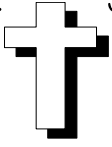


St Edmund's
& St Mark's

Wootton Bridge



Welcome! St Mark's and St Edmund's churches are part of the Binstead, Havenstreet and Wootton plurality. When you attend one of our services please use the time before the service starts for quiet prayer.

Hearing Aid Loop (both churches)

Please be aware that the hearing loop at St Edmund's is currently out of order.

Repairs are being assessed.

20th December 2020

Follow the Star!

The **Wootton Village Christmas Trail** has begun! Six businesses in the High Street display a scene from the Christmas Story. Each window has a star with a number in it, and the last star (no.7) is at St.Edmund's Church, where you will be able to find the whole crib scene. Why not see if you can find the stars? You might like to upload a photo with #FOLLOWTHE STAR, or perhaps make a star and put it in your window?

Our **Roving Nativity Carols** are on Monday 21st December.

Mary, Joseph and the donkey together with 4 carol singers (Rule of 6 – donkeys don't count!) will be visiting different parts of the village. The planned route is as follows:

- * St Edmund's Walk (grass at start of Whitehead Cres.) 5.30pm
 - * St Edmund's Walk (outside no. 54) 5.40pm
 - * New Road (Old School) 5.50pm
 - * High Street (outside Italian Touch) 6.05pm
 - * Mary Rose Avenue (opposite GP car park) 6.15pm
 - * Mary Rose Avenue (outside nos 114-146) 6.25pm
 - * Station Road (The Cedars) 6.42pm
 - * Church Road (Church Close grass) 6.52pm
 - * Church Road (top of Rectory Drive) 7.03pm
- ...then back to St Edmund's Walk.

Come and meet JimBob (the donkey) and enjoy some Christmas festivity with the carol singers. We will be collecting for the IOW Foodbank which seems appropriate in these difficult times.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

... Bishop Christopher, God's mission and our ministry in Wootton, School and Street Pastors, Peter Sutton, the cathedral Church of St Thomas



...*those who are sick or in any kind of need*: Jan, Paul, Huw and families. Myrtle, Jane & John, Carol & Richard, our Arab Christian brothers & sisters in the Middle East, our Little Lions families, and all on our 'Luke 11' Line

...*those who have recently died*: Chris Dixon

...*those in Our Year's Mind*: 22nd Sue Scovell

If you would like a name to be added to the prayer list (with the consent of the person named) please let Helen Davison know. Names will remain on the list for an initial period of 4 weeks. Please inform Helen if you wish a name to be included after this time, or when prayers have been answered or are no longer needed.

Names in our 'Year's Mind' will be published for three years and then removed unless otherwise requested. Thank you.

December Services

The full list of services taking place this month in our plurality and at WB Methodist Church are shown on the back page.

Please remember to book a place in order to attend any of these services. There are fewer spaces available, and we have to keep a list of names and numbers for NHS Test and Trace. Early booking is advisable, and is appreciated! If you book a place and then cannot come please let us know so it can be offered to someone else.

To book for **St Mark's and St Edmund's** Churches please go to www.cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk and click on the services tab where you will find a booking form, or ring 301880 and leave a message on our ansaphone.

To book for either **Holy Cross or St Peter's** Churches please contact Hilary on 615551 or at Homs12@tiscali.co.uk.

To book for **WB Methodist** Church please make contact with Jenny at Jenny.gaches@btinternet.com

Thank you—we look forward to seeing you!

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Useful Information

Our BHW service video for use during December can be accessed by going to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QgX4l-74i0

The free Church of England 'Daily Hope' phone number is still available for hymns, reflections and prayers on 088 804 8044

Find resources on the Diocesan website, including details of services being streamed here: <https://www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk/>

Christmas video for young people

COVID restrictions have meant that the work normally carried out with our local schools has been curtailed since March. It was decided to prepare something for children and young people, so Rodney has produced a Christmas video! Our thanks to him and all who work to provide online support. The link is: https://youtu.be/I_7AqlmZeYI

News from the Diocese

As we explore what it means to be a thriving, faithful diocese together our bishop's staff have developed a prayer for use in parishes so that the work and discussions may be underpinned in prayer:

Lord our God, you make all things new. Inspire our lives with your spirit. Renew our prayer with your grace. Transform our service with your love. In the renewal of our life may your kingdom flourish and your church thrive so that all may come to know and love you in your Son Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayer for youth leaders

Looking ahead, we hope to be able to restart youth and children's work in the parish again next year around Easter, and will need youth leaders to accomplish this. Please pray:

Lord, create an atmosphere here that encourages our children to find You. Help us to attract youth leaders who will remind each child of the marvellous things You have done. Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS MONTH

Sun 20th	9.30am Carol Service (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (Holy Cross) 11am Morning Prayer (St Peters) 4pm Family Carol Service (WBM) 6.30pm Carol Service (Holy Cross)
Mon 21st	5.30pm 'Roving Carol' event in aid of the Foodbank (Weather permitting). Full details in The Bridge.
Wed 23rd	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 24th	4pm Crib service (St Mark's) 4pm Crib service (Holy Cross) 11.30pm Midnight Mass (St Mark's) 11.30pm Midnight Mass (Holy Cross)
Fri 25th	10am Christmas Day Service (St Mark's) 10am Christmas Day Service (WBM) 10.30am Holy Communion (St Peters)
Sun 27th	8am Holy Communion (Holy Cross) 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's) 10am Morning Service (WBM) 11am Holy Communion (St Peters) No 6.30pm Evening Prayer (St Edmund's)
Wed 30th	No 9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)

Private Prayer: St Edmund's is open daily from 9am until dusk.
Holy Cross Church is open 9am-dusk on Sundays and Thursdays.
St Peter's Church is open 9am-dusk Tuesdays, 10am-dusk Saturdays.



Visit our website: www.cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk

Parish of St Edmund's and St Mark's Wootton Bridge

Parish Priest: During our period of Interregnum please either email us at stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com or leave a message on 301880 (Please be aware that both are checked regularly, but not daily)

Churchwarden: Ann Capps

Weekly Sheet co-ordinator: Helen Davison. Tel. 882330 or email me at helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk