

			
(1 st in month) Sunday, 07/05/2023 Easter 5	08.00	1970 Holy Communion (Church)	
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play (Hall); B&S lunch to celebrate the Coronation afterwards (Hall)	All welcome at lunch; whether you knew about this (& brought something) or not.
	14.00	Celebratory Quarter Peal to mark the Coronation (Tower)	
	18.00	Choral Evensong (Church)	Special Choral Evensong for the Coronation (see posters)
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 08/05/2023	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	No rest for the wicked!
	10.30-17.30	UCI Groups (Hall)	Not this week (public holiday)
	19.00-20.45	(Additional) Choir Practice (Church)	No rest for...etc
Tuesday, 09/05/2023	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 10/05/2023	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
	18.30	Choir Practice (Hall)	Please contact
Thursday, 11/05/2023	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 12/05/2023	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
Saturday, 13/05/2023			
(2 nd in month) Sunday, 14/05/2023	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Being observed as Bellringers' Sunday
	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

Coronation Lunch: Please join us to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. We are having a Bring and Share Lunch after the 11.00am service on Sunday 7th May, 2023.

Outings:

- There will be no St J's outing, as such, in May, but you might like to consider joining one of the Spring Fling Tours, operated by Thornhill Community Transport and others: in particular the Green Route (Nithsdale) on Saturday, 27/05/2023, the Red Tour (Annandale & Eskdale) or the 'New & Emerging' Tour (Dfs & Solway Coast and including our own Andy Brooke), both on Sunday, 28/05/2023, or the Pink route (CD & Glenkens area) on Monday, 29/05/2023. These tours, which need to be booked through Spring Fling [www.spring-fling.co.uk or on 07787 299487], all depart from Gracefield at 10am and will last most of the day. There are other tours, starting from Stranraer – see Spring Fling brochures or their website. These are a longish, but fun and interesting, day out. David Kerr has more details, but cannot take bookings. You can also, of course, visit any of these studios any time they're open, under your own steam.
- The next 'purely St J's' outing is planned for Saturday, 24/06/2023 and we expect it to offer the chance to visit combinations of the Burrell Collection, Kelvingrove and/or the People's Palace and any other Glasgow venues for which there is a demand. More details in due course.

Bishop's Lent Appeal, 2023: (in aid of AFIA – Away From It All) This has now closed. The final amount raised was some £630.00, so huge thanks to everyone who contributed, particularly in view of the various other 'things' we've had going on.

Thank you to all of you who have started to make contributions, either to the '**Fiver Challenge**' (see Magazine and Rector's letter), or for coffee, magazine subscriptions etc, via the card machine on Sundays, after the service (and on

Mondays and Fridays, when the office is open). This is beginning to make a difference, and is much appreciated. Unfortunately, there's a technical glitch with the donate buttons on the Website again; the service provider knows about it, and says it is working to resolve it. The buttons *may* work, but if you get a message that thanks you for your payment, without your having entered your details, please be assured it hasn't charged you. Let me know if you encounter this, and I'll do my best to sort it. [David] As always, financial contributions are **invited**, not **required**.

Christian Aid:

- Firstly, thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Lent Lunches for Christian Aid such a success. It was lovely to see so many people enjoying getting together again. We had many positive comments.
- Thanks to your efforts and some very generous donations the final total is £4,856. This includes sales of quizzes and donations specifically to the lunches and, as an example, is enough to provide 65 families with an emergency food kit, providing essential nutrition for a month. In Afganistan, for example, this consists of wheat flour, local rice, vegetable oil, pulses, salt and sugar.
- Secondly, as last year we will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 13th May 10-12 at the Usual Place to mark Christian Aid Week.
- Donations of goods for the baking/ produce stall including jams and marmalade would be appreciated as well as for the catering. We will have some space for what we are calling a "Cornucopia" stall - gifts and small items sell best. We will also have a fair trade crafts stall.
- The Usual Place will be open for donations from 4-5pm on Friday 12th May and from 8:30 am on Saturday or I am happy to collect them from you if you get in touch with me.
- As we found in September we need a good number of people on the day to help serve. If you can help for the whole or part of the morning please let me know.

Margaret Morton 01387 262734

Quartz tell us...

- **CLC:** This is the Quartz housegroup, we meet every second Monday. [More info is on the website*](#). [*Contact Church Office if you're reading this on paper and would like to know more]. Dates for the next few meetings as follows: May 8th, 22nd, June 5th, 19th. We will make a plan for the summer after that. The usual meeting place will be Simon and Kate's between 7.30 and 9. Please get in touch if you need directions.
- **Forest Church :** We are beginning to discuss doing something special around midsummer, probably on the weekend of the 17/18th of June. If you have ideas, please send them in. We will continue to meet at the Crichton of the 3rd Sunday in the Month until then.

A couple of dates for your Diary:

Friday, 26/05/2023, 19.30, here in St J's: there will be an organ recital by our great friend and frequent organist, **John Turner**. Tickets (£10, in aid of St J's) are available from the Church Office and via the usual church sources. This will be an impressive evening, the pairing of a skilled musician and a wonderful instrument: don't miss it!

Saturday, 27/05/2023, 19.30, here in St J's: there will be a **Concert for the King's Coronation** by **Annan Town Band** (Musical Director Lewis Wilkinson) with special guest choir, directed by our own Jamie Brand, MBE. Tickets, also £10, available via the Church Office (in due course) and already via Pet Savers, Annan, the Midsteeple Box Office in Dumfries, and online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/annantownband. Don't miss this one either!

MU Meeting

The last Mothers' Union monthly meeting of our 22/23 programme will take place on Thursday 18th May in the Hall. Pamela Crosbie will be coming to talk to us about Bethany Christian Trust. We will gather from 12.30, with prayers at 12.45 and lunch at 1pm. Please bring a sandwich lunch, and soup, tea / coffee and cake will be provided.

Despite its name, MU is an inclusive organisation, with 4 million members, 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! Please be assured of a warm welcome.

Please note that the next **Silent Prayer @ Elshields** will be on Saturday, 20/05/2023. revann@stjohnsdumfries.org for details.