

St Edmund's
& St Mark's



Wootton Bridge

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.

29th December 2024



Christmas Carol Songs of Praise

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

Bishop Jonathan's Christmas Message

Bishop Jonathan has recorded a special Christmas message for everyone. Filmed at Bishopsgrrove, he reflects on his trip to Ghana earlier this year to visit churches that are connected with our diocese through Ghana Link. You can watch find it here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f0odhLKdYs.

New Year Prayer

Lord, as we embark on this new year, we lift up to you, our loved ones, our communities, and the world. May your peace reign in our hearts and in the hearts of all people. Bring healing where there is brokenness and reconciliation where there is division.

Amen

THIS WEEK'S READINGS First Sunday of Christmas
1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2. 41-end
Wednesday, 1st January 9.30am at St Edmund's



Numbers 6.22-end

Sunday, 5th January Second Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31.7-14; Ephesians 1.3-14; John 1[1-9],10-18

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 - Finance and Communication staff

...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 in Our Year's Mind:* 3rd Viv Loveless, 4th Heather Bickley

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.

As in recent new years, the list of names of those who are in sick or need will be renewed next week. Please let me know of anyone who should be included.

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:

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

Living Faith: Reshaping Church

This module starts on Friday 3rd January, 7:30pm, online. It examines how, throughout history, the Church has changed in response to events and goes on to consider how it is adapting to contemporary circumstances. For details and to book go to

www.portsmouth.anglican.org/events/2025/01/03/living-faith-reshaping-church/

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.

Stay&Play

Our next (free) Stay&Play will be on **Thursday 9th January** at 9.15am. Children aged 8 years and under are very welcome to attend with an adult. We have a range of play and craft activities.

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 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	No 9.30am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 11am Bible Study Group (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 3rd	No Holy Communion (St. James')

Later

Sun 5th	8am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 9.30am Brunch Service (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Wed 8th	11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's) No Mark's Brothers' Brunch Gathering (St Mark's)
Thu 9th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 9.15am Stay&Play (St Mark's) 11am Bible Study Group (Hosted locally) 2pm Elephant Club (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 10th	9.30am Holy Communion (St. James')

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



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

Parish Priest: Rev'd Sandra Matthews - contactable by email at 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

Weekly Sheet co-ordinator: Helen Davison may be contacted on 882330 or by email at helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk