

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 19/10/2025

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 19/10/2025 Trinity 18 / Pentecost 19	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth @ 11; Godly Play activity bags available (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	18.00	Sung Evensong (Church)	None this week (Choir Holiday]
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 20/10/2025	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	18.00-20.00	Senior Investigating Officers (Church & Hall)	Club for P4-7+ children
	09.00-12.00	Malory Nursery Visit (Church & Hall)	
Tuesday, 21/10/2025	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 22/10/2025	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 23/10/2025	19.00	Prayer Meeting/ discussion on last Sunday's gospel	None this week. Restarts next week, looking at <i>Return of the Prodigal Son</i> by Henri Nouwen. Church Office can put you in touch with Annette.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 24/10/2025	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	30 mins or so, followed by tea/coffee. All welcome. Just show up.
Saturday, 25/10/2025	10.00-15.00	Regional Safeguarding update day (Hall)	Sign up sheet at back of the church for those interested, but not already invited. See details below.

			
(4th in month) Sunday, 26/10/2025 Trinity 19 / Pentecost 20	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); Youth @ 11; Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Methodist Rite today; Including Ministry for Healing; listen for announcement. Visiting Preacher: Rev Adam Stevenson
	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

If you need to contact St John's, for any purpose, you can do the following:

- The Rev Jim Booth, Interim Priest, has the Rector's phone (07487 653069) throughout the Vacancy, and any emails addressed to rector@stjohnsdumfries.org will be received by him (and only him).
- Please do not contact the Rectory landline (01387 254126) meantime; it is currently out of use.
- For most things, you can contact the Church Office (07754 596140) / pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org. The Office will continue to be open Mondays and Fridays and most other days besides, but please call before making a special trip.
- So, in general, normal service will continue, under exception of the Rectory landline.

MU NOTICES

- There will be an **MU Eucharist** on **Thursday 6th November 2025** at 2pm in the Church. Revd Andrew MacKenzie will be presiding. It will be followed by tea/ coffee and cake in the Hall. Please note, as ever, this service is open to all. Just turn up and be assured of a warm welcome!
- It's that time of year again! **MU** would be grateful for any Christmas gifts / treats which could be given to the women and children whom **Women's Aid** are supporting. We also offer support to **Bethany Trust**, working with the homeless, so suitable gifts for them would be appreciated. You'll find boxes at the back of the hall. Many thanks.

QUARTZ INFORMATION:

- [Forest church](#) once a month in Dumfries
- [CLC meetings](#) every second Monday
- For all Quartz information:
<https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/>

QUARTZ: AUGUST 2025 onwards:

- Our usual meeting time is 7.30 till 9. Please let us know if you would like to join us!
- November Forest Church will be on the 16th
- This Autumn we will have a monthly gathering for those who want a more intentional online community to support starting or developing an expression of outdoor church.
 - These gatherings will be about building relationships, sharing learning and listening and discerning prayerfully what our next steps in our project could be.
 - The link to register at is
 - <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/GY3bAaTGTtqUWQtoxj4KjQ>

- And for more info their website is called "Sacred Spaces", not to be confused with the long running "Sacred Space" provided online by the Jesuits in Ireland!
- Christmas 2025
 - If you have any suggestions about the star making activity, please get in touch!
 - Our aim is that the star making activity is one that is simple to carry out, but profound enough to provide the opportunity for deep reflection. In community locations this spark off discussions about the similarities and differences between wishes, hopes, prayers, manifesting and many other words.
 - If you are curious but cautious about how this might work, what would help you?
 - Would you be interested in meeting to learn some ideas?

DATES FOR PROVISIONAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: GET THE DIARIES OUT... Note these are provisional meantime, but, subject to sufficient support/interest, here's what we're planning...



Date	Activity	Date	Activity
31/10/2025	Quiz	17/01/2026	Beetle Drive
08/11/2025	Bus Trip - 10 Pin Bowling (see updated notice below)	30/01/2026	Quiz
28/11/2025	Quiz	21/02/2026	Film at Burns Centre
06/12/2025	Carol Service	27/02/2025	Quiz
14/12/2025	Bring and Share Christmas Lunch	14/03/2025	Crafts - Easter Decorations

ELSHIESHIELDS NEWS:

Dear Everyone

This is to wish you a Happy and Fruitful autumn and to let you know that there will be **no Silent Prayer in October.**

On **Saturday 1 November** at Elshieshields we will host the long postponed **poetry event**, 2 to 5 pm. A time to reflect on poems new and old, if fine to stroll outside, or to find peace by the log fire in the tower. There might also be a slice of pumpkin pie!
Please RSVP for this event.

Love and blessings

Ann ann.shukman@gmail.com 07884 256913.

BOWLING TRIP: 8 NOVEMBER. There doesn't seem to have been much interest in this (sorry, Esther and Kay!) We could go somewhere else/do something else not too far afield (as the bus has another job starting in Dfs at 18.30). Best suggestion I've had so far is Rheged (Penrith), where there's an art exhibition called *Twenty Five and Onwards* (Free entry), described as '25 exceptional Cumbrian artists across a range of disciplines...' (more on their website: www.rheged.com) and we could probably also fit in a visit to Tebay (same company, slightly different range of retail!). Sign up sheet at back of church.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation was held on Sunday, (05/10/2025). Thank you to everyone who contributed to the wonderful lunch; and also to those who set up the Hall and who cleared up afterwards.

Jamie Brand and Inna Roi were elected to the Vestry. Gill Swales, Annette Beagrie and Kay Solaja continue to represent us at Regional,

and Diocesan, level meetings. Thanks to them all for taking on these roles.

Thanks, also, to all those who decorated the church for Harvest; as ever, it looked beautiful.

A BIBLE STUDY GROUP, looking at Cover to Cover's *Joel: Getting Real with God* started in the Rectory, last **Monday, 13/10/2025** at 19.15, and meeting fortnightly thereafter, on the second and fourth Mondays. There is an existing core group of half a dozen people or so, but anyone else would be welcome to join. There are one or two copies of the study guide in stock (£8.00), but you can also find them at www.eden.co.uk, Amazon, and no doubt elsewhere. More details from 07754 596140, if you need them.

FRIDAY AT NOON

- A time of Prayer in St John's for Peace in our world.
- Happens every Friday at 12noon, for about half an hour.
- If like many of us you despair at all that is happening in our world and don't know what to do, come and join us as we pray for peace. Please do not worry about it, just come and join us in this simple time of prayer and lighting candles. This is open to all, not just members of St John's church family.
- Our time of prayer will be followed by Tea and Coffee.
- Two of these sessions have been held so far, each attracting about a dozen people; really pleasing. Still room for plenty more.

We will be holding a **Safeguarding Study Day** on Saturday, 25/10/2025. This is, to all intents and purposes, a **requirement** (Diocesan, Provincial, Governmental) for people involved in much of the work we do; certainly for Trustees of the church (the Vestry), Clergy, and for those involved in work with children, vulnerable

people, those occupying positions of trust etc. Emails have gone out to the 'main protagonists', asking people to commit to this. Ideally, everyone involved in any way in any of the activities described above should attend and certainly, as a minimum, each group should have at least one representative in attendance. And any other members of the Congregation who are interested should feel welcome to attend, as well. A sign up sheet for those will appear shortly.

A detailed write up of the **Leeds Male Voice Choir** concert will appear in the next magazine. At the moment, we are able to say that the refreshments and raffle raised some £215; once ticket sales (net of the agreed fee for the Choir) are added in, we raised a total of £623.15. In the meantime, thank you to Leeds Male Voice Choir for putting on a wonderful evening, and to those members of the Congregation who donated raffle prizes and/or helped with the arrangements on the night, and to those who attended on a pretty stormy night.

Please will you stay after the service today and **add a poppy to the final remembrance veil**. Easily done with cable ties fixed through the poppy to the veiling. Many hands make light work, please help!

Carolynne



See the special display about the **Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal** at the back of the church. Shoeboxes and the usual accompaniments are also there, or you can choose, instead, to send a gift via a cash donation: lots of specific ideas to choose from. If you're filling a box, please note there's a very small timeframe to do this in: boxes are being collected from Dumfries on Monday, 03/11/2025, so **boxes need to be with the Church Office for checking by Friday 31/10/2025**. Further information from Ann Beaton.