

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 16/11/2025

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 16/11/2025 Trinity 22 / Pentecost 23	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; Godly Play activity bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	18.00	Sung Evensong (Church)	See posters. Last one [apart from Christmas services] until January
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 17/11/2025	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	18.00-20.00	Senior Investigating Officers (Hall)	For P4-7. 07754 596140 / 07572 006290 for information. Please contact us if the child has not been before.
Tuesday, 18/11/2025	Tuesday: Church Office only open 16.00-18.00 approx		
	09.00-12.00	Malory House Nursery (Church & Hall)	
	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 19/11/2025	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 20/11/2025	12.30	Mothers' Union Lunch & Guest Speaker (Hall)	
	19.00	Prayer Meeting/ discussion on Henri Nouwen's <i>Prodigal Son</i>	This week, we'll all be attending the Prisoners' Week service in the church (details below)
	19.00	Ecumenical Service for Prisons Week (Church); Refreshments afterwards (Hall)	All welcome.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 21/11/2025	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.

John Turner practising during day

			
Saturday, 22/11/2025			
(4th in month) Sunday, 23/11/2025 Christ the King	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)	Including Ministry for Healing; listen for announcement.
	18.00	Contemporary Worship (Church)	See posters
	18.30	Special Vespers, St Andrew's RC	We're specially invited to this...see below
	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

- **MU Meeting** - The next **lunchtime meeting of MU** will take place on **Thursday 20th November**. Our speakers are old friends of St John's, Paul & Winifred Wilson. They spent many years living on a canal boat and will speak on "*Our Life of Ministry on the Canals*".

MU meetings aim to be inclusive and open to all. We will gather from 12.30, with prayers at 12.45 and lunch at 1pm. Please bring a sandwich for lunch, and soup, tea / coffee and cake will be provided. Just turn up, and be assured of a warm welcome.

- **MU Regional Rally** – Members and friends are reminded the Regional Rally will take place in Castle Douglas on Tuesday 18th November. Meet at St John's at 11.30 am
- ***Message from Neil Campbell, Chaplaincy Facilitator, Dumfries HMP*** about the service for **Prisoners Week on Thursday 20 November at 19:00.**

Worship will be led by members of the Chaplaincy Team at HMP Dumfries, and refreshments will be provided after the service by MU. Prisoners Week events have always been held in the prison, so this is a new venture. None of it would have happened without the chain of events started by MU's sending of Christmas cards.

Being present at this service is one way in which we can stand in solidarity with, and highlight the needs of, those who are affected by imprisonment. Those about whom Prisoners Week is concerned are not simply those who are in the care of the Scottish Prison Service but their children, parents, spouses, partners. A prison sentence is served by

many people beyond the one who is sentenced by the court. Many of those who are in HMP Dumfries come from the community or communities which our churches serve. Far more people than we realise are affected by imprisonment. People very often feel invisible and unnoticed. This service – and Prisoners Week Scotland – is very much for those who cannot be with us in church and who will not be with us on 20 November. This service is for them. All churches have been invited. We do hope you will be able to join us.

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:

- 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 **this afternoon** on the 16th
 - 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?

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
22/11/2025, 19.30	Dumfries Choral Society will be performing Handel's <i>Messiah</i> in the church. Tickets from the Midsteeple, Choral Society members, or (probably) on the door.	24/12/2025, 16.00	Christingle Service (TBC)
		17/01/2026	Beetle Drive
		30/01/2026	Quiz
28/11/2025	Quiz	21/02/2026	Film at Burns Centre
06/12/2025	Princess of Wales Carol Service @ St J's: watch out for further details	27/02/2025	Quiz
14/12/2025	Bring and Share Christmas Lunch	14/03/2025	Crafts - Easter Decorations

The Bible study group, looking at Cover to Cover's *Joel: Getting Real with God* is going to **pause** that study after one more session (Monday, 24 November) and, for **Advent**, is going to meet on **Tuesdays at 19.15, in the Rectory**. We agreed upon using Cover to Cover's *A Son Is Born*. I have, or will have, about 4 copies available (£8). It was out of stock at www.eden.co.uk when I looked, but Amazon, and no doubt others, have it. If you'd like to join this Advent course, please contact the Church Office. There is an existing core group of half a dozen people or so, but anyone else would be welcome to join. More details from 07754 596140, if you need them. *David*

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.
- Several of these sessions have been held so far, each attracting about a dozen people; really pleasing. Still room for plenty more.

Thank you to all of those, especially members of the MU, who helped with the **Remembrance Day** observance at St J's, this Tuesday, 11 November. "In Vicarage if wet" is a standing joke, but, following Sunday's experiences, (and see below for a kind letter from Dr Gillian Brydson) and the continued wet weather, those taking part were unwilling to stand outside and get drenched again so soon. So the ceremony was moved inside St J's and a very moving service was conducted by the Rev Tom Bonnar, ably assisted by a piper, bugler and other British Legion personnel. There was an attendance of about 130 (we had been expecting up to 60!), including some 40 school pupils from both primary and secondary schools in the town; and all those who had not been in St J's before were, as ever, stunned by its beauty. They were also delighted with the hospitality provided after the service by the MU, and Richard Reade, the British Legion organiser, particularly asked me to pass on the Legion's heartfelt appreciation of St J's hosting of this. It was a really nice occasion, and the BL were so pleased, they're hoping to use the church again next year... Meantime, I've restocked the coffee, biscuits etc!

INVITATION TO JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE SPECIAL VESPERS, St

Andrew's RC Church: 18.30, next Sunday, 23/11/2025. We

have been specifically invited to this. There's a lot more detail on it, for which there isn't space here, on the lit noticeboard. It would be nice if some of us from St J's could support this invitation from Pastoral Councils of St Teresa's and St Andrew's.

VACANCY VIDEO: As you will be aware, as part of the Vacancy process we are now required to make a video of St J's for potential candidates to watch. A slightly different version of it would, in any case, be a good thing to have on our website, the better to introduce ourselves to anyone, potential Rector or not, who might be interested in us. The lucky Amie Byers has been given the job of conducting interviews with those who are involved with St J's multifarious activities; a pretty large task. We have recently emailed a number of people to ask them to take part, and suggesting possible interview times (interviews will be short; maybe 15-20 seconds on average), and it would be helpful if you could keep an eye open for any such email, and to respond promptly when/if you get one. And if you *don't* get one, and think you *should* have, please contact the church office!

Mark Smith, on behalf of Dumfries Christian Network,

says...The new manager of the Loreburne Centre, Jannah Hibberd had heard about how several folk from DCN Churches came along to their Christmas Lights Switch-on event last year. She's asking if we can do it again this year?

It's this coming **Wednesday 19th November at 4pm** in the centre, to sing some carols etc. I think everyone had a great time last year.

Guess you could just turn up...but, if you let the Church Office know, we can forward numbers.

Could you see if there are folk who'd like to help them out please?
If you let me know, I can forward numbers etc. to Jannah, or give them her details.

Many thanks.

Mark.

The Depot



Supporting Refugees in
Dumfries and Galloway

SPARE CLOTHES AND SHOES?

We are always looking to recycle and re-use clothes and shoes for refugees here and abroad.



We can re-use your:

Shoes

Tops

Trousers

Sweatshirts

Additionally, donations of toiletries, new pants, socks, and T-shirts are greatly appreciated.



Donations should be brought to:

**the Friendship Club, 15 West Morton St, Thornhill
on Sunday 23rd November from 12- 4 pm**



Or contact Sue on 07846991025

Thank you for your amazing support



In fact,
to the
St J's
office,
any
time
before
this
date

DUMFRIES CHRISTMAS CHARITY FAIR



Monday 17th November 2025

4.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. Entry £6.50

includes a welcome cocktail
from Demijohn and nibbles.

Refreshments and light snacks available in the Hall

Tuesday 18th November 2025

10.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. Entry £4.50

Refreshments and light snacks available in the Hall

EASTERBROOK HALL

The Crichton, Dumfries DG1 4TA

**Festive Food, Drink,
Unique Gifts and Clothing**



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**YOUNG LIVES
vs CANCER**

OFFICIAL

Your Ref:

Our Ref: GB/MS

12 November 2025

Reverend Jim Booth
Priest-In-Charge
St John The Evangelist Church
8 Newall Terrace
DUMFRIES DG1 1LW

By email: pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org

**Education, Skills, and Community
Wellbeing**

Militia House
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DG1 2HR

Any enquiries please contact

[ExecutiveDirectorEducationSkillsCommunity
Wellbeing@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:ExecutiveDirectorEducationSkillsCommunityWellbeing@dumgal.gov.uk)

Dear Reverend Booth

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE – SUNDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2025

I hope this letter finds you well.

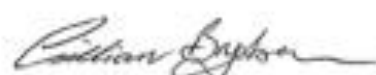
I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to you personally for your huge contribution to what for me was a very poignant and moving Service of Remembrance.

The words of service and the musical contributions provided an opportunity to quietly reflect and to remember the service and sacrifices made by so many to defend our freedom and protect our way of life.

By acknowledging and remembering those who serve and protect us, together we continue to build respect and dignity in our communities.

Once again, thank you.

Yours sincerely



Dr Gillian Brydson

Executive Director, Education Skills, and Community Wellbeing

OFFICIAL