

			
(1 st in month) Sunday, 02/07/2023 Pentecost 5	08.00	1970 Holy Communion (Church)	
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Note: Godly Play is taking a summer break, but there will be activity bags etc available each week; please ask.
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday 03/07/2023,	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	10.30-17.30	UCI Groups (Hall)	
Tuesday, 04/07/2023	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 05/07/2023	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
Thursday, 06/07/2023	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 07/07/2023	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	Closed today. Open again on Monday
Saturday, 08/07/2023	14.00-16.00	Strawberry Tea (Hall; access to Rectory Garden, if weather permits)	All welcome; sign up sheet at back of church (to give an idea of numbers); also offers of help. Rector anxious to point out that the Rectory Garden may not be up to the standard of Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh!
(2 nd in month) Sunday, 09/07/2023	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org , *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter

And, as always, if you need us, you can contact

- The Rector on 01387 254126 / 07487 653069 / rector@stjohnsdumfries.org
- The Church Office on 07754 596140 / pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org

Strawberry Tea: Sat 8th July: 2.00-4.00 pm in the Church Hall. Access to the Rectory Garden if weather permits. If anyone can help on the day and/or provide baking (tray bakes or cakes) it would be appreciated. Raffle prizes likewise would be welcome. Please speak to Annette, Gill or Kalpana. Sign-up at back of church (to give an idea of numbers).

MU is hosting a **Cook and Taste India** event on **Saturday 30 September 2023** at 2.30pm in the Hall. Getsy has very kindly agreed to cook around 5 different dishes, mostly vegetarian, with one chicken dish, along with her famous pakoras. There will be 50 tickets for sale at £6 pp, and those attending will be able to enjoy a real taste of India.

After expenses, money raised will go to MU funds, with a donation being made to AFIA (Away From It All) a holiday project for families, which is supported by the Diocese and St John's MU. Tickets will be made available in August, but meanwhile, **please save the date!**

Outings:

The next outing, for which the bus has been provisionally booked, is **Thursday, 13/07/2023**. No decision has yet been made as to what the destination will be. Current suggestions are Botanical Gardens somewhere (Port Logan, Edinburgh, Dawyck...?), Dumfries House, Glasgow again (to do the things we didn't get round to last Saturday!) but if you have somewhere you'd particularly like to go, please talk to David or Kalpana and we'll see what can be done. You will be pleased to note that we have the 'proper' Thornhill bus back now!

Should St John's be a venue for same sex marriage?

Many thanks to all who joined us on Sunday 25th June in the hall to discuss whether St John's should be a venue for same sex marriages. A good number of the congregation participated in the table-top discussions and it was a productive and helpful meeting. A Vestry member was at each table taking notes and these notes have now been circulated to the Vestry and were discussed on Tuesday 27th June at the vestry meeting. The Vestry has now a few days to pray and deliberate on what has been discussed and they will vote on Sunday 9th July in the Rectory at 10:15am. An independent person, John Brown, from the worshipping community at the Crichton Church, will come

and count the votes on that day and will receive, if required, any vote from a vestry member, who is away on the 9th July. All elected Vestry members are entitled to vote. There would be no casting vote. If the vote is even, the status quo would prevail and the matter would not be considered again for at least 3 years. If the vote is in favour of same sex marriages being conducted in the church building, the Bishop will be notified and there is a procedure which will have to be followed. The result of the vestry vote will be announced at the end of the church service on the 9th July.

Dates for your Diary:

- Saturday, 08/07/2023: Strawberry Tea }
- Summer Holiday Club: For children in Primaries 1-7: Themed on Disney's The Lion King: Monday, 07/08/2023 – Friday, 11/08/2023. NO CHARGE. Details: ask Rector, or see posters }
- Friday, 06/10/2023: Beetle Drive }
- Friday, 19/01/2024: Burns Supper }
- Thursday, 14/03/2024 Pamper Session }
- Saturday, 16/03/2024 Men's Breakfast }



Grace on the Wireless...

You may be interested to know that the Rev Grace Siromony recently led the service on BBC Radio Scotland's *New Every Sunday*, and which is available, for a limited time, on BBC Sounds:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001n7f8>