

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 26/07/2026

			
(4th in month) Sunday, 26/07/2026 Trinity 8 Pentecost 9	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.
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 27/07/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
Tuesday, 28/07/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 29/07/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
Thursday, 30/07/2026	19.00	Prayer Meeting/ discussion on last Sunday's gospel	At Annette's. All welcome. Church Office can put you in touch. Resumes August
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 31/07/2026	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, 01/08/2026	09.30	Silent Prayer @ Elshieshields	All welcome. See notice below. Church Office can also put you in touch.
(1 st in month) Sunday, 02/08/2026 Trinity 9 / Pentecost 10	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11 (Meeting Room); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	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.

MU NOTICES

- During the summer months, Ann Wren is completing a **hymn playing challenge** as part of the Mothers' Union 150 celebrations. Money raised will be for Mothers' Union Projects World-wide. Ann is playing hymns in the Scottish Hymnal (820 hymns) at various venues around Scotland including St John's (usually Tues evenings and Wed mornings). Please see Carolynne Sorrell for the sponsor sheet. Thank you for your support.
- The **Diocesan MU Service to celebrate the 150th anniversary** of the foundation of MU is to be held on **Saturday, 08/08/2026** at 12noon in St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, in the presence of +Nick. There's a sign up sheet at the back of the church, with more details. Or speak to any MU member.
- **MU Informal meeting** will take place at Dumfries Baptist Centre on Thursday, 20/08/2026 at 2pm. A chance for members and friends to meet up for coffee, chat and cake! All welcome.
- MU would like to thank all those who supported their **Concert Tea Party** in any way. The magnificent sum of £530 was raised.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB: MONDAY 3 TO FRIDAY 7 AUGUST:

We've got a healthy number of bookings for this year's Holiday Club. Please would you note that, as in previous years, for safety reasons, there will be **no access to church or hall during the day** (09.00-15.30 approx) for that week, apart from at scheduled service times. We will also be setting things up on Saturday, 01/08/2026, and the hall will therefore be out of use on Sunday, 02/08/2026. Refreshments will be served at the back of the church and, obviously, the toilets will still be available as normal. Thank you for your cooperation; and your prayerful support is/will be much appreciated. Any queries about access to any part of the buildings, please call 07754 596140, but bear in mind that I may not always be able to answer immediately. *David*

NEWS SUMMARY...

- We have a buyer for the **Rectory**, and have also offered on a nearly new 4 bedroom house in Summerpark. All stages of the transactions to date have been overseen and approved by the Rural Dean, Diocesan Architect & Surveyor, our Solicitors and the Vestry as Trustees of St J's. As you will appreciate, nothing is finalised until we have concluded missives for both sale and purchase transactions, but things are looking hopeful. In fact, the word 'providential', as used by Jamie Brand in his verbal update on Sunday, seems to have been the *mot juste*. In the meantime, there is a fair amount of good quality furniture in the Rectory. The purchasers may want some of it, but the rest will have to be disposed of. If you think any of it might be of interest to you, please ask David about viewing it, and we may be able to come to 'some arrangement'.
- At the same time, the **Vacancy Committee**, assisted by Bishop and Rural Dean, are preparing to interview for the post of St J's Rector, this coming Monday, 27/07/2026. The Vacancy Committee (and

the Bishop and Rural Dean) are extremely optimistic about this. Although it is one candidate, not several, we have been impressed by the calibre of the applicant, and hope that we will both feel that they are 'the right one' for us, and that we, correspondingly, are the 'right one' for them. Should this turn out *not* to be the case, however, we are not obliged to appoint at this time. The Vacancy Committee has done its best, within the confidentiality rules pertaining to all recruitment processes, to be as open as possible with the whole congregation about its deliberations and actions. Any queries – though we may, for the reasons outlined above, not be able to tell you much more – please speak to Jamie Brand.

- **A Prayer for the Vacancy Committee:**

Almighty God,

who by your Holy Spirit calls faithful servants to shepherd your Church:

Grant to us the gift of courage, that with humble hearts, clear minds and prayerful discernment we may recognise your will for this community.

Bless your servant who comes before us, giving grace to listen, wisdom to speak, and confidence to follow your call. Unite this congregation in faithful prayer, that together we may receive with joy the future you have prepared for St John's; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Quartz say...

NEWS

Ukrainian Kids

By admin 25 May 2026 No Comments



Border to Barcaple

Fiona Crudgington is raising money for Abernethy

33%

£3,375
raised of £10,000 target by
62 supporters

Some of you may remember the visit of Ukrainian children to Dumfries last year. This is to give them some relief from the war.

Fiona Crudgington is raising funds to help this years group make the journey

you can support her here:

Here's the link to the fundraising page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

[2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL) Or you can donate **directly** to the Abernethy trust which allows for gift aid and smaller transaction fees. <https://www.abernethy.org.uk/donate/> the option Ukrainian appeal can be selected from the drop down box.

Summer holidays, Vikings events, it is a busy time. We are next gathering as **Forest Church at the Crichton on the 16th of August.** Please send in your photos and experiences of "reading" creation and finding God in everyday life.

CHRISTIAN AID:

- I am very pleased to confirm that the **Dumfries and District total for Christian Aid Week was a very generous £5,735.83**. £212 of this was from our online fundraising page, and £824 from delivery-only envelopes in a few areas. (Thank you to Raymond for us.) This is very significantly more than last year's £3,334 or 2024's £5,204. The vast majority came from generous church congregations, so thank you.
- Keep the date: The **September Coffee Morning** will be held in St George's Hall on Saturday 12th September. More details nearer the time. *Margaret Morton*

By kind permission of Ann Shukman, the **August Silent Prayer will be held on Saturday, 01/08/2026 in the barn at Elshieshields**. The Rev John Stevenson will be leading it.

- It will follow the usual format, gathering at 9:30am with tea and coffee served. A meditation topic will then be given and for 20 minutes silence is maintained for prayer and contemplation. Afterwards a short discussion usually takes place.
- Following the prayer meeting you are free to stay and enjoy a walk in the grounds. There is also plenty of soft fruit for picking and taking away if you wish (contact Kim Tofield or Ann for more details).
- This is the venue for August; this will be reviewed for future months and it is possible that several locations will be used.