









## St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 27/10/2024

*Please note that, due to holidays, this Diary & Notices is being prepared further in advance, so may not be entirely up to date. Presiding Clergy will keep you right*

			
(4th in month) Sunday, 27/10/2024 Pentecost 23	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)	Including Ministry for Healing; listen for announcement.
	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, 28/10/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	Re-opens today
	10.00-12.00	PAT Testing (Church & Hall)	
	15.00-16.00	Organ blower service	
	18.30-22.00	Bridge Club (Hall)	
Tuesday, 29/10/2024	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	SS Simon & Jude
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 30/10/2024	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Church)	
	19.00	Book discussion	See notice below; started, but you can still join.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact <a href="mailto:bells@stjohnsdumfries.org">bells@stjohnsdumfries.org</a> or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Thursday, 31/10/2024	19.00	Book discussion	See notice below
	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, 01/11/2024	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	...and last call for Blythswood Shoe Boxes (see below)
Saturday, 02/11/2024	10.00	Trip to <b>Threads Through Creation</b>	See notice below.

			
(1 <sup>st</sup> in month) Sunday, 03/11/2024 Pentecost 23 / All Saints / All Souls	08.00	1970 Holy Communion (Church)	
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	All Saints observed. <b>St J's Gift Day</b> – see notice below.
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	All Souls observed (& see notice below)
	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
- The Church Office on 07754 596140  
/ pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org

## OUTINGS/TRIPS:

Next scheduled one is a Trip to see **Threads Through Creation** at Hexham Abbey, on **Saturday, 02/11/2024**. Dep St J's approx. 10.00; Fare £11, assuming a minimum of 10 people travelling. Sign up sheet is (finally!) at the back of the church.

## OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- 26<sup>th</sup> October -Beetle Drive -19:00 raffle and refreshments. No tickets- make a donation if you can. Come and have fun!
- 9<sup>th</sup> November- Board Games Afternoon.
- Annan Town Band – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December- keep the date free- an amazing night assured!
- 18<sup>th</sup> January,2025: Burns Supper

- March, 2025 (date to be confirmed) Pamper Session

## **DISCUSSION GROUP:**

- A suggestion has been made to begin again our book discussion evenings in October to November, meeting in the Rectory at 7pm. The suggested book is:
  - *You are the Beloved - Daily Meditations for Spiritual Living* by Henri Nouwen.
  - It is a year-long book of daily readings, some quite short, but thought-provoking. The plan is to read the daily meditations on our own and the leader will guide our discussions based on the week's readings.
  - We began on **Thursday 17th October**; but you could still join. Don't worry if you haven't read the whole week, come along anyway.
  - If you cannot get the book and need help, let the Rector know.

## **CHURCH GIFT DAY on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

At Our Annual General Meeting, our Treasurer Jennifer McDiarmant drew our attention to the fact that St J's costs about **£3,000 a week** to run. On that basis, and as things stand, we are running at a deficit of some **£3,500-£4,000 per month**, and she mentioned that unless we can raise our income substantially, we will run out of money by next year, even if we take our investments into consideration (and investments, once sold, are gone for ever)

Money is always a difficult subject to raise, although surprisingly in Scripture, Jesus discusses this topic more than any other! I am conscious that we have concerns about our own personal finances and so it is not easy to broach this subject, indeed it is with some reluctance, I do so.

However, we need to be honest with you: unless we increase considerably our income in St John's and, this is not being melodramatic, there will be no St John's. If you would like St John's to continue, then please contribute generously to this Gift Day but, more importantly, re-examine and, where

possible, revise your weekly, monthly, or annual giving. Every little bit helps, as Tesco would say!

### **RAFFLE PRIZES**

We have three events coming up that require raffle gifts, the Beetle Drive, the Board Games Evening, and the Annan Town Band, so if you can help out by bringing something towards these raffles that would be terrific. Please give to Annette Beagrie or hand in to the office. Many thanks!

### **BLYTHSWOOD SHOE BOX APPEAL:**

If you would like to participate in this annual appeal, there is a display with more information, as well as some shoeboxes (no more empty ones, please; we have plenty), inserts etc at the back of the church. Please speak to **Ann Beaton** for any more details. Last collection date is **Monday 4 November 15.00-15.45** at Tesco Extra Car park, Dumfries. You can either take your box(es) there direct, or you may wish to hand them in to the church office earlier than that, so that they can be checked before dispatch. Please note there are various categories of item that **cannot** be included in your box.