

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 20/09/2026

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 20/09/2026 Trinity 16 / Pentecost 17	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	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
Monday, 21/09/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	18.00-20.00	Senior Investigating Officers (Hall)	For P5-7 age children. 07754 596140 / 07520 006290 for details.
Tuesday, 22/09/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 23/09/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 24/09/2026	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, 25/09/2026	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.
	19.30	St J's Quiz Night	All welcome: just turn up
Saturday, 26/09/2026			

(4th in month) Sunday, 27/09/2026 Trinity 17 / Pentecost 18	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.
	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

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

- After this morning's service, MU will have a produce stall in the Hall. There should be jams, chutneys, cakes, apple crumbles,

tablet and other goodies for sale. The proceeds will go to HMP Dumfries's Common Good Fund. The Prison Chaplaincy use this fund to support prisoners at times such as Christmas. Now that we are no longer permitted to send Christmas cards, we will value the congregation's support in this venture.

- The MU Programme for 2026/7 is available at the back of the Church, or please ask any MU member for a copy. Please have a look and see if you would like to come along to any meeting. You will be most welcome – men, women, married, single, with or without children. We are an inclusive organisation.
- The next MU Eucharist will take place on Thursday 1st October at 2 pm in the church. Rev Jim Booth will be presiding. We hope to enrol 3 new members at this service. There will be tea/ coffee and cake and lots of chat in the Hall afterwards. All welcome.

AGM & ALL THAT...

The AGM of St J's Congregation will be held on Sunday, 04/10/2026 (also Harvest Festival) within the context of the 11.00 Eucharist; that is to say that, as usual, it will be convened towards the end of the service, adjourned for a bring & share lunch, resumed after lunch, and then it, and the service will conclude with the Blessing & Dismissal. Papers etc will be available beforehand and you can also ask the Church Office for electronic copies of these in due course (we'll tell you when they're ready). We'll start giving formal notice of the AGM in the required forms from today. In the meantime, please note that, as well as the sad loss of Maxine Windsor from the Vestry earlier this year, three people: James Clark-Maxwell, Catriona Appleby-Strivens and Andy Bixler, as the three currently longest serving members, will be retiring. There will therefore be a number of places to fill, come the AGM, so would people please start thinking about whether this is a way they might serve our Congregation. You need to have been an actively involved member of St J's for at least a year to be eligible. The Vestry has already agreed to revisit its methodologies and pattern of meeting, and we'll be holding a BYAP (Bring Yer Ain Piece) lunch in the

Church Office or Choir Vestry (TBC) **after the service on Sunday, 20/09/2026** to discuss that and for general information, particularly for those who haven't been on the Vestry either ever, or for some time. If you're thinking about whether you might stand for Vestry (this may involve a vote, but all will be explained), you're very welcome to come along. It shouldn't take very long.

Annette (Chair of Vestry); David (Acting Vestry Secretary)

QUARTZ: Some future dates...

All in September

- Sunday 20th Forest Church as usual, but, this Sunday, Quartz are planning to meet at 12 and walk to Forest Church. This activity is designed to be user friendly for people who would be unlikely to come to the 11 O'clock.: see <https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/sensingspirituality/sept-26-qfc-walk/>
- Saturday 26th "Faith and Art" Blacksmithing at Dumfries Baptist Church
- See <https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/news/future-dates/> for more details.

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In case you missed it in amongst the stuff about the AGM, please note that we will be observing **Harvest Festival** on Sunday, 04/10/2026, and there will be a **Bring & Share lunch** on that day.

Next Friday (25th September) marks the **anniversary** of the beginning of our weekly **Friday lunch-time Prayers for Peace**.

Faced with a world threatened by multiple conflicts it seemed that we should at least add our voices to the cries of all those who yearn for peace and justice for our beleaguered world.

Our pattern of worship has remained largely unchanged. We gather around the Paschal candle, a symbol of the hope of the resurrection, and, after a

short bible reading, those who wish, light their own candles and articulate their own hopes for peace.

After prayers the dozen people present share in refreshments and slip gently away.

Some come every week, some when they are able. All are welcome

Dumfries & District Flower Club tell us...

I thought I would send an email just to let you know things are hotting-up nicely. We have over 60 trees spoken for and there are always some who want to sponsor a tree in the few weeks before the event. Thank you to those who have sent their sponsorship £12. As always we will be selling the trees afterwards (in their block stands) for £10. They certainly last to Christmas especially if kept outside until brought into the house to decorate.. If you wish to purchase your tree/a tree do let me know [church office can put you in touch, if need be] and we will ensure that happens. Payment of the £10 can be made anytime - please just let us know if you BACS it.

We have some very inventive names - I thought I would share 'Ping Pong Merrily On High', with you to spur you on. I wonder who might be sponsoring this tree?? 🎮

Thank you so much for your support. I am sure it will be the wonderful community event it has been in the past.

All the best,

Lindsay Florey (Programme Secretary, Dumfries and District Flower Club)

HEALING IN ST JOHNS: When we read the gospel passage each week in church (and at any other time!), quite often Jesus heals a person as part of the story. The healings are usually physical, sometimes dramatic, or sometimes he asks the person to stay quiet. At other times, Jesus tells someone their sins are forgiven. Jesus sent out his disciples to preach the good news, and to heal the sick. Which they did. Sometimes they weren't able to, and Jesus talked with them about faith.

After Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, the apostles, most notably but not exclusively Peter and Paul were involved in healing people. Jesus had told them that they would do even greater things than him.

So there is a mandate for us as Christians to be involved in healing. At St John's we have had healing prayer and anointing with oil offered as part of our 11 o'clock service on and off for many years. This year during Lent, healing prayer was once again offered during that service. The healing prayer team are going to offer this again during Advent in a few weeks' time.

We are also planning to offer a special service of Healing Prayer in November – more information about this later.

When the healing prayer team met together to plan and discuss this most recent offering of healing prayer we were asked to share our experiences of healing 'in mind, body or spirit, physically, mentally or emotionally (whether for ourselves or when we had prayed for others, without naming names, obviously!). It was so wonderful to hear what God has done for members of this congregation over many years.

For now, we are keen to hear your experiences of healing prayer – either in St John's or elsewhere. We would like to share these in a follow-up article next month. You can choose to be anonymous if you wish, but hopefully you will feel able to share your story, and we will all be enriched by hearing about how God has ministered in this particular way to our church family.

If you have something you want to share, please speak to anyone in the healing prayer team or email katelidwell@yahoo.co.uk by 10th October.

Current members of the healing prayer team are:

<i>Chris Wren</i>	<i>Ann Wren</i>	<i>Annette Beagrie</i>
<i>Tracy Temple</i>	<i>Andrew Ratnam</i>	<i>Mark Toner</i>
<i>Kate Lidwell</i>		

CHRISTIAN AID: Many thanks to everyone who supported the coffee morning in any way and to those who gave generously for the "treats" available last Sunday. The final total is £1110.97. *Margaret Morton*



St John's
Dumfries

A Church for Everyone



All very welcome
St John the Evangelist
Newall Terrace, Dumfries DG1 1LW
pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org
07754 596140
<https://www.stjohnsdumfries.org>

Choral Evensong

Sunday at 6pm
20th September 2026

Introit: Cantate Domino - Pitoni

Psalm: No. 55

Preces & Responses: Smith

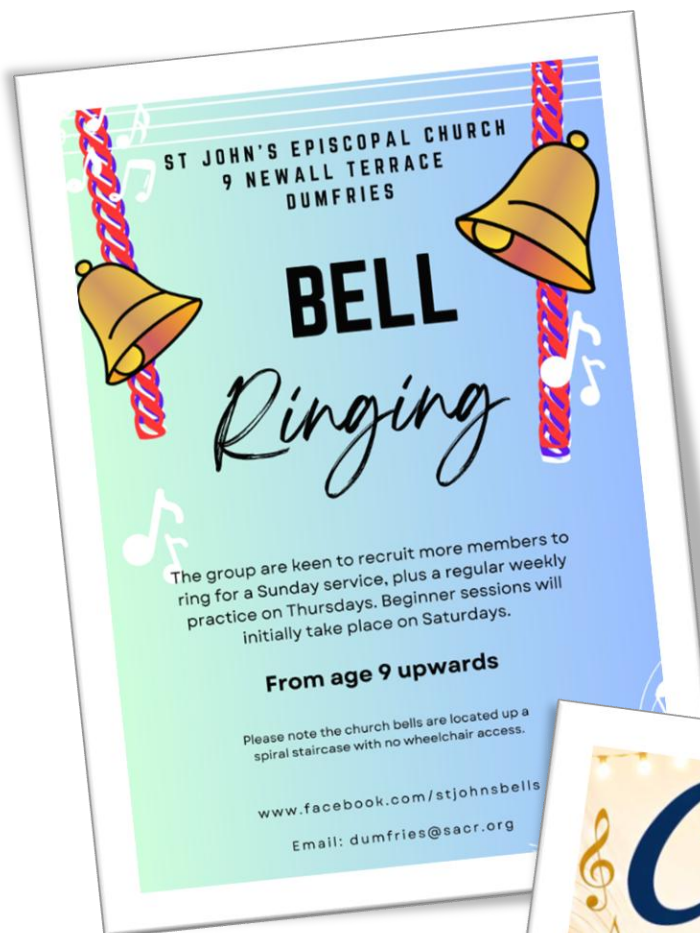
Hymn: O Love Divine, how sweet thou art!

Canticles: Wood in E flat No. 2

Anthem: Thou Wilt Keep Him in perfect
peace - SS Wesley

Hymn: Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear

Sung by the choir of
St John's Church, Dumfries



WEEKEND RETREAT AT ALNMOUTH (SSF) FRIARY: FRIDAY 14TH TO SUNDAY 16TH MAY, 2027

Last time we did this was in 2020, immediately before lockdown. A provisional booking has been made for the above dates. Theme is as yet undetermined, but this kind of retreat is always a good opportunity both to advance understanding and to deepen relationships.

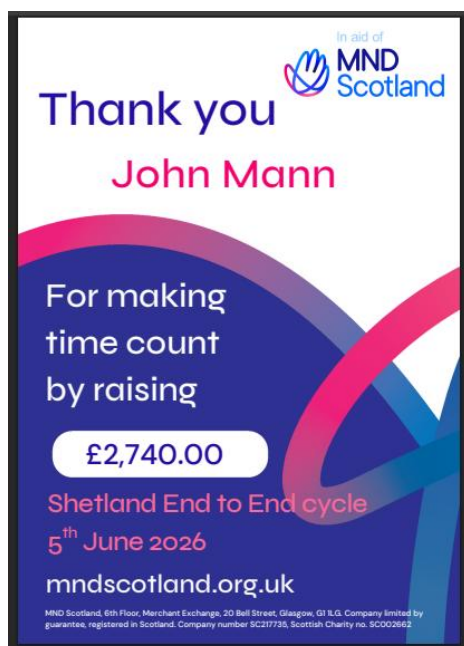
As things stand at the moment the Friary can accommodate 10 (and 3 more if they are willing to share in twin rooms). Transport can be arranged, whether we all travel in the one minibus (minimum 10 in the bus for it to be viable), or arrange lifts.

Cost (aside from travel) is a recommended donation of £60/night, but don't *not* come on that basis...some sort of subsidy may be possible and, indeed, some others attending may choose to pay more, so it should all work out. Talk to me or to Chris Wren to know more.

David

Thank you to everyone who supported my **cycle ride in aid of MND Scotland**. Without you...

John Mann



Mr John Mann

Dumfries & Galloway
DG1 3AQ

26 August 2026

Dear John,

Thank you for Making Time Count for the MND community in Scotland by cycling the End to End Shetland 100 mile challenge.

The money you raised totaling £2740.00 means so much to us.

Thanks to your support, we can continue to support families affected by motor neuron disease and fund groundbreaking research. We will keep working for better care, better research, and, one day, a cure.

Your donation will ensure that, whilst families are navigating the complex journey of an MND diagnosis, MND Scotland will be by their side.

From all of us at MND Scotland, thank you.

Best wishes,

Martin McInden

MND Scotland