

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.

21st February 2021

## **Lent in lockdown**

From Bishop Christopher:

“Last year we entered lockdown just about halfway through Lent, marking the whole of Passiontide, Holy Week and then Easter under restrictions and constraints. At least this year we can plan... so here are some suggestions for devotional focus at home to use alongside the opportunities that parishes are offering for study, prayer and learning through online digital courses and groups, or through meditations and sermons available by phone, or through written material delivered via the letterbox.

“I begin with a reminder that a physical discipline can assist our spiritual discipline or focus. Taking something up or giving something up can help us to focus better on God and Jesus, and to give attention to what's really important for us. For lent exactly fifty years ago I began praying Church of England Morning Prayer and discovered the joy of praying the same words and psalms, reading the same bible readings as Christians all around the country and the world. You may consider your own way to focus your daily prayer. You might mark every Friday, preparing for Jesus' death on Good Friday, by having a simpler lunch or meal. You may decide to give more generously or sacrificially to a charity or your church. As with me those decades ago, Lent can be the start of something valuable in your life.”

Bishop Christopher has also shared some recommended reading and devotional resources for Lent this year. Discover them at

<https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/len>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...



... Bishop Christopher, Archdeacon Peter Leonard, God's mission and our ministry in Wootton, School and Street Pastors, Resources and Strategic Implementation staff

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

...*those who are in Our Year's Mind*: 23<sup>rd</sup> Arthur Penfold, 25<sup>th</sup> Madge Couvelle, 25<sup>th</sup> John Deakin, 26<sup>th</sup> Peter Parsons, 26<sup>th</sup> Chris Buswell, 26<sup>th</sup> Dolly Kirby, 26<sup>th</sup> Audrey Guy

*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.*

## **Bishop's Lent Appeal 2020 and 2021 God's Creation: his world and his people**

The 2020 bishop's Lent Appeal focused on the Environment and our God-given responsibility for the care and sustaining of the world, its resources and its people, which are His first, and also ours. Even with lockdown beginning in the middle of Lent last year, individual and parish gifts and donations came in total of just over £10,000. Thank you for that generosity. Focus on the Environment will be continued with this year's bishop's Lent Appeal. Please read more about it here:

<https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lentappeal>

## **February Month of Prayer**

Our Archbishops have called for us to pause, reflect and remember all who have died in the UK as a result of the Covid pandemic, and to pray for their loved ones. They have called for this month of prayer for our nation as our response, and would like us all to pause and pray each evening, particularly at 6pm. There are suggested themes for each day of the week, and suggested prayers for each week during the month of February, including litanies, family prayers and prayers for use in schools. You can read and download these resources from:

[www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation)

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Useful Resources

The Ministry Team has planned to provide a video service on Youtube each month as a resource. The current service for use during February can be accessed using this link: <https://youtu.be/KgCiT26EYfQ>

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/>  
Some clergy and lay people will now be offering video prayers three times a week during the rest of February and March. You are welcome to use them for prayer personally as we seek God's will for the future of our diocese together. See the information posted on the website.

To access the 11am Sunday service from **Newport Minster** you can watch the live stream at <https://www.facebook.com/NewportMinster>, join the Zoom Congregation (the link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/741076773?pwd=Z2pzcVZhOEExRGkwdmJtUUo5VENuQT09>) or attend in person by emailing [media@newportminster.org](mailto:media@newportminster.org)

**LiveLent** daily reflections will be made available through a booklet available to buy, as well as a free app, emails, audio and through the Church of England's social media accounts. They'll all be branded as #LiveLent. The national Church of England is offering online webinars to help you to make best use of this material.

More details about the resources and the webinars can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/livelent-2021-church-resources-gods-story-our-story?>

### Private Prayer

St Edmund's Church is currently closed for private prayer.

Holy Cross Church is open 9am-dusk Sundays and Thursdays, and St Peter's from 9am-dusk on Tuesdays and 10am-dusk on Saturdays.

Please leave your details for Track and Trace.

# PRAYERS:

## **A prayer about the Coronavirus outbreak**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

## **For the departed**

Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayer for all whose new life is lived in your nearer presence, and particularly for those whom we love and see no longer; we thank you for all the ways in which they have enriched our lives and pray that, by your grace, they may rest in peace and rise in glory **Amen**

## **For our own ministry at this time**

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety give us strength to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. **Amen**

## **For 'Live Pray Serve'**

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**

Visit our website: [www.cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk)