

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 30/01/2022

			
(5 th in month) Sunday, 30/01/2022 4 th after Epiphany	09.30	Matins (Church)	
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available.	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Fri, if possible. Refreshments resume 06/02
	14.00	Zoom Coffee	07487 653069 for joining details
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
	18.00	Quartz Candlemas Service: <i>Light in the Darkness</i> (Church)	See posters/website for details
Monday, 31/01/2022	10.00- 17.00	Church Office open	
Tuesday, 01/02/2022	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Fri, if possible
	Any time*	Meditation online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
	19.15	Short Mat Bowling (Sep-Mar) (Hall)	Just turn up
	19.30	Taizé-style worship (Church)	Just turn up.

			
Wednesday, 02/02/2022	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Monday, if possible
	18.30	Choir Practice (Hall)	
Thursday, 03/02/2022	14.00	Mothers' Union Eucharist (Church)	
	18.30	Prayer Meeting (via Zoom)	07487 653069 for joining details.
	19.30	Book Discussion Group (via Zoom)	07487 653069 for joining details.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 04/02/2022	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
Saturday, 05/02/2022	10.15	Romanian Orthodox Service (Church)	All welcome; English language liturgy available
(1 st in month) Sunday, 06/02/2022 5 th after Epiphany	08.00	1970 Holy Communion (Church)	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Fri, if possible
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Fri, if possible
	14.00	Zoom Coffee	07487 653069 for joining details
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	Please book (07572 006290) by 16.00 on Fri, if possible

	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
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And, as always, if you need us, you can contact

- The Rector on 01387 254126 / 07487 653069
/ rector@stjohnsdumfries.org
- The Church Office on 07754 596140
/ pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org

Due to the then prevailing Covid restrictions, the **January meeting of Mothers' Union** had to be **cancelled**. Assuming we still can, the Rev Jim Booth will now give his talk on Christian Unity on **Thursday February 17th**. Despite its name, MU is an inclusive organisation, supporting families and projects around the world. Anyone is welcome to come along - you do not have to be a mother, married, or even female! We will gather in the Hall from 12.30, with prayers at 12.45 and lunch at 1pm. Due to general Covid restrictions, we are unable to serve soup as we normally do, but please bring your own sandwich lunch, and tea and coffee will be provided. MU members look forward to welcoming you, Covid permitting! The next **MU Eucharist** will be on Thursday, 03/02/2022 at 14.00

Our **Christmas Appeal** raised £438.30, which is being divided equally between our two Christmas Charities, Aberlour Childcare Trust and Open Doors (see display at the back of the church). Thank you, everyone, for your generous support.

£707 has been given, between July, 2021 and now, in support of **Let the Children Live**. Thank you, Pig Farmers and Leprechauns (those of you with the rainbow money boxes) for your generosity.

The **Book Discussion Group** resumed last Thursday, 27/01/2022 at 19.30. We're continuing to discuss *Get Out of the Boat!* All welcome. Call 07487 653069 for Zoom joining details. The next meeting of this group will be on 03/02/2022, immediately after the **Prayer Meeting**, which will resume on that date at 18.00.

Thank you to all who contributed to the **Christmas Flowers** fund. £121.45 was raised...however the actual cost of the Christmas flowers was £230. The amount was covered by monies already in the Flower Fund, but it's perhaps a

timely reminder of the generosity, week by week, of those who provide the flowers (as well as their time, effort and skill in arranging them). Remember that you can contribute at any time, particularly if you wish to remember someone at some specific time of year. See the lit noticeboard.

PLEASE can we help First Base. First Base are experiencing shortages in all foods. Donations obviously virtually dried up during lockdown.

Sadly, it has not yet picked up. When we took the bags last week Ian was saying that for the first time the warehouse is **virtually empty**.

During the last two years they had got together with other agencies to try to provide food for the needy in Dumfries and Galloway, but they still need our support to provide the food parcels. Tins, packets, etc ,plus if possible, nappies, toilet rolls, sanitary products, dog and cat food, just whatever you can manage would be so welcome. THANK YOU. *Annette & Ron Beagrie*

The SEC is offering **Safeguarding Training** via Zoom. It's still possible to book for the second session (you don't have to have attended the first one to do so) This is of potential relevance to **all of us**. There are multiple available times/dates for the sessions. See the more detailed info on the lit noticeboard or the St J's website.

Welcoming and Belonging: We had to close in March 2020 before we had a chance to discuss the ideas on the "leaves". As was said in the Vestry Update they have been reviewed in the light of the changed circumstances we live in. We can now offer refreshments after services so whether you have been coming to St John's for a long time or have recently joined us please keep the **6th March** free to meet after the I I am service and give your ideas on how we can improve what we do. More details to follow. *Margaret Morton, Vestry Secretary*

Special General Meeting (SGM): At the time this sheet has been prepared we do not know what the new arrangements for meetings will be. The Vestry hopes that it will be possible for the SGM to take place as we usually hold such meetings: in the context of the I I am service, following lunch together and without masks (although this may be optimistic). The **SGM will be held on the 3rd April** and formal notice will be given. *Margaret Morton, Vestry Secretary*

Christian Aid Scotland's flagship supporter event takes place on Tuesday 22 February (10am-12pm). For the second year in a row 'The Gathering' will be an online event open to supporters across the length and breadth of Scotland.

- Guest speakers this year include two members of Christian Aid's South Sudan team: Yitna Tekaligne and Mbaraka Fazal. South Sudan is a country hit hard by climate change, conflict and Covid-19. Extreme flooding has resulted in crops and livestock being destroyed. Seven million people do not have enough to eat.
- The Gathering will also look ahead to Christian Aid Week 2022 (15-21 May) which focuses on our partners' work in Zimbabwe. You'll hear plenty of inspiring fundraising ideas and have a chance to ask questions. We'll also bring you an update on the work we're doing in Afghanistan.
- To register to take part in The Gathering please email: edinburgh@christian-aid.org. *Margaret Morton*

Alpha is running again via Zoom. See the lit noticeboard, the St J's website or email sarah@speddoch.com for more details.

Mothers' Union: There will be a Eucharist on Thursday 3rd February at 2pm in the Church, followed by refreshments in the Hall. All are welcome.

Bethany Christian Trust says... Pray with us in 2022: If you are someone who prays, would you join us this year in praying for the work of Bethany Christian Trust? Every year we create a prayer diary where we focus on a different service every month, and invite you to join us praying for those people and places. If you would like to receive a copy of our 2022 prayer diary, get in touch and we'll send you one in the post. Alternatively you can download a PDF version on our website through this link. If you're reading this on paper, the Church Office can put you in touch with Bethany or obtain the Prayer Diary for you. There's some more Bethany information on the lit noticeboard and elsewhere on the St J's website.

If you would like to be involved in a **creative, Ignatian influenced, prayer group** please look for more details on the Quartz website pages, or e-mail quartz@wordsmithcrafts.co.uk". Direct

link: <https://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz/activities/christian-life-community/> *Kate & Simon Lidwell*