

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 30/08/2026

			
(5 th in month) Sunday, 30/08/2026 Trinity 13 / Pentecost 14	09.30	Matins (Church)	
	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
Monday, 31/08/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
Tuesday, 01/09/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 02/09/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 03/09/2026	14.00	Mothers' Union Eucharist (Church)	Postponed to next week, Thursday, 10/09/2026
	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, 04/09/2026	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, 05/09/2026	09.30	Silent Prayer @ Elshieshields	See details below

			
(1 st in month) Sunday, 06/09/2026 Trinity 14 / Pentecost 15	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	Resumes this week. See posters
	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:

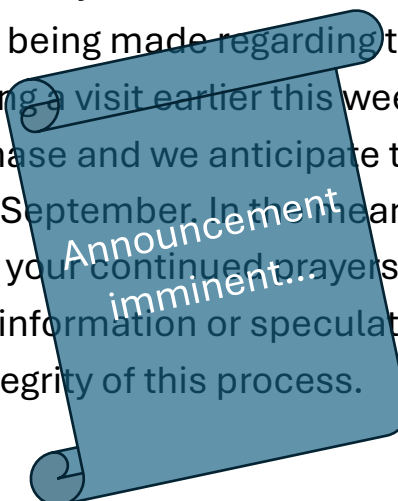
- The Rev Jim Booth, Interim Priest, has the Rector's phone (07487 653069) throughout the Vacancy, and any emails addressed to rector@stjohnsdumfries.org will be received by him (and only him).
- Please do not contact the Rectory landline (01387 254126) meantime; it is currently out of use.
- For most 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 September Eucharist: MU's new programme** begins in September and should be available soon. However, please note, the Eucharist will **not** take place on the first Thursday (3rd) as normal. It will instead be held on **Thursday 10th September** in the church at 2pm. This is because there are no clergy available to conduct the Eucharist on September 3rd – hopefully, they're all away having fun!

NEWS SUMMARY...

- We are moving closer to the sale of the Rectory and the acquisition of the new one. Various people from the congregation and elsewhere have accepted items of furniture etc from the old Rectory and we will be arranging for a charity to collect what people don't want. Overall, we hope the properties might actually change hands in the middle of September. As mentioned previously, 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.
- Further progress is being made regarding the appointment of our new Rector following a visit earlier this week. The process is now entering its final phase and we anticipate that this will be concluded by mid-September. In the meantime, the Vacancy Committee ask for your continued prayers and respectfully request that the sharing of information or speculation be avoided in maintaining the integrity of this process.



- **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.

SILENT PRAYER AT ELSHIESHIELDS: By kind permission of Ann, the September Silent Prayer will be held in the barn at Elshieshields on Saturday, 05/09/2026. 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.
- This is the venue for September; this will be reviewed for future months and it is possible that several locations will be used.
- Thanks to the generosity of those who attended the August Silent Prayer a donation of £68 was made to the Ukrainian Children's Holiday Fund.

Kim Tofield

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING: we now have the details of the Coffee Morning on the 12th September in St George's Hall from 10am to 12 noon.

- Tea, coffee and refreshments will be served, there will be a number of stalls including Fair Trade and the cost will be a minimum donation of £4 for adults; children under 12 £2.50; family £12. I will have tickets in advance.
- St John's has been asked to oversee the "home baking" stall which includes jams, chutney and marmalade and garden produce if you have surplus. 2 requests for help, please--on the stall on the day and contributions for the stall. If you can make anything please will you let me have a list of the ingredients. We are asked about ingredients to which some folk are allergic.
- The other stalls will be a sales table and plants. Due to space the sales table can only really handle books, gifts and small items. Contributions of plants will be welcome
- Help is also needed to serve at the tables. You don't have to be there for the full 2 hours if that is not convenient.
- If you can contribute anything to any of the stalls you can bring it to St George's Hall between 4pm and 5pm on the Friday or from 9am on the Saturday. If it would be more convenient I can come and collect from you.
- If you can help at the stall or serving or if you have any questions please let me know.

Margaret Morton

QUARTZ: Some future dates...

All in September

- Saturday 19th To be a pilgrim - Wild Christian retreat day - near Wigtown
- Sunday 20th Forest Church as usual
- Saturday 26th "Faith and Art" Blacksmithing at Dumfries Baptist Church

- See <https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/news/future-dates/> for more details.



Lockards' Lunch is back! We're planning to go on Sunday, 06/09/2026, about 13.30, after church. There's a sign up sheet at the back of the church.





ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
9 NEWALL TERRACE
DUMFRIES

BELL *Ring*ing

The group are keen to recruit more members to ring for a Sunday service, plus a regular weekly practice on Thursdays. Beginner sessions will initially take place on Saturdays.

From age 9 upwards

Please note the church bells are located up a spiral staircase with no wheelchair access.

www.facebook.com/stjohnsbells

Email: dumfries@sacr.org



Scottish Methodist Gathering

Gathering to Create

Dundee Friday 11th September to Sunday 13th September



We are really looking forward to welcoming you to the Gathering on Friday 11th September. Plans are now nearly complete, and we are delighted to share what is shaping up to be a creative, thoughtful, and joyful weekend together.

If you think you might be interested in this, please speak to Robyn Brotherston. There's a lot more information, for which there isn't room here.