



Bishop's House  
Corran Esplanade  
Oban PA34 5AB

13<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to be sending you greetings from the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, my own greetings and those of the Scottish Catholic Bishops for the festival of Guru Nanak Prakash Diwas which you will be celebrating this week.

The traditional letter from the Pontifical Council tells us that "Our interconnectedness with nature and our interdependence on one another as humans make us realize more and more that caring for one another and for the environment is very important for our survival and sustenance". Living here in Scotland we have been very aware of this over the past two weeks. The involvement of the interfaith community at events such as the multifaith vigil in George Square on the day COP 26 started and the religion and belief bloc at the march last Saturday has shown how faith communities are united in their concern for the future of our common home. Facing these problems together is a powerful witness to others and a continuing source of support as we, each in our own way, try to make our world a greener and healthier environment. Your community has been very visible in this movement and the work of EcoSikhs in taking up the task of reforestation and the conservation of biodiversity by planting Guru Nanak Sacred Forests in India and elsewhere is an inspiration to us all.

I can do no better than pray in the words of the Pontifical Council that as COP comes to an end "we, Christians and Sikhs, individually and as a community, and together with the people of other religious traditions and persons of good will, do all that we can to take care of one another, of our common home and of the entire created order".

With good wishes to you all and once again wishing you a happy and joyful festival of Guru Nanak Prakash Diwas

Yours sincerely

+ Brian McGee

+ Brian McGee, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles

President of the Bishops' Committee for Interreligious Dialogue