









St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 25/02/2024

			
(4th in month) Sunday, 25/02/2024 Lent 2	09.15	Sunday Worship: Crichton Memorial Church	Crichton Campus, Dumfries DG1 4ZZ
	09.30	Holy Communion @ Maxwelton Chapel	Just off B729 between Wallaceton & Moniaive. DG3 4DX
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Ministry of Healing available during service. Listen for announcement.
	18.00	Contemporary Worship (Church)	
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 26/02/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	10.30-17.30	UCI Groups (Hall)	
	18.30-22.00	Bridge Club (Hall)	
	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Sensing Spirituality/Glimmers of Light in Daily Life.</i> [Face to face]	More details on the Quartz page on the St J's website, or speak to Simon or Kate Lidwell
Tuesday, 27/02/2024	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up; LAST ONE UNTIL SEPTEMBER!
	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Magnificent Jesus</i> (St J's Meeting Room)	Contact David Kerr (07754 596140) for details. All welcome (Not meeting this week; resumes next)
Wednesday, 28/02/2024	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 29/02/2024	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Lent in Plain Sight</i> (Rectory)	Contact Janice 07487 653069 for details.
	11.00	Practice for World Day of Prayer (Church)	
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 01/03/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	10:45-12.00	World Day of Prayer (Church)	See info below. All welcome
	12.00-13.30	Lent Lunches (Hall)	
	14.00 [Note later time]	Lent Group: <i>A Way Through the Wilderness</i> [Face to face]	Meets in the Church; contact Steven Ballard for details. All welcome. Reverts to 11.00 next week

			
Saturday, 02/03/2024	09.30	Silent Prayer @ Elshieshields	See info below
(1 st in month) Sunday, 03/03/2024 Lent 3	08.00	1970 Holy Communion (Church)	
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	
	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

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

The Service for the World Day of Prayer is this Friday 1st March at 10:45am in St John's Church. This Service is ecumenical with various churches throughout the town taking part. We look forward to being together in worship and afterwards there is the opportunity to share fellowship at the Lent Lunches.

The service this year has been prepared three years ago by the World Day Committee of Palestine. The theme is:

"I beg you .. bear with one another in love."

With all that is happening in Palestine at present, our prayers are urgently needed. Do come and join us! You will be most welcome!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- **Thursday, 14/03/2024** **Pamper Session**
 - 15.45 – 18.00: Programme includes chair yoga; face massage; hand massage; nails; make up demo. Refreshments available

throughout the pamper session. Donations on the day to cover costs. A lovely way to relax and enjoy being spoilt. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church.

- **Saturday, 16/03/2024** **Men's Breakfast**
 - 10.00 onwards, at Gardenwise, Dumfries DG2 8PP. Please sign up if planning to attend. Choice of available breakfasts appended to sign up sheet.
- **23/03/2023: Trip to Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life, Coatbridge.**
 - Dep St J's 09.30; Return approx. 18.30. Fare: £13 (assuming minimum of 10 travelling). More details and sign up sheet at the back of the church. This trip is filling up, but there are still a few places. Don't delay! [Note: typo in last week's notice: this is definitely taking place in **March**, not April!]

IDEAS FOR FUTURE SOCIAL EVENTS

The Church's Social Planning Group are looking for what events you might like to have from May, 2024 to June, 2025. To help the group plan ahead, please put down your ideas on, yes, *another* sign-up sheet at the back of the church. The sheet will be there for approx. 4 weeks.

Christian Aid in Lent:

- Lent Lunches are starting to get into their swing. In case you missed last week's notices the first lunch raised £671.28. The first lunch is notoriously the quietest so thank you to everyone who came and supported it. Please keep coming. In case anyone isn't sure, the cost of the lunch is a minimum donation of £3.50 and the meal comprises homemade soup, a filled or plain roll and a cup of tea or coffee. You can buy a slice of cake to accompany the drink and there is a sales table with a variety of goods. On the 8th March the sales table will be on a "bring and buy" basis and donations of home baking or other small goods to sell will be welcome. You can bring them on the day or, if you would prefer them to be collected, contact me.
- Christian Aid has resumed the *Count Your Blessings* sheets this Lent. They give reflection for each day and sometimes a donation suggestion based on counting something we might take for granted

but others might not have. The booklets are at the back of the church.

Margaret Morton

Lent Groups:

- **Mondays:** Simon Lidwell/Quartz is running a group entitled *Sensing Spirituality/Glimmers of Light in Daily Life*. In person, 19.30. More details on the Quartz page on the St J's website.
- **Tuesdays:** David Kerr is offering a group, following Wendy Virgo's *Magnificent Jesus*. Some copies in stock, or you can order from Amazon or Eden. Group meets 19.30 on a Tuesday, starting 20th Feb; in person; venue TBC. Contact 07754 596140 for details. **Note: this group will not be meeting on Tuesday, 27/02, but will resume the following week.**
- **Thursdays:** The Rector is leading a group; *Lent in Plain Sight* by Rev Dr Jill J Duffield – a devotion through ten objects Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem; this is likewise 19.30, in person at the Rectory.
- **Fridays, 11.00:** Steven Ballard is leading a group, following Paula Gooder's *A Way Through the Wilderness*. This is in person, in the church. It actually started on 16/02/2024, but you can still join and each session will conclude in time for participation in the Lent Lunches.
- Contact any of the above direct if you'd like more information, or to join. All welcome.

MINISTRY OF HEALING:

It's some time since we were able to offer this in church of a Sunday. We're pleased to announce that, as of **this Sunday**, 25 February (and on the fourth Sunday of the month thereafter) we will be offering the laying on of hands and/or anointing for Healing in the context of the 11.00 service. Although it will take place within the service, this ministry will be discreet and, of course, confidential. Requests for healing for oneself, or someone else, can be made. See the Rector, or Rev Chris Wren for more details.

DIOCESAN LENT APPEAL

This year we are asked to collect on behalf of the Friends of the Holy Land. Watch out for posters etc., coming shortly.

Ann Shukman says...

Silent Prayer is on Saturday 2 March, as usual, 9.30 to 10.30. It will be lovely to see those of you who can make it. It is a chance to gather together round the fire, to be strengthened by our friendship and to find peace and refreshment in the spirit of Our Lord.

Further enquiries to ann.shukman@gmail.com Tel 07884 256931

Looking ahead:

- 6th April: Silent Prayer*
- 4th May: Quiet Morning†
- 1st June: Silent Prayer*

***Silent Prayer (9:30 - 10:30)**

On the first Saturday of selected months we gather at 9:30am for tea/coffee. At 10am there's a short 5 minute "Thought for the Day" followed by 20 minutes of silent prayer. After that we can either stroll through the woods or simply depart.

†Quiet Morning (10am- 1pm)

Occasionally on the first Saturday of the month there is a longer quiet time. Again, tea/coffee available from 9:30am. From 10am there are three short 5 minute talks interspersed with breaks for silent exploration of the woods and garden, or a quiet place can be found for just sitting silently. The morning ends with informal worship. Participants are welcome to bring lunch for a friendly picnic.

MU:

The next **Eucharist** will be on Thursday 7th March at 2 pm in the Church, with Revd Andrew MacKenzie presiding. Please note, this Eucharist is open to all. Just turn up and be assured of a warm welcome. Tea/coffee and cake will be served in the Hall, following the service.

Sally Triggs says... Would you please pass on my sincere thanks to Janice and the St John's family for the lovely card and good wishes for

my special birthday. It was so kind, thoughtful and totally unexpected, but very much appreciated. With love, *Sally*

Quartz tell us...

Brother Sun Sister Moon: A story of St

Francis Have you seen this film? I was introduced to it recently and thought it was beautiful in so many ways.

<https://m.imdb.com/title/tt0069824/> It is an artist's impression of a life rather than a historian's, but for more information about his life you could start

here: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-francis-of-assisi/> [More on the Quartz page of the St J's website]

