	29,811		
Stornoway - St Peter	Rev Canon Peter Moger	79	57	40	67,953	51,245		
<b>TOTALS</b>		873	619	456				

## APPENDIX 3

### A PICTURE OF THE POPULATION AND ECONOMY

Argyll and The Isles occupies most of the west coast and islands of Scotland. It is the largest Scottish Episcopal Diocese; being 300 miles north to south and 150 miles east to west; however much of it is water. It is very sparsely populated, the total population being about 100,000. There are no large towns, with the major population centres being Fort William (10,500), Dunoon (9,000), Oban (8,500), Stornoway (8,000) and Campbeltown (5,000). All attract many more visitors in the summer. Over 40% live in areas classified as Remote Rural, while 30% live in Remote Small Towns (Scottish Government 6-fold Urban Rural classification).

In terms of age mix, over the next 10 years the overall population of the Diocese is expected to fall by 5.9%. In terms of age group, the current proportion of the expected population change is<sup>1</sup>:

Age	Predicted change over 10 years	Scottish age group change	%age of Diocesan total	Scottish breakdown by age
0 to 15	-17.6%	-6.0%	15.1%	16.9%
16 to 64	-10.7%	-1.3%	59.4%	64.0%
65 and over	+12.4%	+19.3%	25.5%	19.1%

Whilst the overall population of the Diocese is reasonably well-off, there are areas of significant deprivation in Argyll and The Isles (both rural and urban) and inhabitants are increasingly of pensionable age.

The University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) runs a network of learning centres in both urban and rural areas, with internationally renowned research hubs in Oban (marine research) and Skye (Gaelic).

The main economic activities are farming, tourism, public sector and whisky. These are largely seasonal activities, with a high proportion of family businesses.

Most journeys require a ferry as they have done throughout history. The road network was largely built in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century (the Wade roads). There are a few trains, but mostly we drive to Central Belt (3 hours to Edinburgh from Oban).

#### Covid-19

Statistics as of July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

The figures below indicate the relative effect on the area encompassing the Diocese compared with the whole of Scotland.

Area	Cases	Deaths involving Covid-19
Scotland	18,251	4,132
Highland Health Authority	375	114
Argyll & Bute	162	64
Western Isles	7	0

<sup>1</sup> The figures in this table are for Argyll and Bute ([https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/argyll-and-bute-council-profile.html#table\\_pop\\_proj\\_age](https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/argyll-and-bute-council-profile.html#table_pop_proj_age)) the overall percentage figures for the Diocese will not be very different.



Most of the Diocese is served by NHS Highland, which has GP services in most communities, 9 community hospitals and acute hospitals in Oban, Fort William and Inverness. Major acute services for the south of the Diocese are delivered by hospitals in Glasgow. NHS Eileanan Siar provides 9 GP practices, 2 community hospitals and an acute hospital in Stornoway. There is a high degree of integration with Social Care services, with Argyll and Bute and Western Isles managing the services through a partnership, while in the north part of NHS Highland the NHS manages social care services directly.

Whilst we have remained somewhat protected, many of our congregations are from the higher age range and estimates indicate that more than 50% plus will not be able to return to churches in the first instance, or will prefer to watch streamed services rather than cope with the diminished experience with all the attendant restrictions.

This inevitably will have an ongoing impact on our pastoral wellbeing, liturgical worship and financial position. This impact cannot currently be predicted.

Our Standing Committee continues to monitor the effects and implications for our Diocese.

At the start of Phase 2, the Re-Opening for Private Prayer, 5 out of a potential 22 churches were wishing to open for Private Prayer. More have indicated that they will open for Worship but it will be a slow and careful process.

## APPENDIX 4

### THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

For those less familiar with the SEC, full details of our structures and liturgy can be found on the Provincial website: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/>

The Scottish Episcopal Church is diverse in its tradition, outlook and culture. Such diversity enriches the Church and is expressed in warm relationships of mutual respect for one another. Firmly rooted in the life of Scotland and part of its rich history, the Scottish Episcopal Church is also deeply committed to its membership of the [world-wide Anglican Communion](#), which is a family of over 70 million Christians in more than 160 countries.

The Scottish Episcopal Church is known as a Province of the Anglican Communion. Within the Province there are seven Dioceses which cover mainland Scotland and the Islands. These are: [Aberdeen & Orkney](#); [Argyll & The Isles](#); [Brechin](#); [Edinburgh](#); [Glasgow & Galloway](#); [Moray, Ross & Caithness](#) and [St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane](#). There are over 350 Scottish Episcopal Churches across Scotland which offer a [range of liturgical worship and music](#).

**The College of Bishops** meet six times a year to support the strategic development of activities conducted by the four Boards and some of the pendant committees. One Bishop is elected as Chair who holds the title of Primus: currently our Primus is the Most Reverend Mark Strange, who is the Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness.

The Scottish Episcopal Church is governed by our **General Synod** which meets once a year for three days to discuss and vote on a range of matters and issues and to determine policy and priority for the work of the Church throughout the year.

**The Standing Committee** acts as the Executive Committee of the General Synod between meetings of the General Synod. It implements General Synod decisions, and seeks to co-ordinate the work of the General Synod's four boards. The Standing Committee works with the College of Bishops in addressing strategic issues facing the Church as a whole. It is also responsible for the oversight of the General Synod Office. Its members include the Conveners of the General Synod's four boards (including the Primus), an independent Lay Convener, a further lay member and two clerical members appointed by General Synod and a representative of the College of Bishops.

**The Administration Board** is responsible for policy relating to the administration of provincial investments and for matters relating to clergy stipends and allowances. The Board is responsible for its four pendant committees: [Investment](#), [Retirement Housing](#), [Buildings](#), and [Personnel](#).

**The Faith and Order Board** considers questions of Church government, organisation and relations with the [Anglican Communion](#) and [other churches](#). The Board is responsible for its five pendant committees: [Liturgy](#), [Inter-Church Relations](#), [Interfaith Relations](#), [Doctrine](#) and [Canons](#).

**The Institute Council** has strategic oversight of the [Scottish Episcopal Institute](#) and of the delivery of formation and training for authorised ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Church. It has a Board of Studies with responsibility for curricula.

**The Mission Board** is responsible for the strategic oversight of the Church's mission in Scotland and overseas including engagement in Scottish life and society. The Board has three pendant committees: [Church in Society](#), [Global Partnerships](#) and [Youth](#). It also oversees a number of inter-diocesan networks across a range of areas such as retreats and spirituality, mission planning, lay learning and discipleship, rural matters and children's work.

The Scottish Episcopal Church operates a non-contributory [final salary pension scheme](#) for all stipendiary clergy.







