

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 11/10/2026

			
(2 nd in month) Sunday, 11/10/2026 Trinity 19 / Pentecost 20	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	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, 12/10/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	19.15-21.00	Study Group (Choir Vestry) [Already started, but joiners welcome]	Currently studying: <i>John's Gospel: Exploring the Seven Miraculous Signs</i> 07754 596140 for details.
PLEASE NOTE: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE REST OF THIS WEEK			
Tuesday, 13/10/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling Hall)	Just turn up
Wednesday, 14/10/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	19.00	Choir Practice (Church)	
Thursday, 15/10/2026	12.30	Mothers' Union Lunch & Guest Speaker (Hall)	See details 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, 16/10/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	Closed: reopens Monday
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	30 mins or so, followed by tea/coffee. All welcome. Just show up.
	19.30	Music in Dumfries Concert	Olga Stezhko (Piano): see https://www.musicindumfries.com/olga-stezhko/
Saturday, 17/10/2026			

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 18/10/2026 Trinity 20 / Pentecost 21	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Vestry Commissioning ceremony; Vestry handover lunch afterwards.
	14.00	Forest Church	Dressed for the weather, we adapt to the mobility of those who join us, or participate online at ancient-pathways.co.uk "
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	None this week.
	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) we no longer have that number
- 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.

SALE OF RECTORY etc: Monday, 28/09/2026, marked the day where the new purchasers, Ryan & Kelsie Johnston, and their family, took ownership of the former Rectory at 8 Newall Terrace, and we, in turn, took ownership of *their* former home in Summerpark. This gives us some time to get the house in Summerpark adjusted to our own

specifications, so it will be ready for Diana to move in to, in time for when she joins us at St J's. Probably more about this in due course. In the meantime, there are some important points for us, as a Congregation, to note:

- The Rectory driveway will now be mutual (shared) between ourselves and No. 8, from the street effectively to the point where it narrows between the two buildings.
- What this means for practical purposes is that we can still come and go, on foot, as before, via the back gate.
- We also retain a right of access to the part of the Rectory backyard (where the garage is) for inspection, maintenance etc of the hall gable end, windows etc.
- The roughly triangular area which gives access to the boiler room and organ blower shed, and where the bins stand, remains our property.
- The major difference for us is that we can no longer park in the Rectory driveway (though few ever have in recent years). There is an agreement that either we, or No. 8, can temporarily park tradesmen's etc vans there for necessary purposes, but we need to bear in mind that No. 8's new owners are entitled to get in and out via that route by car at any time of the day or night.
- If you're organising something (and mostly this will be me) that requires a van etc to be parked there for unloading, please talk to me first and, if necessary, I'll negotiate. But please don't assume it'll 'probably be fine.' It probably *will*, but only if we act considerately and are, effectively, 'good neighbours'.
- Which also means not parking across the Rectory driveway entrance, or leaving too narrow a gap if you park adjacent to it.
- Any queries or difficulties about this, please do ask.

David

MU NOTICES

At our Eucharist on 1st October, MU was delighted to enrol 4 new members and we ask God's blessing on them. Our **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, with a world-wide membership of over 4 million. MU's focus is on prayer and Christian Care for Families, supporting projects all round the world. These include work with those who suffer domestic abuse, victims of modern slavery, literacy work and work with those in prisons. Our St John's branch is the largest in the Glasgow & Galloway Diocese – and growing!

Our next **MU lunch- time meeting** will be on **Thursday 15th October 2026**. Our speaker is David Nielson. David, a member of the St John's Tuesday evening congregation, will be leading us on a writing workshop entitled **Journeys**. *Members and guests are asked to bring a notebook and pen with them.* 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. All welcome (see above!)

AGM & ALL THAT...

- Thank you to everyone who supported the AGM (an attendance of 45), to those who provided, prepared, and ate the excellent Bring & Share lunch, who set up beforehand, and cleared up and washed up afterwards.
- Papers (the Agenda booklet, including Reports and Summary Accounts, and the [separate] full accounts) are still available, if you missed them, or weren't able to be there.
- In summary, the accounts were approved, the various reports received and approved, and Saint & Co re-appointed as our Independent

Examiners. We had just the right number of candidates for the various vacancies, so, in the event, we had no need for a ballot, but we are grateful for the willingness of Rolf and Rosemary Buwert, who had agreed to be Returning Officers, should an election have proved necessary.

- The Vestry now consists of the following (new members in **bold**): the Rev Jim Booth (Interim Priest, to be succeeded in due course, by the new Rector, Rev Diana Hall), Annette Beagrie (Chair and also **re-elected as Alternate Lay Rep**), **Robyn Brotherston, Amie Byers, Billy Riddick, Zara Ross, Linda Scott**, Gill Swales (also **re-elected as Lay Rep**), Jamie Brand, Inna Roi (taking over as Assistant to the Treasurer), Carolynne Sorrell and Pat Withall. David Kerr is currently Acting Vestry Secretary, as well as attending in his capacity of Pastoral Administrator).
- And we marked our thanks to outgoing Assistant to the Treasurer, Christopher Pierson-Harvey, who has done a quite outstanding job of looking after our day to day finances, having taken the job over at quite a difficult period in St J's history, ably assisted by Heather Barrington. Also to retiring Regional Lay Rep Kay Solaja (post has been discontinued by the Diocese), and to retiring Vestry members the Rev Dr James Clark-Maxwell, Andy Bixler and Catriona Appleby-Strivens; our thanks were recorded to them all for their dedicated service to this congregation, as Vestry members.
- There will be an act of commissioning of the newly reconstituted Vestry during the service on **Sunday, 18/10/2026**, followed by a lunch and handover meeting for Vestry members new, current and retiring.

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.

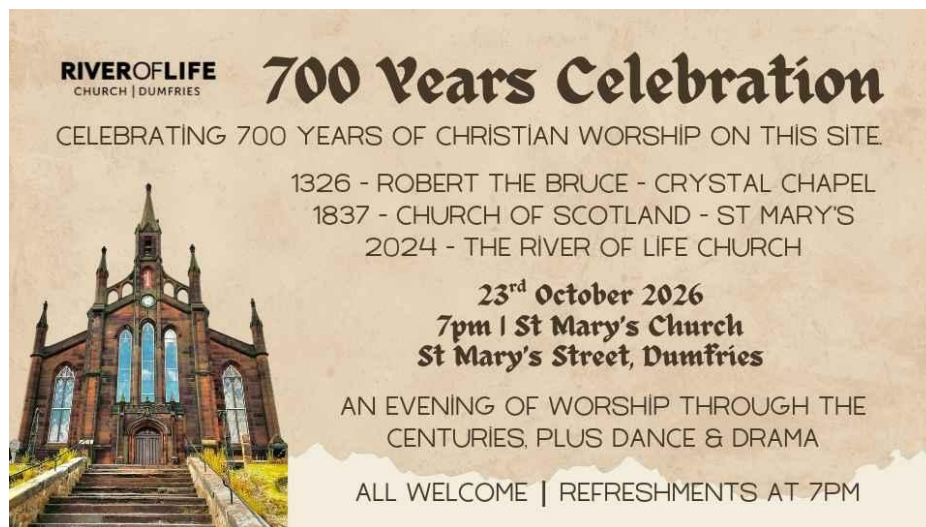
All the best,

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

FIRST BASE: We're hoping to welcome **Mark Frankland** to speak to us on Sunday, 18/10/2026. You may recall he was booked to do so a couple of months ago, but a family emergency, arising on the Sunday morning, meant he was unable to join us. On that occasion, people kindly brought items in to be donated to First Base, and they were duly handed over later that week. If you'd like to do the same again, please accept this as advance notice that we'd like to welcome Mark in this way. There's a box, next to the MU one, in the Hall, to receive non-perishable gifts. Thank you.

Mark Smith says...

- Our Church is planning a celebration to mark the **consecration of the 'Crystal Chapel'**, as it became known as, which Robert the Bruce built, along with his sister, Christiana, in memory of her husband, Sir Christopher Seaton who was earlier hanged on the spot for his support of Bruce. It's a long story, but spans the centuries and it's wonderful to know we have such a rich heritage, literally under our feet!
- We're celebrating and inviting everyone to come along, on Friday 23rd October, from 7pm, in St Mary's Church.

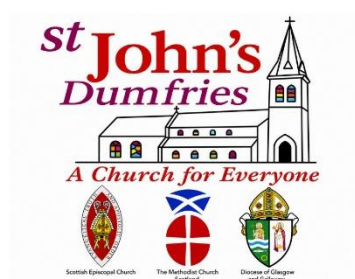


WEEKEND RETREAT AT ALNMOUTH (SSF) FRIARY: FRIDAY 14TH TO SUNDAY 16TH MAY, 2027

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*



St John the Evangelist, Newall Terrace, Dumfries DG1 1LW
 A local Ecumenical Partnership between the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Methodist Church.
www.stjohnsdumfries.org
rector@stjohnsdumfries.org / 07487 653069 – Interim Priest
pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org / 07754 596140 (Office/Pastoral Administrator)
 Office staffed Mondays, Fridays and most other weekdays besides, but phone/text before making a special trip. Email/phone monitored regularly.
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