



A Big Thanks, a Request and an Invitation

in relation to the

Scottish Episcopal Institute Summer School



Over the last few years congregations and individuals in our Church have provided resources to help support the training of the next generation of ordained and licensed leaders. This support has been greatly appreciated by the Scottish Episcopal Institute, which is responsible for the training, and by the students themselves. As a result we now have a larger and younger cohort in training than for many years, including six from this Diocese.

The formation of the Scottish Episcopal Institute a few years ago signalled a change in the focus of training with a greater emphasis on formation than hitherto. Each year the Institute holds a Summer School for students. In the past this focus of Summer School has been teaching but now with the change in emphasis, Summer School is more reflective and it was agreed that it might be more appropriate to locate it in a one Diocese in alternate years.

Moray, Ross and Caithness was selected for the first such Summer School and so all the SEI students will be with us in Moray, Ross and Caithness from 9th-15th July 2017. In the first half of the week, the students will be in groups of three staying in charges around the Diocese, reflecting with their hosts on the challenges and opportunities for ministry in the areas where they are. In the second half, they will be on silent retreat at Pluscarden Abbey and The Coach House at Kilmuir.

Our request to you is simple, that all congregations pray for the students, their hosts, the retreat leaders and all those involved in organising and delivering Summer School in the week beforehand (2-8 July) and in the week that it is happening (9-15 July).

However we would also like to issue an invitation. In recognition of the support that congregations and individuals are giving, and have given, to training our new leaders in the Church, the Valedictory Service at the end of the week, on Saturday 15th July at 11:30am in Inverness Cathedral, is open to everyone. This will provide an opportunity to worship together, to celebrate with the students and staff and to affirm those who have finished their course and are about to take up ministry in our Church. After the service, the SEI is holding a buffet and drinks reception in the Old Boys School to say thank you and provide an opportunity for you to meet and talk with those in training, find out more about them and appreciate just how blessed we all are in the quality of those coming forward for training as our future leaders.

If you intend to come join the drinks reception and buffet, please let Gail Sanderson know via email (diocesansecretary@moray.anglican.org) or through the Diocesan Office (01463 237503) by 30th June at the latest so that we can cater accordingly.

Blessings

+Mark

Rev Anne Tomlinson

Rev Sarah Murray

Rev James Curral