




St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 17/03/2024

			
(3 rd 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	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 18/03/2024	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, 19/03/2024	09.00-12.00	Nursery Visit (Church & Hall)	
	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.00	Lent Group: <i>Magnificent Jesus</i> (venue TBC)	Contact David Kerr (07754 596140) for details. All welcome. Note earlier start time
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 20/03/2024	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 21/03/2024	12.30	Mothers' Union Lunch & Guest Speaker (Hall)	Frank Davis – see notice below.
	19.30	Lent Group: <i>Lent in Plain Sight</i> (Rectory)	Contact Janice 07487 653069 for details.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 22/03/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	11.00	Lent Group: <i>A Way Through the Wilderness</i>	Meets in the Church; contact Steven Ballard for details. All welcome
	12.00-13.30	Lent Lunches (Hall)	
	15.00 onwards	Dfs Choral setting up (Church)	
	19.30	St J's Quiz Night (Hall)	Moved from 29/03/2024 (Good Friday): last one till September! All welcome; just turn up.

			
Saturday, 23/03/2024	09.30-18.00	Trip to Summerlee Museum, Coatbridge	One or two places still available. See notice below/sign-up sheet at back of church.
	12.00-23.00	Dfs Choral rehearsals, then Concert (Church, Hall)	Concert starts 19.30
(4th in month) Sunday, 24/03/2024 Lent 6 / Palm Sunday	09.15	Sunday Worship: Crichton Memorial Church	Crichton Campus, Dumfries DG1 4ZZ
	09.30	Holy Communion @ Maxwellton Chapel	Just off B729 between Wallaceton & Moniaive. DG3 4DX
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Including Ministry for Healing; 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

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

This week!

- **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.

URGENT REQUEST FROM MOOL

There has been a request from MOOL, our local charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers. A further 23 asylum seekers arrived in Dumfries last weekend. These young men urgently need warm clothing, waterproofs and shoes - five of them only had flip flops when they arrived. If you or your friends have young male relatives with clothes / shoes they no longer want, please can you donate to MOOL. Shoe sizes 41 - 44 sought and most of the guys are slim! If you let her know, Lizanne can collect from St John's or from your home, or they can be taken straight to the depot in the basement at St Andrew's Church Hall any Friday morning. Everyone will be most grateful.

CHRISTIAN AID IN LENT:

- Last Call for Lunch! Thank you to everyone who has helped with, or supported, the Lent Lunches over the past weeks. The last lunch will be this coming Friday and we will be having another Bring & Buy Stall, 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.

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 **19.00 (note earlier time)** 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. Thank you to those who responded to last Sunday's 'nudge' to get this particular ball rolling; this appeal has been a little slow to start – you can place contributions in the marked box, or pay via the card machine on Mondays, Fridays and Sundays.

Ann Shukman says...

Further enquiries about items below 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 March **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!

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.

Quartz say...

- Thinking Day: Contemplation Through Cameras: "World Thinking Day" is an international event started by the Girl Guides and recognised by the Scouts too. You can read more about it on the Quartz page on the St J's website.
- Simple Things: This picture (opposite) is a throw away thing. But if you look at the number of people who have seen it that's about 2200 folk thinking of Jesus, God in human form, with a smile on their faces. What would St Ignatius think? Perhaps their thoughts won't have been the deepest of contemplations, but do we imagine Jesus laughing at ...



how often

do we imagine Jesus laughing at ... [more on the Quartz page]

Holy Week Services

- 29th March our **Good Friday talks** are at 12.00pm-3.00pm and will be led this year by Bishop Bob Gillies on the “*Sayings of the Cross.*” There will be refreshments after the service.
- 30th March is our **Easter Eve Service** at 8:30pm, meeting initially in the church hall and moving from there to the Easter Fire, and then into the church to celebrate the good news of the Resurrection.
- **Easter Day Service** is at 11:00am. There is no evening service on Easter Day.

Dumfries Christian Network

A network of Christian organisations local to Dumfries



HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2024

All Services are at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

Monday 25th March - **St Andrew's RC Church** Brooke Street

Tuesday 26th March - **Troqueer Church** Troqueer Road

Wednesday 27th March - **Lighthouse Church** YMCA building, Lochside Road, Lochside

Maundy Thursday 28th - **St John's Church** Lovers Walk

Good Friday 29th - **Walk of Witness** leaving Troqueer Church at 10.30am, finishing in the Fountain Square

Good Friday 3pm - **Max West Church**, Laurieknowe

Good Friday 7.30pm - **River of Life Church**, in St Mary's Greyfriars' Church Hall, St Mary's Street

Easter Sunday 31st March 8.00am **Sunrise Service** on the Mill Green (*next to the Robert Burns Centre*)

Everyone Very Welcome

www.dumfrieschurches.org.uk