



A very warm welcome to any visitors worshipping with us today! When you attend one of our services please use the time before the service starts for quiet prayer.



*At our Communion services those who are confirmed and those who normally receive Communion in their own church are invited to receive Communion. All are welcome to receive a blessing.*

22nd September 2024

## **Diocese expresses view on proposed school closures**

Our diocese has responded to proposals from the IoW Council to close six island schools – including three Church of England primaries – in order to remove surplus school places.

The Diocesan position is that if a local authority wishes to close a CofE school, there should be an alternative CofE school nearby where parents can choose to send their children. The distinctive nature of church schools could be lost if these proposals go ahead.

The IoW Council has approved plans for a consultation period on from 20th September until 1st November. Those in our church and school communities are invited to make their views known by emailing the council at [council.strategic.planning@iow.gov.uk](mailto:council.strategic.planning@iow.gov.uk).

Any changes subsequently agreed would not take effect until September 2025. Please pray for all the staff, pupils and families of all the affected schools as they face an uncertain future.

## **Prayer**

Almighty and merciful God,  
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;  
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,  
homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief;  
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;  
and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will  
rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **THIS WEEK'S READINGS** Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

*Either* Wisdom 1.16—2.1, 12-22

*or* Jeremiah 11.18-20; James 3.13—4.3, 7-8a; Mark 9.30-37

Wednesday, 25th September 9.30am at St Edmund's

Proverbs 30.5-9

Sunday, 29th September Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Numbers 11.4-6, 10-16, 24-29; James 5.13-end; Mark 9.38-end



## **PLEASE PRAY FOR...**



... Bishop Jonathan, Asst. Bishop Rob, Area Dean Chris, Archdeacon Steve, and Associate Area Deans James, Tom and Vicky. Also pray for Sandra and Roy Matthews, God's mission and our ministry in Wootton, and the Island School and Street Pastors.

**...those who are sick or in any kind of need:** Hilary, Julie and Graham, Lisa, John C, Tracey, Cynara, Kurt, Myra, Eileen Emmerson, Suzie Willcox, our Christian brothers and sisters in North Korea and the Middle East, the children of our church and parish, all on our Luke 11 Line, and those who staff our children's ministry.

**...those who are in Our Year's Mind:** 24<sup>th</sup> Pat Davis, 28<sup>th</sup> Ros Malyon

*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.*

## **Service Information**

David McCulloch is training at Cuddesdon and is therefore away for our Holy Communion and Evensong services today,  
**Sunday 22nd September.**

## **Milk bottle tops, empty ink cartridges and stamps!**

Please don't forget to bring your plastic milk bottle tops (without the silvery bottle inner cover), empty ink cartridges and stamps to either St Mark's or St Edmund's so that they may be passed on to the charity supporting two local families with ability gaps. Thank you!

Donations for the IoW foodbank are still also much appreciated.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Bible Study Group

A reminder that the Bible Study group now meet weekly in the Coffee Lounge, with the exception of the 2nd Thursday each month due to Stay & Play. Next group meets **Thursday 26th September**.

### The Bridge

More help would be appreciated delivering *The Bridge* each month.

If you are able to help please either let David Bennison know or email [thebridge@cofeeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk](mailto:thebridge@cofeeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk)

You are invited to the next session of Bridge-folding which will be held in the Coffee Lounge at 2pm on **Friday 27th September**.

Please come along and join us!

### Songs of Praise

The next Songs of Praise service will take place at 9.30am on **Sunday 29th September** at St Mark's. The theme is 'Harvest'.

### Generosity Week

We believe in a generous God, a God who gave us everything. Giving and generosity are inextricably linked with the living out of our Christian faith. Generosity Week this year will take place from **Sunday 29th Sept to Sunday 6th Oct**.

### Café Communion

Our next Cafe Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 2nd October**. Please book if you would like lunch either by leaving a message on the parish ansaphone 301880 or by email to [stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com](mailto:stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com). The PCC pays for the lunch which follows the service and all donations are split between Wootton School's hardship fund and our parish.

### Celtic Evening Prayer

An invitation to a short service of Celtic Evening Prayer which will be held outside (weather permitting) at St Mildred's Church, Whippingham on **Sunday 6th October** at 6pm

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Sun 22nd | 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's)<br>9.30am Morning Worship (St James')<br>11.15am Morning Worship (St Mildred's)<br>6.30pm Evening Service (St Edmund's) |
| Wed 25th | 9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)   |
| Thu 26th | No Stay&Play (St Mark's)<br>11am Bible Study Group (St Mark's)<br>6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)  |
| Fri 27th | 9am Morning Prayer (St Mildred's)<br>2pm Bridge Folding (St Mark's)   |

### Later

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Sun 29th    | 9.30am Songs of Praise (St Mark's)<br>9.30am Holy Communion (St James')<br>11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) |
| Wed 2nd Oct | 11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's)   |
| Thu 3rd     | No Stay&Play (St Mark's)<br>11am Bible Study Group (St Mark's)<br>6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)                 |
| Fri 4th     | 9am Morning Prayer (St Mildred's)  |
| Sun 6th     | 8am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)   |

*We look forward to seeing you! We ask that you do not attend church if you either have symptoms of covid, or test positive for it. Thank you.*

## Private Prayer

St Edmund's Church is open for private prayer each day from 9am-5pm (or dusk if earlier)

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:** Harry Kirby

**Safeguarding:** If you have concerns about a child or an adult who may be vulnerable or at risk, contact Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) Steve Beynon on 0789 435 3584.

**Weekly Sheet co-ordinator:** Helen Davison is contactable on 882330 or by email at [helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk)