



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 December 2024



*Wishing you a God-filled and peaceful Christmas*

### **Christmas Carol Service**

Don't forget! We shall be holding our annual Carol Service this year at St Edmund's church today, **Sunday 22nd December**, at 5pm. Please do come and join in!



### **Christmas Day Holy Communion**

We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Day Service which will take place at St Mark's church on **Wednesday 25th December**, starting at **10am**.



### **Advent Prayer for Love**

God of love, as we approach the celebration of the birth of your Son, help us to embody the love that He brought into the world. Teach us to love one another as you have loved us. *Amen*

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS** Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Micah 5.2-5a; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1:39-55  
Wednesday, 25th December 10am St Mark's Christmas Day  
Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-6; John 1:1-18  
Sunday, 29th December First Sunday of Christmas  
1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2. 41-end



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



...Bishop Jonathan, Asst.Bishop Rob, Archdeacon Steve,  
Area Dean Chris, Associate Area Deans James, Tom and Vicky  
...Sandra and Roy Matthews, God's mission and our ministry in  
Wootton, and those who staff our children's ministry  
...from the Diocesan cycle of prayers - Council for Social Responsibility  
...our Christian brothers and sisters in North Korea and the Middle East  
...the children of our church and parish, and the Island School and  
Street Pastors  
... *those who are sick or in any kind of need:* Arthur Edwards, Hilary,  
Katrina, Julie and Graham, Lisa, Tracey, Cynara, Eileen Emmerson,  
Suzie Willcox, and all on our Luke 11 Line.  
... *those who have recently died:* Brian Way  
... *those who are in Our Year's Mind:* 22<sup>nd</sup> Sue Scovell, 28<sup>th</sup> Margaret  
Chambers

*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.*

## **Home baking and Church events**

For the foreseeable future only shop-bought cakes etc will be offered at Church services and events. Although this is disappointing for both bakers and eaters, the decision has been made with 'duty of care' at its heart. As part of our re-evaluation St Mark's kitchen will be inspected and more people will be undertaking food hygiene courses. We remain grateful to all who normally prepare homebaked food for services and events.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:



### Christingle Service

This annual service will be taking place at St Mark's on **Tuesday 24th December**, at 4pm. All are very welcome.

We shall be preparing the Christingles on Sunday 22nd after the 9.30am service in the coffee lounge if you wish to come and help!

### Christmas Carol Songs of Praise

On **Sunday 29th December** our 9.30am service at St Mark's will be a Christmas Carol Songs of Praise. Come along for a good sing!

### January Service Information

Please be aware that the first two Wednesday services in January have been swapped. They will be as follows:

**Wed 1st January** 9.30am Holy Communion at St Edmund's

**Wed 8th January** 11.15am Café Communion at St Mark's

### MBBBG

Due to the above service changes the Mark's Brothers' Breakfast Gathering will **NOT** take place on **Wednesday 8th January**. However, please do come along to our Café Communion service that morning instead!

### Café Communion

Our next Café Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 8th January**. 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 lunch which follows the service and all donations received are split between Wootton Primary School's hardship fund and our parish.

### Elephant Club

This is a social group for those living with memory loss, their carers and friends. The next will take place on **Thursday 9th January** 2-4pm at St Mark's. We would love to see you!

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

Sun 22nd	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's) followed by Christingle preparations
	9.30am Morning Worship (St James')
	11.15am Morning Worship (St Mildred's)
	5pm Christmas Carol Service (St Edmund's)
Tue 24th	4pm Christingle (St Mark's)
	7pm Holy Communion (St. James')
Wed 25th	10am Christmas Day Holy Communion (St Mark's)
	10am Christmas Day Holy Communion, Carols for Christmas with Christmas jumpers (St Mildred's)
Thu 26th	<b>No</b> 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
	<b>No</b> 11am Bible Study Group (St Mark's)
Fri 27th	<b>No</b> 9.30am Holy Communion (St. James')
Sat 28th	9.30am Said Holy Communion (St Mildred's)

### Later

Sun 29th	9.30am Christmas Carol Songs of Praise (St Mark's)
	9.30am Said Holy Communion (St. James')
Wed 1st Jan	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 2nd	<b>No</b> 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
	11am Bible Study Group (St Mark'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:** Rev'd Sandra Matthews - contactable by email at [stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com](mailto:stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com) or by leaving a message on 301880.  
(Emails and messages 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 Steve Beynon on 0789 435 3584 or at [safeguarding@cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk)

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