

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 08/02/2026

(2 nd in month) Sunday, 08/02/2026 Epiphany 5	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	13.00	Vacancy Committee Meeting	Meeting room (probably)
	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
Monday, 09/02/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	19.15-21.00	Study Group (Rectory)	Currently studying: <i>Joel: Getting Real with God</i> 07754 596140 for details. Joiners welcome. More detail below
Tuesday, 10/02/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 11/02/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 12/02/2026	10.00-17.00	Sculptor in Residence (Church)	Creating St Michael-themed sculpture. All welcome to come and watch or discuss. See posters for further details
	20.00	MU Prayer Space (via Zoom) [Note evening session only now offered.]	Open to all (not just MU members, not just females). See joining instructions 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 bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.

Friday, 13/02/2026	16.00 onwards	Church Office open	[David at NWCC Primary for the day]
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	30 mins or so, followed by tea/coffee. All welcome. Just show up.
	16.00 onwards	MU setting up for tomorrow (Hall)	
Saturday, 14/02/2026	09.30-15.00	MU Reflection Day (Hall)	All welcome. More detail below.
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 15/02/2026 Epiphany 6 / Sunday before Lent	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
	15.00	Trip to Elizabeth Breakey's installation at St Mary's, Glasgow	Some seats available. 07754 596140
	18.00	Choral Evensong (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

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 reverted to meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 19.15, in the Rectory. We have resumed our study of *Joel: Getting Real With God*. Joiners welcome. 07754 596140 for details.

We'll be pausing this study (again) in order to follow a Lent course shortly. Details to follow.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

Date	Activity
17/02/2026	Quartz Pancake Party (see details beside other Quartz information)
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:

- Online Prayer time this Thursday, 12/02/2026: All are welcome; you do not have to be a MU member.
 - ~~Midday prayers 13.00 link open 12.45~~
 - Night Prayer 20.00 link open 19.45

- Both are for 15 - 20 min.
- Zoom Link: 81199836403
- Meeting ID: 833 0646 4708
- Passcode: 062490
- Dial by your location: +44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom
- On **Saturday 14th 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 on mental health last year. 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.
- Our next **lunch-time MU meeting** will take place on February 19th 2026 in the Hall. Our speaker is Kay Solaja who is a volunteer with *Children's Hearing Scotland*. He will tell us about his work as a Children's Panel member, making legal decisions for infants, children and young people who need support. We will gather from 12.30, with prayers at 12.45 and lunch at 1pm. Please bring a sandwich, and soup, tea / coffee and cake will be provided.
- As ever, 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!

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*

PRAYER LIST: I know how much people value being prayed for in times of illness, distress or difficulty of any kind. You will all know that we maintain a list in the Sacristy of the names of those who have asked for prayer and whose names we include in our Prayers of Intercession week by week. Not everyone who would like us to hold them in prayer wants their name to be read out in public. So, alongside the prayer list that we already have, another is to be set up for those for whom the pastoral group will commit to pray regularly but whose names will not be included in our public prayers. If you want to add the name of someone to either list – and please, before you do so, make sure that the person concerned has consented to be added to one of our prayer lists, and to which one – then contact Linda Scott, David Kerr in the Church Office, or one of the clergy team.

Thank you.

Jim Booth

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, 20th 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 20th?** 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 MATINEE 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.

Thanks to Annette for organising lunch at Lockard's Farm last Sunday. The traditional good time was had...and it's good to remember that these events don't just organise themselves.

HEALING MINISTRY AT SAINT JOHN'S.

- From Ash Wednesday through to Easter Day the ministry of Laying on of Hands and Prayer will be available on a Sunday Morning at the 11.00 Eucharist. We believe that this ministry is valued by us all in the Church and for it to only be available on the 4th Sunday is very restrictive.
- You will have noticed that this ministry is available during and after the administration of Communion and also the members of the team are happy to stay on a little after the end of the service if you would like to approach them in a less formal setting. Please feel free to come to pray either for yourself, a member of your family or a friend.
- Anything shared during this time is totally confidential. However, should anyone disclose a matter which relates to safeguarding, we all have a responsibility to take the matter further with the appropriate authority. None of the members of the team are trained counsellors though they may offer suggestions of where you might find appropriate help if that is required.
- We will welcome your comments on this new arrangement. Feel free to talk with members of the team about your feelings, responses and

ideas. It is important to remember that this is a ministry of prayer with the Lord and not an opportunity for advice and counsel. Anointing with oil for serious illness is, at present, restricted to the clergy to administer.

- During the coming months we will be making available opportunities for anyone in the congregation to share in group discussion and teaching about the Healing Ministry.

Chris Wren

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE GENERAL MEETING

- There will be a SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE GENERAL MEETING in St. John's following the 11.00am service on Sunday 22nd February 2026.
- The purpose of the meeting will be to consider the provision of accommodation for the new Rector.
- This meeting gives everyone the opportunity to let the Vestry hear your views on future arrangements, together with the options that may be available to us, for the provision of suitable accommodation for the new Rector.
- We are in the process of obtaining detailed information concerning our options and obligations in this regard, all of which will be made available to you before the meeting, in order to enable us to have an informed discussion.
- We hope you will be able to attend the SGM---tea, coffee and sandwiches will be provided, cake is always welcome---so that the Vestry can listen to your views.
- All final decisions rest with the Trustees, who are the elected members of the Vestry. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to make your views known, please put them in writing to Margaret Morton, Vestry Secretary, before Sunday 22nd February. These will be read out at the meeting.

Annette Beagrie	Margaret Morton
Chair of the Vestry	Vestry Secretary