





## St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 10/03/2024

			
(2 <sup>nd</sup> in month) Sunday, 10/03/2024 Lent 4	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	18.00	Contemporary Worship (Church)	
	Any time*	Service online	<a href="http://www.stjohnsdumfries.org">www.stjohnsdumfries.org</a> , *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 11/03/2024	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, 12/03/2024	09.00-12.00	Organ Tuning (Church)	
	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Magnificent Jesus</i> (St J's Meeting Room...or elsewhere TBC))	Contact David Kerr (07754 596140) for details. All welcome
Wednesday, 13/03/2024	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 14/03/2024	12.00 & 20.00	MU Prayer Space (via Zoom)	Open to all (not just MU members, not just females). See below for Zoom joining details.
	15.45-18.00	Pamper Session (Hall)	Donation on the day. See sign up sheet in church.
	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Lent in Plain Sight</i> (Rectory)	Contact Janice 07487 653069 for details.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact <a href="mailto:bells@stjohnsdumfries.org">bells@stjohnsdumfries.org</a> or 07754 596140 if not a regular.

			
Friday, 15/03/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	11.00	Lent Group: <i>A Way Through the Wilderness</i> [Face to face]	Meets in the Church; contact Steven Ballard for details. All welcome
	12.00-13.30	Lent Lunches (Hall)	See notice below
	18.00-20.30	Mystery Evening (Hall)	
Saturday, 16/03/2024	10.00-12.00	Men's Breakfast (Gardenwise, Dumfries)	Sign up sheet in church...but come, anyway. DG2 8PP
(3 <sup>rd</sup> in month) Sunday, 17/03/2024 Lent 5 Passion Sunday	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	18.00	Sung Evensong (Church)	
	Any time*	Service online	<a href="http://www.stjohnsdumfries.org">www.stjohnsdumfries.org</a> . *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](mailto:rector@stjohnsdumfries.org)
- The Church Office on 07754 596140  
/ [pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org](mailto:pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**This week!**

- **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.

- **Saturday, 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 a previous 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:**

- **Christian Aid in Lent:** Thank you to those who supported the "Bring and Buy" stall on Friday. We will have another at the last lunch on the 22nd March so if you meant to donate something but couldn't there is a second chance. For anyone who is new or visiting this week Lent Lunches, organised by the various churches in Dumfries and the surrounding area to raise money for Christian Aid, are served each Friday in the hall from 12 noon until 1.30pm. 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.
- Those of us who are following *Count Your Blessings* from Christian Aid have been given plenty of food for thought this Lent. It's not too late to start. Copies of the booklet are available at the back of 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, but mostly in the Meeting Room. Contact 07754 596140 for details.
- **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.

## **DIOCESAN LENT APPEAL**

This year we are asked to collect on behalf of the Friends of the Holy Land. The situation in the Middle East is desperate and the Friends in the Holy Land seek to help the most vulnerable and needy... your generosity will make a difference.

*Ann Shukman says...*

Further enquiries about items below to [ann.shukman@gmail.com](mailto: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

- Monthly online prayer meeting: all welcome to join at 12.00 and/or 20.00. Joining details are:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81199836403?pwd=WmlPQldOWndPQlptL2JHZmh2RzEwdz09>; Meeting ID: 811 9983 6403; ;Passcode: 941659; Or you can dial in by phone: +44 131 460 1196
- The next **MU lunchtime meeting** will take place on Thursday 21st March in the Hall. Our speaker is our own Frank Davis, who now serves as a funeral celebrant. His topic is: *There are two certainties in life.....one is taxes!* We will gather from 12.30, with prayers at 12.45 and lunch at 1pm. Please bring a sandwich lunch, and soup, tea / coffee and cake will be provided. Despite its name, MU is an inclusive organisation, with 4 million members world-wide, supporting families and projects around the world. Anyone is welcome to come along - you do not have to be a mother, married, or even female. Just turn up and MU members look forward to welcoming you!
- MU Easter cards will be on sale in the Hall after this morning's service.

**Fairtrade Fortnight has moved!** It will now be from **09-22 September**. See poster on lit noticeboard for other Fairtrade related dates in March, May and June.

## Hail & Farewell...

- **Farewell** to our good and faithful servant, the Olivetti 254 printer/copier, which had been with us since 2016 and performed almost faultlessly throughout that time. It had outlasted its predicted service life of 5 years, but parts are no longer available. Although it was still going, we all know that printers wait until you have an urgent job (such as, in our case, something like Easter the following day) to give up without warning.
- And **All Hail** our new Epson 5000. It actually cost less to buy than its predecessor; the per copy cost is about half (exclusive of paper) and it is alleged to save about 70% energy; the benefits of newer technology. It works broadly the same way as the old one, but please do ask, if you're not sure.