

ST NINIAN'S CATHEDRAL PERTH



St Ninian's Cathedral

St Ninian's Cathedral
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Perth
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Registered Scottish Charity SC010656

Cathedral Profile

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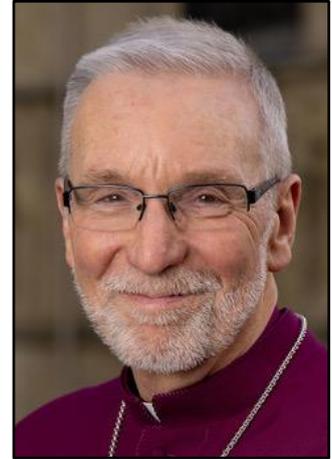
Vision for the Future

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 30th September 2023

From the Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane
The Right Reverend Ian Paton

Dear friend,

Thank you for considering whether you might be called to be the next Provost of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. I hope that you find this brief Profile helps you to reflect on what we are seeking in the new Provost, and what we are offering to support them. Whatever the outcome of your consideration proves to be for you or for us, I hope that it will be a good experience in helping you discern where the next steps in your vocation may take you.



I believe that St Ninian's Cathedral makes a distinctive contribution to this part of Scotland, and look forward to the appointment of an experienced, energetic and warm-hearted priest who will be able to combine the three roles of the Cathedral in their own ministry. As a local church, St Ninian's serves a faithful and growing congregation. As a city centre church, St Ninian's reaches out to the community of Perth. And as a cathedral church, St Ninian's serves a wide and diverse Diocese, and represents the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion to this part of Scotland.

If God is calling you to serve here, you will find a warm welcome from the clergy and people of the Diocese, a supportive ministry team and Vestry, and a committed congregation looking for pastoral leadership in worship and mission.

May God guide your reflection and discernment about this ministry, and encourage you to imagine that you might come and join us.

+ Ian Paton

The Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

The Provost also has a significant role as a colleague and senior priest in the Diocese, working closely with the Bishop and Dean, with the Chapter and clergy, and with Lay ministers and leaders.

The Diocese is one of the seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church, which is an independent province of the world-wide Anglican Communion. It has nearly fifty churches served by around thirty full-time clergy, together with many part-time, self-supporting and active retired clergy, lay readers, and other lay ministries.

The Diocese serves a diverse range of rural and urban communities from Perthshire to Fife and from Clackmannan to the Trossachs, and includes cities such as Perth and Stirling, large towns such as Pitlochry and Kirkcaldy, university centres such as St Andrews and Stirling, and many small communities in its rural areas. We have a strong identity as a Diocese, and the Cathedral is regarded as our 'mother church.' Under the Bishop, the Diocesan staff consists of the Dean (whose work is similar to that of an archdeacon), the Cathedral Provost and Chapter, the Diocesan office staff, and the members of various Diocesan boards, committees and working groups.

Our congregations are committed to ecumenical partnership and common witness whenever locally possible. Across the Diocese we have many links with the world Church, especially with Bishop Marinez Bassoto and the Diocese of Amazonia in Brazil, and with Bishop Paritosh Canning and the Diocese of Calcutta in India.

Introduction from the Cathedral Vestry

Thank you for exploring our Cathedral Profile, which we hope will offer an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to guide you as you consider whether your next ministry might be here at Perth Cathedral.

The Cathedral's Mission

Perth Cathedral is the mother church of the Diocese of St. Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane in the Scottish Episcopal Church. We strive to inspire our congregation, the local community and the wider world in the knowledge and love of God. We aim to engage all generations in the richness of the Christian faith through prayer, worship and music. We invite and welcome everyone to enjoy the beauty of the building and to encounter the faith of our community by joining us in worship.

Who We Are

We are a diverse and growing community which reflects the population of Perth and its surrounding area, and the Diocese as a whole. Some of our congregation have worshipped at the Cathedral throughout their lives but some have come to us from different countries, denominations and faith traditions. Alongside our local members a number of the congregation travel a considerable distance to attend our services. We pride ourselves on being a warm and welcoming church community, where every member is known and nurtured.

The Cathedral Chapter is established by the Statutes of the Cathedral and, as in every Episcopal Cathedral, consists of senior incumbents of the Diocese, by turn elected by the clergy or appointed by the Bishop. There are also Honorary Canons, both lay and ordained. The Chapter does not have responsibility for the governance of the Cathedral, but supports the Provost and the Cathedral, and the ministry of the Bishop.

The Cathedral Vestry is the elected council of up to 12 people, whose main tasks are to represent the congregation and, with the Provost, to provide governance of the Cathedral. The Vestry members are the Cathedral 'charity trustees', responsible for supporting the mission and ministry of the Cathedral, for authorising all spending, for the maintenance and security of the Cathedral's property, for Health and Safety and for Safeguarding. The Vestry meets once a month and a typical agenda would involve reports on finance, property, social events and eco matters.

The Cathedral is served by a ministry team of ordained and lay pastoral visitors, which includes the Provost, a Vocational Deacon, a retired Priest, a Lay Reader (who is also the Diocesan Warden of Lay Readers) and a trained and authorised team of pastoral visitors. Those working pastorally and liturgically with the Provost and ministry team include the director of music, a small team of servers who assist at the Sunday Eucharist, sacristans, readers, welcomers and intercessors.

In addition the Cathedral has a part-time manager (also the treasurer) who has responsibility for the day to day running of the Cathedral. The manager line-manages employed staff and ensures that the Cathedral is available at all times for visitors and groups. The manager is responsible for purchasing, contracts and utilities and also works with the property convener to ensure that the Cathedral is maintained in good order. The Cathedral manager works under the Provost to ensure the smooth running of the Cathedral. In the interim the manager works with the chair of the Vestry as line manager, until the new Provost is appointed.

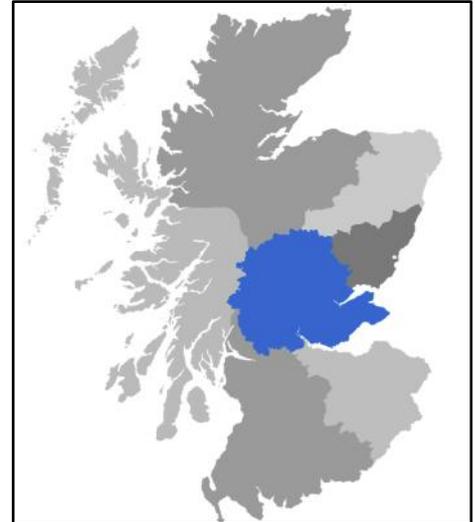
The Cathedral also has a cleaner, an administrator, who takes calls and bookings and meets and greets visitors, and a gardener who looks after the Cathedral's grounds. All of these are also members of the congregation.

The Cathedral has a fully functioning office on site, together with an office, recently refurbished, for the Provost.

Where We Are

The Diocese

St Ninian's is the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, one of the seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church. The Diocese covers most of the the counties of Fife, Perth and Kinross and Clackmannanshire, together with parts of Angus and Stirlingshire and serves a diverse range of rural and urban communities. The Cathedral is at its centre as the seat of the Bishop, the Rt Rev'd Ian Paton. The Diocesan office is near the Cathedral. One of the notable strengths of the Diocese is the warmth of its relationships, which is evident in the way so many come together at Diocesan gatherings in the Cathedral several times a year.



The City of Perth

The historic city of Perth is located on the banks of the River Tay, surrounded by beautiful countryside and within easy reach of Scotland's major cities. St Ninian's Cathedral is situated in the heart of Perth, a few minutes walk from the city centre, which is compact but has much to offer. There is a concert hall, a well-known theatre, a cinema, several hotels, many independent shops, cafés and award-winning restaurants. Perth offers employment opportunities in hospitality, insurance, the public sector and has the HQ of Stagecoach and SSE. The University of the Highlands and Islands also has a large campus in the city. Perth is served by a good number of GP surgeries, Perth Royal Infirmary and Murray Royal Hospital. There are 15 local primary schools (including St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School), five senior schools and three independent schools (one prep school and two all-age schools) The city also has a wide range of nursery provision. Easter 2024 sees the opening of a new museum which will house the Stone of Destiny and, together with the newly refurbished art gallery, will greatly enhance the city's cultural life. Perth offers many



opportunities to watch and participate in sport and outdoor activities and is within one hour of a major ski centre. The city has a swimming pool, ice rink and gym facilities. Perth is a growing city with many new-build homes on its outskirts, offering opportunities for mission and outreach.

Worship and Liturgy

The main Cathedral service on Sunday is the Sung Eucharist at 11.00am. This service of Holy Communion follows the seasonal variations of the Scottish Liturgy 1982, as revised in 2022 and using inclusive language.



Mundy Thursday vigil in the Lady Chapel

The liturgy follows a traditional pattern, with a choral setting, incense (used occasionally), and bells are rung at the Great Thanksgiving Prayer. The Clergy and Lay Reader meet regularly to plan the rota for leading worship and preaching. The Bishop also takes a great interest in the Cathedral's worship and, if possible, will attend services on feast and high days.

Currently there is a mid-week service of Holy Communion at 11am on Wednesdays and this takes place in the Lady Chapel. Until recently Morning Prayer was said at 9am, Monday to Thursday.

On the third Sunday of the month Choral Evensong is sung at 3pm. There are two carol services in December, for Advent and Christmas, and Holy Week, Easter and other festivals are celebrated. The Cathedral hosts a number of Diocesan services every year, such as Ordinations and the Chrism Mass on Mundy Thursday.

The Scottish Episcopal Church sign on all its churches, and displayed at the Cathedral's entrance, says 'All are Welcome'. This is something that is at the heart of our Cathedral mission and values. It was these values which led the Vestry to permit the celebration of same-sex marriages in the Cathedral when this was made possible by the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Pastoral Care

As in all congregations there are those who need pastoral care, particularly older or infirm members. The Ministry Team visits members of the congregation at home, in care homes or in hospital. The Lay Pastoral Visitors, currently led and supported by the Lay Reader, have all received appropriate training and are authorised by the Bishop to take Holy Communion to the sick at home or in hospital. There is considerable scope to expand the role of this team.

Currently four households receive Communion at home on a regular basis, with others requesting Communion at home occasionally.

Fellowship and Nurture

Prayer group

A small group meets regularly to pray together in the Lady Chapel and receives prayer requests from members of the congregation.

Advent and Lent discussion groups

In recent years a discussion group has met regularly each Advent and Lent. Each seasonal course has been planned and facilitated by members of the ministry team.

Music

Music has a vital part to play in our worship. The Cathedral is fortunate to possess a fine organ last restored and rebuilt in 2019. The building has a favourable acoustic, suitable for choral singing and a wide range of musical performances.

The director of music works closely with the Provost and ministry team to prepare the liturgy, music and orders of service throughout the year. The director of music serves as both organist and choirmaster, assisted by an experienced conductor and organ scholar. The choir sings a wide range of traditional and contemporary church music.



The Cathedral Choir, with the choristers of Ardvreck School, before the start of a morning service

The dedicated choir supports the Cathedral's worship. The Vestry is actively seeking ways to bring younger people into the choir by developing links with local schools, and by offering vocal training. This draws on a history of links with various schools.

The choir, which has a weekly rehearsal, is able to call on a large and varied music library. The regular Sunday Eucharist uses the St Ninian's Service composed for the Cathedral by the late Chris Tambling and settings by other composers are also used. Choral Evensong follows the liturgy of the Scottish Prayer Book. The members of the Choir are available to sing at weddings and funerals, and to make occasional visits to churches within the Diocese.

The Cathedral is able to provide a well equipped and welcoming space for visiting musicians and concert performances of all types. As well as acting as a venue during the Perth Festival of the Arts, the Cathedral has always been pleased to welcome visiting choirs and organists.

Congregational Life

As a Cathedral community we have regular social events, such as a Christmas lunch and a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party. We celebrate significant birthdays and anniversaries in the lives of our



Shrove Tuesday 2024 pancake party in the Chapter House

members. Groups from the congregation enjoy social meetings, cultural evenings and trips to places such as Pitlochry Theatre.

Eco Congregation

The Cathedral has had an Eco Group for many years and is proud to have received two awards from Eco Congregation Scotland. We have good links with other Eco congregations in and around Perth and work together whenever we can. Environmental awareness and action are important and the Eco Group, with the Ministry Team, creates opportunities to focus on caring for God's creation and sustainable living. The current priority is tackling our carbon footprint. Full use is made of a new indoor recycling area, while outside our garden flourishes with a variety of flora and fauna. Going forward the children from St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School intend to make good use of our wildlife garden and the raised beds built for them.

The Cathedral in the Community

St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School

St Ninians Primary School is one of three Episcopal schools in Scotland. It has a current capacity of 75 primary-age pupils plus 16 in the nursery. Currently our Vocational Deacon is serving as the school's Chaplain. The school uses the Cathedral and garden for a variety of educational needs and they are encouraged to see our premises as an extension of the school. End of term services are held at the Cathedral and the Chaplain leads assemblies regularly.

Charitable outreach

Collections and targeted fundraising activities regularly support local, national and international charities. This year we have supported the Disasters Emergency Committee's appeals, Perth Food Bank, St Ninian's School, Tayside and Strathearn Help for Ukraine, Blythswood Care, the Mission to Seafarers and Christian Aid, this last often in close collaboration with St John the Baptist, our sister

church in Princes Street. The Cathedral congregation also supports the Bishop's Lent Appeal each year. Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Service (PKAVS), the voluntary service hub adjacent to the Cathedral, benefits from considerable Cathedral support. A number of other local organisations including a weekly toddler group have free use of our rooms.

Warm spaces

Our most recent community project began in late 2022 in response to the cost of living crisis when we held a twice-weekly 'Warm Space' providing food, drinks and companionship for all. This winter the project has been up and running again one day a week and we are very pleased to have had the support of Perth and Kinross Council and also of the community action section of our local Fire Service.

Social media and website

The Cathedral has an active website and Facebook presence, which are regularly updated, to promote services and activities within the Cathedral. Our monthly Cathedral magazine is available both online and in print.



Our 'warm space' volunteers have provided hot drinks and lunches to the Perth people over the past two winters

Ecumenical relations

In the city of Perth we have links with our sister Episcopal Church of St John the Baptist and often hold joint events for Christian Aid Week and at other times. We are also members of the local ecumenical network, Perth Action of Churches Together (PACT) for which we have two representatives, our Lay Reader and a member of the Vestry. PACT brings together all the different churches and sub-groups meet to discuss opportunities for ecumenical partnership and church-wide city projects, such as the Lantern Parade and the annual PACT carol service.

Tourism

The Cathedral is a 3-star historic attraction visited by a growing number of tourists. We aim to keep our doors open and extend a warm welcome to everyone on weekday mornings throughout the year. Our visitors come from far and wide. Some are interested in our history or architecture while others are looking for a moment of quiet. Our staff and volunteers greatly enjoy meeting them all and showing some of the special features of St Ninian's. Keeping the building open for longer hours during the summer is becoming increasingly important, and in summer 2023 we added two afternoons a week to our regular opening times.

Guided by the VisitScotland inspection reports we are working through a range of projects to improve the visitor experience. An enhanced virtual reality tour has been added to the Cathedral website, a number of information panels installed at the entrance, display cases for items of special interest set up, printed guides translated into various languages and a new Children's Explorer Quiz created. Improving the accessibility of our website and the variety and scope of our interpretative



Doors Open Day 2023. The Choir sings while visitors admire some of our 'treasures'

material are goals for the next phase.

For many years now we have also participated in Scotland's Doors Open Weekend in September. This brings in many people and gives us an opportunity to welcome visitors to the Cathedral, showcase its music and display some of its treasures.

Buildings and Properties

Perth Cathedral - the building

Perth Cathedral is noteworthy for being the first new Anglican Cathedral to have been built in Britain since the Reformation. It was dedicated to St Ninian, the first apostle of Scotland. The consecration of St Ninian's in 1850 signalled the revival of the Scottish Episcopal Church (after a period of suppression), contemporary with the Oxford Movement in the Anglican Communion. Bishop Patrick Torry, with the support of the Earl of Glasgow and Lord Forbes, chose the prominent architect William Butterfield to design the new Cathedral in the Gothic Revival style. The eastern part of the building having been completed in 1850, the nave was extended in the 1890s, with the Cloister, Chapter House and Lady Chapel added in the first decade of the 20th century.

The Cathedral has fine stained glass. It also has a garden facing onto North Methven Street, one of very few publicly accessible green spaces in the city centre.

The Cathedral is a Category 'A' listed building and, as such, is of national significance.

Fabric and maintenance

The Cathedral underwent a large-scale restoration in the mid 2010s. This was a result of the last Quinquennial Review highlighting key concerns with internal damp and leaks. A significant amount of external roof and lead work replacement was undertaken and most of the plaster work on the walls

was removed and replaced. Redecoration was carried out and completed in 2018.

The next Quinquennial Review is underway and should be available in spring 2024. This is likely to highlight further requirements for the conservation and restoration of the external stonework and windows, including the stained glass windows. Fundraising will be required to enable these works to be undertaken and to ensure the Cathedral building is fit for the future.

The Vestry is currently exploring opportunities to comply with the Scottish Episcopal Church's objective of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030. Plans for this include installation of solar panels and further consideration of our heating and hot water systems, as well as the installation of an EV charging point in the car park.

The Gateway building

Adjoining the Cathedral is the original St Ninian's Primary School. During the late 1970s the school was relocated and the school buildings were repurposed to provide office accommodation for PKAVS. There is a long-lease agreement for this building to be used as offices by PKAVS.

The Provost's house

The Provost's house is a Victorian semi-detached villa close to the city centre. In line with the Scottish Episcopal Church ambitions to meet Net Zero, the Vestry has decided to sell this property and to purchase a modern fuel-efficient house within the environs of Perth and complying with the Scottish Episcopal Church's guidelines for clergy housing. Depending on the timing of the sale there may be the opportunity for the new Provost to be involved in the choice of the new property.

The Curate's flat and Diocesan offices

In addition to the above properties, the Vestry also manages another property in Balhousie Street which is a semi-detached Victorian villa and which has been divided into two flats. On the upper two floors is a domestic flat, currently let out on a long-term private lease. Previously this accommodation has been used to house a Curate. With changes in Scottish Government legislation on private rental properties and the Scottish Episcopal Church drive towards Net Zero it is likely that there will be a need for future investment to reduce reliance on fossil fuel heating in this property.

Downstairs is self-contained office accommodation currently let to the Diocese for use as the Diocesan Office. This lease is currently overdue a review.

Finance

The Cathedral's finances are sound and, thanks to prudent investments by previous Vestries, the Cathedral is meeting its financial commitments. Our congregation generously responds to appeals to increase giving and to donate for specific purposes.

The current Congregational Roll is around 240, of whom 220 are also on the Communicants' Roll. There are 53 members of the congregation who donate regularly through a giving scheme. However, major expenditure outwith normal expectations, such as the continued restoration of the building, will require significant fundraising.

A copy of the latest financial statement, to 30 September 2023, can be found towards the end of this Profile.

Vision for the Future

Bishop Ian Paton, our Interim Pastor, together with Dean Graham Taylor, has encouraged the Vestry to use the period of vacancy to focus on the Cathedral's present and future mission and ministry.

With the help of our facilitators, Canon Christine Fraser and Mr Brendan Grimley, the Vestry has devised a five-year plan for sustaining and developing the Cathedral and its congregation. The principal goals are:

Supporting and guiding our new Provost

We will help our new Provost to settle happily and get to know the Cathedral and our congregation. We will help them to form good working relationships with all members of the Cathedral staff.

Growing and nurturing our congregation

With particular focus on families and young people, we would like to grow our congregation and develop our provision so that the needs of everyone are fully met. As part of our mission and ministry we will maintain our outreach programme, including our charitable fundraising. We aim to further develop our links with St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School as well as other schools in the area. We will continue to provide opportunities for the congregation to meet socially and to celebrate special occasions in their lives and in the Church's calendar. The congregation will continue to receive pastoral care from both the clergy and, informally, from one another. We hope to encourage more volunteers from within the congregation to share their skills and talents to support the life of the Cathedral.

Continuing our journey towards Net Zero

The congregation will continue to sustain and support fully the measures undertaken by our Eco group. We intend to reduce the Cathedral's energy costs and carbon emissions by the installation of solar panels, and will implement other measures designed to help us move towards Net Zero.

Maximising the potential of our Cathedral building

The Cathedral already attracts tourists and is well placed to benefit from the interest generated by the opening of the new Perth Museum. We aim to develop closer links with the tourist office, the



A Diocesan event with Bishop Ian in 2022

museum and The Black Watch Museum to enhance our offering to visitors by updating and adding displays. We hope to encourage greater use of the building locally, for school events, meetings, concerts and other cultural events. Tourism and the use of our spaces by local groups, will provide some income, which is vital in helping us meet the costs of maintaining the fabric of an old building.

As part of the Cathedral's aim to be an outward-looking church, the Vestry is also considering the feasibility of live-streaming services and concert performances to a wider audience.

The Cathedral will continue to fulfil its three roles: the church for our local Episcopal congregation, a central church for the city of Perth, and the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. Worship, other activities, and events, will continue to serve one or more of these three roles.

Extract from the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements

St Ninian's Cathedral

known as Perth Cathedral

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 September 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	76,659	3,900	80,559	73,899
Fundraising for specific events	3	455	10	465	407
Investment income	4	12,854	858	13,712	11,238
Other income	5	40,262	-	40,262	50,135
Total Income		<u>130,230</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>134,998</u>	<u>135,679</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	(8,398)	(9,278)	(17,676)	(17,872)
Charitable activities	7, 9	(72,437)	-	(72,437)	(71,811)
Other expenditure	8	<u>(71,241)</u>	<u>(2,207)</u>	<u>(73,448)</u>	<u>(60,740)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(152,076)</u>	<u>(11,485)</u>	<u>(163,561)</u>	<u>(150,423)</u>
(Losses)/gains on investment assets		<u>21,830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,830</u>	<u>(91,356)</u>
Other recognised gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		(16)	(6,717)	(6,733)	(106,100)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>353,661</u>	<u>142,183</u>	<u>495,844</u>	<u>601,944</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u>353,645</u>	<u>135,466</u>	<u>489,111</u>	<u>495,844</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.



Exterior view of the Cathedral



Cathedral interior