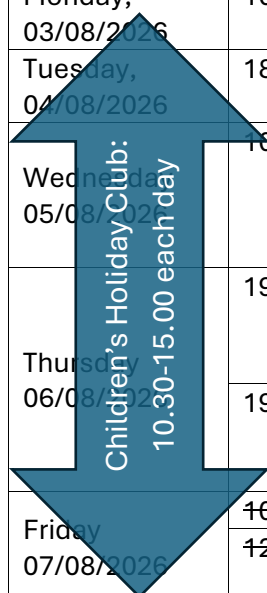


St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 02/08/2026

			
(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
Monday, 03/08/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	Briefly open roughly 16.00-18.00
Tuesday, 04/08/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 05/08/2026	19.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (back of church)	
Thursday, 06/08/2026	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, 07/08/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	Briefly open roughly 16.00-18.00
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	Sorry: none this week. Resumes next Friday.
Saturday, 08/08/2026			
(2 nd in month) Sunday, 09/08/2026 Trinity 10 / Pentecost 11	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11, Godly Play Activity Bags available; 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.
- **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, in fact, barring any cancellations, we're full. 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 have set things up on Saturday, 01/08/2026, and the hall will therefore be out of use **today, Sunday, 02/08/2026**. Refreshments this week will be served at the back of the church though, obviously, the toilets will still be available as normal on Sunday. For Tuesday and Wednesday, we will ensure the single toilet next to the Sacristy is available for those attending services. Thank you for your cooperation; and your prayerful support is/will be much appreciated. The Church Office will accordingly, also, be closed most of the week, except perhaps for brief periods 16.00-18.00 most of the days. Any queries about access to any part of the buildings, or anything else, please call 07754 596140, but bear in mind that I may not always be able to answer immediately. *David*

Oh, and PS re Holiday Club: some of you have, in the past, been kind enough to turn up on the Friday afternoon, to help with teas etc for the parents, following our end of week showcase. And some of you have also kindly provided cake and the like. If you might be able to do any of that that again – or for the first time – please would you talk to David, or to Annette?

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, interviewed our preferred candidate for the post of St J's Rector, on Monday evening. We were all extremely impressed with the candidate, whom we, Bishop and Rural Dean, all believe would be a fantastic appointment for St J's and one who will be able to lead us forward into our next phase. At the time of writing, the candidate has said they need a short period of reflection (a day or two) to confirm that we are indeed the place for *them*. That this candidate is following this reflective path is, itself, a really positive sign. We hope they will confirm their willingness to join us in early course, as soon as possible after which we will arrange for them to visit and get a proper look at us, though it will not be possible for them to meet everyone at this stage. It may take a little time before we can disclose the identity of the person we have chosen; they need time to break the news to their own congregation, and it would be wrong for that congregation to find out what's happening through gossip or via Facebook. 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. And we have practised prayerful discernment in the best way we know how, throughout the process. Any queries – though we may, for the reasons outlined above, not be able to tell you much more – please speak to Jamie Brand. **STOP PRESS: *We have white smoke...***

- **A Prayer for the Vacancy Committee (and the preferred candidate):**

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.

Please note that there will be **no Friday Prayers for Peace on Friday, 07/08/2026**, because the Holiday Club will be using both church and hall. It will resume the following Friday, 14/08/2026.

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*

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.

Quartz say...

NEWS

Ukrainian Kids

By admin 25 May 2026 No Comments



Border to Barcaple

Fiona Crudgington is raising money for Abernethy

£3,375
33% 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.

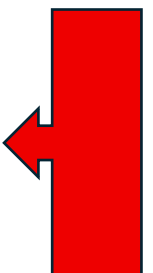
Fiona Crudgington is raising finds to help this years group make the journey

you can support her here:

Here's the link to the fundraising page:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-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.



From Sue Currie, Edith Brown's niece:

Thank you once again for holding Edith's service today. [at Roucan Loch]
It was so lovely that such a large number of her friends could come , I know she would have been very touched.

Could you please pass on our thanks for everyone's generosity in the donation box at your next St John's service; they donated an incredibly generous £122 , which I will donate to the Dementia UK charity to fund their nursing care and support to families .

Best wishes and thanks to everyone at St John's,

Sue