



# *Edinburgh Interfaith Week*

27th November to 4th December 2011

*'Bringing people Together'*



Edinburgh  
Inter-Faith  
Association

## *The Inter-Faith Golden Rule:*

*“Try to understand  
the other’s faith as you  
would like your faith  
to be understood.”*



*Dear Friends,*



*The **Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association** with the support of the Scottish Government and the City of Edinburgh Council are proud to offer this programme of dialogues, encounters and engagements to celebrate Inter-Faith Week 2011 in Edinburgh.*

*Most of the events are free of charge and we thank everyone who has contributed their time and effort to make these events happen. Our work and intention is to bring people together to strengthen or make new friendships and build beneficial lasting relationships. A special thanks to those who consistently stretch out an open hand of friendship and kindness to others.*

*Celebrating diversity is at the heart of this programme. We believe that tolerating the beliefs and traditions of others is not enough. We seek to build respect, understanding, and cooperation and believe it is important to celebrate the diversity around us if we want to live in a genuinely harmonious and peaceful society.*

*We hope Inter-Faith Week will act as a springboard for you to build relationships across the community. We all need to play our part if we want to maintain and develop a culture of respect, understanding, friendship, cooperation and peace in our city and beyond.*

**Rev Donald Reid and Rabbi David Rose**

Co-Conveners of EIFA

**25th November to 27th November**

*Three Faiths, Three Friends  
Synagogue, Church and Mosque*



*In the build-up to Edinburgh Inter-Faith Week, three unique events will occur across the city as three faith communities extend to one another the hand of friendship:*

#### **Friday 25th November**

The Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland the Right Rev David Arnott will attend Friday prayers at Annandale Mosque, accompanied by Rabbi David Rose from the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation.

#### **Saturday 26th November**

Representatives from the Church of Scotland and Annandale Mosque will then attend the service at the Synagogue.

#### **Sunday 27th November**

The weekend will conclude with the faiths again coming together at St Andrews and St Georges West Church for the Sunday service.

This is a milestone in Inter-Faith Relations as each community looks to extend the hand of friendship, acknowledge many of their shared beliefs and look to find ways that they can work together for the good of society.



**Friday 25th November – 7.00pm - 8.00pm**

*Meet your Jewish Neighbour*

**OPEN DOORS SERVICE, COLUMCILLE CENTRE, 2 NEWBATTLE TERRACE**

Sukkat Shalom, the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community, invites visitors to their Friday evening service to welcome Shabbat. Led by Rabbi Mark Solomon, the service will be followed by kiddush (wine, bread and cakes) and a chance to chat informally with members of the community. All welcome.

Further details about our community via  
[www.eljc.org](http://www.eljc.org)

**Sunday 27th November – 4.00pm - 5.00pm**

## ***Nativity Carol Concert***

**ST ANDREW'S SQUARE GARDENS**

In celebration of Advent Sunday, the traditional Nativity Carol Concert will take place beside the Nativity Scene in St Andrew Square Gardens and, as always, everyone is welcome!

Cardinal Keith O'Brien and other religious leaders will be present, with contributions from Exile Band and Gospel Choir accompanied by St Peter's RC Primary Choir.

Visitors can take time to stand and think about the meaning of Christmas while contemplating Tim Chalk's thought-provoking sculpture.

Edinburgh's Christmas would like to extend special thanks to Sir Tom and Lady Farmer for the donation of the Nativity Scene.



**EDINBURGH'S  
CHRISTMAS**

[edinburghchristmas.com](http://edinburghchristmas.com)

**Sunday 27th November– 5.00pm - 7.00pm**

***Gospel Service with the Gypsy/Traveller Community***

**LIGHT AND LIFE MISSION CHURCH, PEFFERMILL BUSINESS CENTRE,  
CRAIGMILLAR**

An open service with gospel singing for people of all faiths and beliefs to learn more about the Light and Life Mission, a Gypsy/Traveller church led by Pastor Alister Fowler. Followed by refreshments and a chance to meet the community.



**Sunday 27th November– 7.00pm - 9.00pm**

£3 (£2 students)

***Open lecture: Star of Redemption***

**THE MARIAN OPPENHEIM HALL, 4 SALISBURY ROAD**

The Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society presents a reading of Franz Rosenzweig's *Star of Redemption*, one of the most influential Jewish works of theology of the twentieth century, with an eye to our own time. All welcome!

Please contact [info@ejls.org](mailto:info@ejls.org) for more information.

**Monday 28th November– 9.30am - 12.30pm**

*Conference of Edinburgh's Religious Leaders*

**CITY CHAMBERS BY INVITATION ONLY**

Some 30 of the city's religious leaders and faith community representatives will gather at the City Chambers for their annual conference. Representatives of the Scottish Government, City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, Lothian and Borders Police will also participate.

This conference is the most religiously diverse meeting in Scotland.




**Tuesday 29th November– 12.15pm - 2.00pm**  
**(with built-in flexi-time)**

*Mindfulness at Lunchtime*

**ST MARKS UNITARIAN CHURCH, CASTLE TERRACE**

Run jointly by Unitarians and the Community of Interbeing, this practice of mindfulness includes: guided sitting meditation, walking meditation and enjoying our lunch together in silence and returning to the world refreshed! Mindfulness is gently bringing our attention to the present moment, invoking our inherent capacity for healing and renewal. Please bring your own lunch.

For more details, contact Jon Bagust at [bagust.chang@virgin.net](mailto:bagust.chang@virgin.net)

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a dark, possibly black, robe. They are holding a brass bell with both hands, positioned in front of their chest. The bell has intricate carvings and a small knob on top. The background is a plain, light color.

**Tuesday 29th November**  
**2.00pm - 4.00pm**

***Meet Your Buddhist Neighbour***

OPEN AFTERNOON AT  
PORTOBELLO BUDDHIST PRIORY,  
27 BRIGHTON PLACE

An opportunity to learn about the Soto Zen (Serene Reflection) tradition of Buddhism. Come and share a cup of tea and conversation at the Priory of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives in Portobello. All are welcome.

For information, and directions, please visit [www.portobellobuddhist.org.uk](http://www.portobellobuddhist.org.uk)



**Tuesday 29th November – 5.00pm - 7.00pm**

***The Spiritual in Architecture***

**BAHA'I CENTRE, 44 ALBANY STREET, EDINBURGH**

Five eminent architectural historians and practitioners come together for this public talk on the relationship between the spiritual and architecture. There will be a discussion followed by a Reception hosted by the Baha'i Centre.

*To book, please email:*  
[mark@oliverchapmanarchitects.com](mailto:mark@oliverchapmanarchitects.com)

*Organised by Mark Cousins, Oliver Chapman Architects*

**Tuesday 29th November– 6.00pm**

***In Conversation on 'Faith & Work'***


**Rt Rev. Bishop Brian Smith and Charlie Miller**

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND, GEORGE IV BRIDGE**



The Right Reverend Bishop Brian Smith, former Bishop of Edinburgh, will chair a conversation with successful city hairdresser, Charlie Miller, on how his beliefs and values influence his working life and business.

Charlie Miller has been deeply influenced by Christianity and Buddhism as well as new thought on integral spirituality and integral living. Charlie Miller refers to himself as a 'spiritual nomad' and this conversation will explore the influences on him and how they shape his life and work.



**Wednesday 30th November**  
**7.00pm - 9.00pm**

***Meet Your Pagan Neighbour***

**ST MARK'S UNITARIAN CHURCH, CASTLE TERRACE**

An introduction to Paganism, with guest speaker, John Macintyre, from the Pagan Federation (Scotland). The talk will be followed by a Q&A session and musical storytelling session, 'How Beira Created The Mountains: a Pagan creation myth', with harpist and storyteller, Claire Hewitt.

**Thursday 1st December – 7.30pm - 8.30pm £3 (£2 conc.)**

***World Aids Day***

**COLINTON PARISH CHURCH, DELL ROAD**

An evening of music and reflection to mark World Aids Day:  
With contributions from Firrhill High School's Vocal  
Academy and other local musicians.

All proceeds to Milestone House,  
Oxgangs (caring for people with HIV/Aids).

Tickets can be bought on the door or by  
phoning the church office on 0131 441 2232.

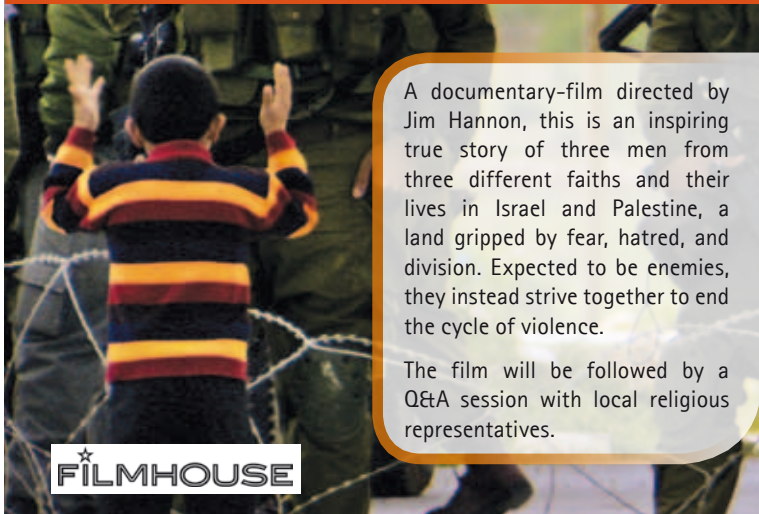


Thursday 1st December- 6.00pm - 8.00pm



*Film: Little Town of Bethlehem* £7.50/£5.50 (conc.)

FILMHOUSE CINEMA, LOTHIAN ROAD



A documentary-film directed by Jim Hannon, this is an inspiring true story of three men from three different faiths and their lives in Israel and Palestine, a land gripped by fear, hatred, and division. Expected to be enemies, they instead strive together to end the cycle of violence.

The film will be followed by a Q&A session with local religious representatives.

FILMHOUSE

Further info and trailer at: [www.littletownofbethlehem.org](http://www.littletownofbethlehem.org)

Tickets from [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com) or 0131 228 2688

**Thursday 1st December- 6.00pm - 7.00pm**

***'The Edinburgh Nativity'***

FESTIVAL SQUARE, LOTHIAN ROAD

(Note: if bad weather, will be in St Cuthbert's Church, Lothian Road)

Traditional nativity story by Rob Drummond, with a contemporary perspective, this play is performed with kind permission of the Edinburgh City Council and BBC Big Screens.

*Supported by the  
Business Matters Trust,  
Edinburgh City Churches  
Together, OASIS and  
Work Place Chaplaincy  
Scotland.*



**Saturday 3rd December- 2.00pm - 4.00pm**

***Meet Your Hindu Neighbour***

**OPEN DAY - HINDU MANDIR TEMPLE, ST ANDREW'S PLACE, LEITH**

An opportunity to meet people from the Hindu community,  
ask questions and visit the Edinburgh temple.  
People from all faiths and beliefs welcome!

More information about the Hindu community can be found at  
[www.edinburghhindumandir.org.uk](http://www.edinburghhindumandir.org.uk).



**Saturday 3rd December at 6pm-8.00pm £6.20**

***INTER-FAITH WEEK COMMUNITY MEAL***

**LAURISTON JESUIT CENTRE, LAURISTON STREET**

**mary's  
meals**

a simple solution  
to world hunger

*In aid of Mary's Meals*

Share food with old friends and new at the EIFA Community Meal, with all proceeds going to the Scottish-based charity, Mary's Meals.

Mary's Meals now feed 900,000 children every day in 15 countries. On the occasion of the 2011 Inter-Faith Week, we would like to make a difference to the lives of children in Africa. Normally, our monthly Community Meal is free or by donation, however on this occasion a ticket is £6.20. It is hard to believe that this £6.20 will feed a child for a whole year through the great works of Mary's Meals. Tickets available now in advance from Hub Tickets 0131 4732000 (A booking charge of 50p will apply) and [www.hubtickets.co.uk](http://www.hubtickets.co.uk)

For more information on Mary's Meals, visit [www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org)

*Thanks to the Lauriston Jesuit Centre for hosting us and freely giving their venue*



**Sunday 4th December- 11am - 12pm**

***Meet Your Unitarian Neighbour***

**AN INTER-FAITH SERVICE AT  
ST MARK'S UNITARIAN CHURCH, CASTLE TERRACE**

*The seed  
needs the earth,  
the shoot  
needs the rain,  
the flower  
needs the light,  
nothing lives  
unto itself alone;  
everything is connected.*



The Edinburgh Unitarians welcome people of all faiths and none to their Sunday Service of Worship. Led by Reverend Maud Robinson, this service will have a special inter-faith theme. All welcome.

**Sunday 4th December, 2.00pm - 5.00pm £7.50/£5.50 (conc.)**

***Into Great Silence (Die Große Stille)***

**FILMHOUSE CINEMA, LOTHIAN ROAD**

A documentary-film directed by Philip Gröning, it is the intimate portrayal of the everyday lives of Carthusian monks of the Grande Chartreuse, high in the French Alps. Gröning came alone to live in the monastery, where visitors are not normally allowed, to make this film. It has neither commentary nor sound effects added, consisting only of images and sounds of the rhythm of monastic life.

 **FILMHOUSE**

The film will be followed by a Q&A session with local religious representatives.

Further information via: [www.diegrossestille.de/english](http://www.diegrossestille.de/english)

Tickets available at [www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com) or 0131 228 2688

**Sunday 4th December at 6pm-8.30pm**

*by donation*

## ***MULTI-FAITH BIG QUIZ NIGHT***

**THE MOSQUE KITCHEN, NICOLSON SQUARE**



To round up Inter-faith Week 2011, we invite you to flex your grey matter once again and show us how much you know about the world's great faith traditions. And this year, the Big Quiz is even bigger, with as much curry as you can eat and a chance to win some fantastic prizes.

You can enter as a team or as an individual to join a team. Remember, the more diverse your team is, the greater the chance you have of winning! It is of course not the winning that counts, it's the taking part!

Please contact Vicky on 07877 834202 or email [vicky@ifa.org.uk](mailto:vicky@ifa.org.uk) to register.

*With thanks to The Mosque Kitchen for hosting this event, and to the Filmhouse Cinema and the Punjab 'n De Rasoi Cafe for donating prizes.*

## *The Human Library Project*

This is a one-on-one project initiated by Nasim, an Edinburgh Muslim who, with the help of the Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association, 'borrowed' Melissa, from the Jewish tradition for the day. Inspired by the Human Library Project ([www.humanlibrary.org](http://www.humanlibrary.org)), the two women were able to discuss their beliefs informally and get to know one another on a personal level and in a spirit of mutual respect for one another.



To find out how you could get involved,  
call Vicky on 07877 834202 or email [Vicky@eifa.org.uk](mailto:Vicky@eifa.org.uk)

## OTHER EVENTS

**Monday 5th December- 6.30pm - 8.00pm**

***LIGHT A LIGHT- St Columba's Hospice***

**CHARLOTTE SQUARE GARDENS AND  
ST JOHN'S CHURCH, PRINCES STREET**

The lights on the Tree of Remembrance will be lit in Charlotte Square Gardens, followed by a Service of Remembrance at St John's Church, Princes Street.

To Light a Light on the Columba's Tree of Remembrance, visit our website:

[www.stcolumbashospice.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbashospice.org.uk)  
or call 0131 5511381.

St Columba's Hospice is an independent local charity.  
Scottish Charity No. SC003634



**Tuesday 6th December - 1.50pm - 3.50pm**

***SCHOOL EVENT***

***Multi Faith 'Big Question Time'***

**CRAIGROYSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL**

A panel of representatives from faith and belief communities in Edinburgh will address a series of questions from school pupils on a range of topics and issues of the day.

## ***Educational School Visits by Religious Leaders***

A number of Edinburgh's religious leaders and faith community representatives will visit schools in Edinburgh and the Lothians. They will deliver short educational presentations to assist understanding of the world's religions and the diversity of belief and practices. They will also engage in question and answer sessions on their respective faith traditions, as well as challenging local and global matters of concern.

For schools who would like to take up these opportunities, please email Vicky at the Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association on [vicky@eifa.org.uk](mailto:vicky@eifa.org.uk).

# A MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR PEACE

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*We encourage you to take just-a-minute  
from your busy life to reflect on your own peace  
as a contribution to peace in the world  
inner world peace \* outer world peace*

*DAILY \* EVERYWHERE \* FREE*