

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 15/05/2022 5 th of Easter	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	18.00	Sung Evensong (Church)	
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 16/05/2022	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	10.30-12.30	UCI Women's Group (Hall)	
Tuesday, 17/05/2022	17.45	A Time for Meditation (Meeting Room)	
	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
	Any time*	Meditation online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Wednesday, 18/05/2022	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Hall)	
Thursday, 19/05/2022	12.30	Mothers' Union Lunch & Guest Speaker (Hall)	See separate notice
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.

Friday, 20/05/2022	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
Saturday, 21/05/2022			
(4th in month) Sunday, 22/05/2022 6 th of Easter. Observed as Aldersgate Sunday	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); 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

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

Post Covid Arrangements

The common cup was re-introduced a few weeks ago. A few points to make in connection with that.

- Receiving communion at the High Altar involves closer contact with others than we have become accustomed to in church. If you feel that, when moving between your pew and the High Altar, you wish to wear a mask, feel free to do so.
- In any event the Vestry asks that we continue the practice of moving down the centre aisle and back up the appropriate side aisle.
- You are reminded that receiving in one kind, i.e., only the bread, is a valid way of taking communion.

- Dipping your wafer in the wine - known as Intinction - is now once again permitted, for those who wish it. Please be very sure, in that instance, to sanitise your hands thoroughly beforehand.

Finally, the church is now open once again throughout the day (approx. 10.30-16.30) to visitors, and for private prayer and reflection.

New Member of Clergy Team: I am delighted to advise you that the Reverend John McHale, who led our Good Friday talks this year, will be joining us on our clergy team, beginning in June. John has been worshipping with us for about sixteen months on and off, dependent on whether he is needed by the bishop, to cover vacant charges. John's present work commitments restrict his involvement with us in the months of July and August, but thereafter he will be freer to conduct services on Sundays and midweek. John was a Roman Catholic monk for a number of years before teaching music in a Church of England School. His vocation to priesthood was recognised whilst teaching and he went on to Ordination in the Church of England and served for many years as a School Chaplain. We warmly welcome John onto our clergy team, and look forward to serving with him, and wish him every blessing in our midst.

Janice

At the **MU meeting on 19th May**, Carolynne Sorrell will be giving a talk entitled My Day in Delhi – with flower arranging! This is the final change to our programme caused by Covid restrictions in January. 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. Please bring your own sandwich lunch, and tea and coffee will be provided. MU members look forward to welcoming you.

Advance Notice of the MU Summer Outing: On Thursday 9th June, at 1.30 pm, we are visiting Ellisland, Robert Burns' farm just outside Dumfries. We will be given a tour of the farm, which will last about an hour and a half. We can try to soak up the many poems and songs he wrote there and admire Jean Armour's garden. Afterwards, we will have afternoon tea at nearby Friars' Carse, a beautiful country house hotel on the banks on the Nith, where we will all behave ourselves and not get into an inebriated state as Rabbe so famously

did. The cost for the Ellisland tour and afternoon tea will be £17. Anyone who would like to join us on this outing, should contact Carolynne Sorrell, Kim Tofield or Lizanne MacKenzie. Lifts can be arranged, leaving St John's at 1pm. All welcome.

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May: generous donations have been made to Christian Aid's work in Ukraine but Christian Aid Week recognises the continuing need for support in many other parts of the world. This year the focus is on Zimbabwe and the problems climate change is already causing small farmers there. There is more information about the impact on individuals on the lit noticeboard at the back of church.

Although restrictions have eased since last year there will not be a return to the "traditional" house to house collection in most areas. You may receive an envelope through the door with a request to return it to a local point. If you do not receive one of those there is an envelope with these notices. If you would like to support Christian Aid's work please use the envelope for your donation and place it with the collection or hand it to Christopher Pierson-Harvey or myself.

We have a Just Giving page if you prefer to give on line: <https://giving.give-star.com/online/christian-aid/dumfries-christian-aid-group-caw2022>

Any questions, please ask.
Margaret Morton

As most of you will be aware, the second phase of the **electrical works** needed to comply with our insurance requirements was completed in the last week in April. Thank you to anyone who was inconvenienced by this for putting up with it! We are awaiting a replacement part for one of the automatic doors. Apart from that, the works are complete. Thanks to Peter Murray and his assistant, Danny, for all their work doing this. Mostly, what was done was replacement of cabling, so nothing will look much different. We have, however, replaced one or two things, notably one of the warm air curtains above the automatic doors, which has not worked for some time; also both wall mounted convector heaters in the Choir Vestry, which were on their last legs, and another one in the Meeting Room, which had ceased to work. These latter are largely similar to what they replaced. They are programmable, but it's probably simplest just to switch them on when you need them, and **off** again, when you no longer need them. Please remember

to do this! Since they are new, they will smell a bit to begin with, but this is normal, and won't go on for long.

Just a reminder (to myself, as much as anyone else) please to ensure that the outer (car park) **door to the Hall** should be kept closed and, if you're the last person to leave, it should, please, be locked, both with the Yale and the mortice locks. Also, please be sure to check that the left- hand door (looking from the outside) is properly secured: both top and bottom bolts need to be in the holes and they usually need to be helped to do this. If those bolts aren't engaged, the doors can still be opened from the outside, even if locked.

David Kerr

People are starting to ask about resuming our **programme of outings**. We need a **minimum of 10 people** (max 15) to make booking the minibus viable and, if you haven't been before, the bus is fully accessible (ie has a lift) and you'd be very welcome to come along. There have been suggestions of going to see the Viking Hoard in Kirkcudbright and there are plenty of other destinations, near (Threave) and far (Alnwick Castle, Dundee V&A...) we could do as well. The first two possible dates are **Saturday, 21st and/or Saturday 28th** May and I've put a sign up sheet at the back of the church, near the door to the Hall. Please indicate your preference(s) and we'll go with the most popular, assuming we get sufficient numbers. More dates will follow in due course. Bear in mind, also, that Thornhill Community Transport and Cairn Valley Community Transport are both participating in **Spring Fling** this year, over the Jubilee weekend, and covering all the studio tours throughout the whole of D&G. See <https://www.spring-fling.co.uk/whats-on/bus-tours/> for more info and to book.

David

Use of High and Nave Altars: the Vestry has taken account of the views expressed at the recent Special General Meeting. It was unanimously concluded that to make the receiving of communion accessible to as many people as possible and to respect the sincerely held views of members of the congregation **both** altars would be used regularly; that the High Altar would be used at Christmas and Easter and that the Rector would have discretion, on rare and special occasions, to amend which altar was to be used.

- In summary:
 - the Nave Altar will be used on the 1st and 3rd Sundays
 - the High Altar will be used on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays

- the High Altar will be used at Christmas and Easter and
- the Rector has discretion, on rare and special occasions, to amend that pattern.

The Vestry also took account of comments made about the administration of communion in both kinds at the Nave Altar and the need for a **slower pace**. This will be discussed with the Stewards, who will help to facilitate it.

Protection of Vulnerable Groups: the Diocese has approved the appointment of Billy Dewar-Riddick as the Co-ordinator of our arrangements for the Protection of Vulnerable Groups. We are grateful to him for undertaking this work on our behalf. If you have any matters of concern please approach him personally or by e mail, using protection@stjohnsdumfries.org.

Platinum Jubilee: We are planning to mark the Jubilee with a **bring and share lunch** on Sunday the 5th June together with an exhibition of any memorabilia people may have from the 70 years of the Queen's reign-- coronation mug, card to mark a wedding anniversary or 100th birthday etc. They will be on display in the locked showcases in the War Memorial Chapel. More details to follow.

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Administrative Assistant / Property PA to Dean

A part time appointment is required for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway in the Scottish Episcopal Church, located in our attractive new Diocesan Centre. *If you're interested, please contact the St J's office, who can provide full details.*

Concert (part of D&G Arts Festival) in memory of Derek Rangescroft, RIP. – >

A Life In Music - Sunday 22nd May 2022 @ 3pm-5pm (with interval), at the Duncan Rooms, Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries. Part of Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival.

- Tickets priced at £15 / under 26 £7.50
- 10% of ticket sales will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Care.
- Artists performing include soprano Claudia Wood (one of Derek's former pupils). Alex McQuiston (Director of Absolute Classics) and his pupil Will Archibald will perform as a cello duo. Dumfriesshire based pianist Katharine Durran will accompany the musicians.
- Tickets can be purchased online at Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival.

The funeral service for **Olive Burbridge** will be at the Crichton Church at 3pm on Monday, 23/05/2022. All are welcome to attend, and, if you're intending to go, please would you add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church, near the door to the Hall, so the family can assess how many orders of service to print.

The Congregation will be sorry to hear of the death of Bishop Ted Luscombe, long a friend of St J's, on Wednesday, 04/05/2022, at the age of 97. There was a private funeral in Friockheim, but there will be a Memorial Service on **Tuesday, 07/06/2022** at St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee at 11.30am. I don't imagine there will be enough people for the minibus, but, if you're interested in going, please talk to me. We could, at least, hope for better travelling weather than was the case for Bishop John Taylor!

David Kerr

Simon Lidwell says... Do you remember the trees that were used by All Age a (considerable) while ago when it still met in the hall? Anyway, they are going to be re-used in the 'Bearfest' and I'm arranging refurbishing them.

I'd like to invite the Congregation as a whole to participate in this; the date set is **Sunday, 22/05/2022 at 4pm**. Materials and instructions will be provided. We will be adding thoughts and quotes to the leaves as well, so that people can see 'spiritual fruits' when they look up.