

## **The St. Margaret Declaration of Friendship**

The St. Margaret Declaration of Friendship proposed by the BCOS and the Church of Scotland was approved at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022. During the Assembly one of the attendees proposed that the Declaration of Friendship be named the St Margaret Declaration, a proposal that was warmly accepted and approved by very large majority.

Archbishop Cushley has also sent a professional report to Cardinal Kurt Koch, Prefect of the Dicastry for Christian Unity, detailing the formation and outcome of the St Margaret Declaration

The St Margaret Declaration of Friendship between the Church of Scotland and the Catholic Church in Scotland will be celebrated at Dunfermline Abbey on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

The Church of Scotland has endorsed the following programme:

- Signing of the St Margaret Declaration of Friendship,
- Creation of a "Theology of Friendship",
- Creation of a Contact Group
- A review of the Joint Commission of Doctrine.

The final version of the Declaration will be shared on 16<sup>th</sup> November. It will be read aloud during the service by:

Rev. Dr. John L. McPake, Ecumenical Officer, Church of Scotland

Ms. Miriam Weibye, Ecumenical Officer Scottish Episcopal Church

Mgr. Philip Kerr, Catholic Church in Scotland

Mrs. Mary Welsh, Ecumenical Officer, Catholic Church in Scotland

Rev. Sandy Horsburgh, Former Convener, Ecumenical Relations Committee, Church of Scotland

+His Grace, Archbishop. Cushley will offer a homily during the service.