

## St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 01/02/2026

(1 <sup>st</sup> in month) Sunday, 01/02/2026 Epiphany 4	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	For Candlemas. See poster
	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, 02/02/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	18.00-20.00	Mystery Evening (Hall)	For P1-4 age children. 07754 596140 / 07520 006290 for details.
	19.30	Healing Group Meeting (Rectory)	
Tuesday, 03/02/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 04/02/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 05/02/2026	Church Office closed until 16.00		
	14.00	Mothers' Union Eucharist (Church)	See details below.
	19.00	Prayer Meeting/ discussion on last Sunday's gospel	At Annette's. All welcome. Church Office can put you in touch.
	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, 06/02/2026	Church Office closed until approx. 16.00		
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	30 mins or so, followed by tea/coffee. All welcome. Just show up.
Saturday, 07/02/2026			

(2 <sup>nd</sup> in month) Sunday, 08/02/2026 Epiphany 5	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	13.00	Vacancy Committee Meeting	(Meeting Room/TBC)
	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

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](mailto: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](mailto:pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org). The Office will continue to be open Mondays and Fridays and most other weekdays besides, except Wednesdays, but please call before making a special trip.
- So, in general, normal service will continue, under exception of the Rectory landline.

## QUARTZ INFORMATION:

- Forest church once a month in Dumfries
- CLC meetings every second Monday

- **Our usual meeting time** is 7.30 till 9. We take it in turns to host and lead so let Simon know if you would like to join us!
- Tuesday the 17th of February - **Pancake Day!** We will have a gathering to celebrate the joy of food at Simon and Kate's.
- **St Michael and the Dragon:** Sculpture artist Ildiko Malovecz (Dee Art and Design) is publicly creating a half size papier mache statue design of the patron saint of Dumfries. We are blessed that she has chosen St John's church as one of the venues for this project. We are glad to support her in inviting and involving the local community to visit St John's Church. Dee will be working on her sculpture in St John's on Mondays and Thursdays in February in St John's. [12th & 16th confirmed so far] Please drop in and say hi - and let your friends know too! This is an opportunity to use visual art to think about light and dark as well as the wrestling match between them.
- For all Quartz information: <https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/>

**The Bible study group** has finally finished its Advent book, *A Son Is Born* and has reverted to meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, starting last Monday (26/01), 19.15, in the Rectory. We have resumed our study of *Joel: Getting Real With God*. Joiners welcome. 07754 596140 for details.

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

Date	Activity
01/02/2026 [today]	Lunch @ Lockard's Farm (details below)
17/02/2026	Possible Pancake Party? TBC
21/02/2026	Film at Burns Centre (details below)
27/02/2025	Quiz

## 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.
- These sessions have been held regularly for a number of weeks, now, each attracting about a dozen people; really pleasing. Still room for plenty more.

## MU NOTICES:

The next **MU Eucharist** will be on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 2pm** in the Church. Revd. Jim Booth will be presiding. It will be followed by tea/coffee and cake in the Hall. Please just come along and be assured of a warm welcome.

On **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February**, Mothers' Union will be holding a **Reflection Day** in the Hall. It will be led by Revds Richard and

Rachel Allen from New Abbey, who gave us an inspiring talk last year. Given the date, it will not surprise you to know that the subject of the Reflection Day will be love, offering three types from biblical precedents – Song of Solomon, David & Jonathan, and Jesus. Rachel & Richard's short inputs will give us questions on which to reflect and pray on the day, and take into Lent. The full programme is on the MU Noticeboard in the Hall.

You are all invited to join us. Coffee available from 9.30, with the Reflection Day beginning at 10 am. If you bring a sandwich, MU will provide soup, tea/coffee and cake for lunch. We will have worship in the church at 2.30 and close at 3pm. All very welcome to attend.

Rural Dean the Rev Dr Elizabeth Breakey is **being installed as a Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, at 17.00 on Sunday, 15 February**. There probably won't be enough demand for a bus from here, but I'll be going, and can offer seats for up to 5 or 6 others, departing at 15.00. *David*

**LENT LUNCHES:** Ash Wednesday is on 18 February (start digging out those Palm Crosses for return [Ed]) so the **first Lent Lunch will take place on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> February**. St J's is catering for that lunch. It will be the usual format (soup, roll with cheese, tea/coffee) and the price remains £4 for adults, £2.50 for children. There will also be cake to buy at 50p/slice and a sales table each week. **Please can you help** on the 20<sup>th</sup>? We need soup makers, people to butter and make up rolls, people to serve soup and others to help clear up afterwards. **If you can help with any of these, please let Margaret Morton know.**

**St J's Movie Matineé at the Burns:** **Saturday, 21/02/2026, 13.45 for 14.00 start; over by 16.00.** We're off to the movies! The Burns Centre has been booked for a showing of *What We Did On Our Holiday*, starring David Tenant, Rosamund Pike and Billy Connolly. It was written and directed by Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin, the team behind the TV series *Outnumbered*. Please sign up to indicate you're coming. There's a sign up sheet at the back of the church. The terms of our booking mean we can't charge an entry fee, but, given the cost, to St J's, of booking, may we

suggest a minimum donation of £10 per head, which can be made to the Church Office, preferably around the time you sign up.

Further information from Catriona.

**We're off to Lockard's Farm today!** Please ask if you need a lift





Deaphne

Lieutenancy office  
The Ewart  
Catherine Street  
Dumfries

11<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Rev. Jim

I am writing to thank everyone at St John's Church for your kindness in helping to make our Royal Foundation Carol Concert a very special one indeed. At short notice, you let us take over your beautiful building – and assisted us in staging a service that was both moving and inspiring.

Reverend Jim, can I thank you for your words of welcome. David thank you for your calm organisation and unstinting help. Can I also pay tribute to the technical side of the event – the sound was first class. Then there was the choir who were magnificent, as always. And a special thanks to the ladies who organised the refreshments and the flowers.

St Johns did us proud last week – and we are proud of St Johns. As you know, this service had the support of the Princess of Wales, and whilst I cannot speak for her, I like to think that HRH would have been moved and delighted by it all.

With gratitude, admiration, and best wishes

Fiona Armstrong

There's also a short video about the event we can show at coffee time.