

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.

5th January 2025

Café Communion

Our next Cafe 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.

The PCC pays for the lunch which follows this service and all donations received are split between Wootton Primary School's hardship fund and our parish.

Volunteering

Volunteering is supposed to be very good for the health of both mind and body and we are very grateful to all who give their time to help with the running of our churches. If you have an interest in volunteering in any way this year please do let Harry, Mary or Helen D know! You may not either want or be able to take on very much, and you may only be available occasionally, but every little really does help. Thank you.

Mission Prayer

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



THIS WEEK'S READINGS Second Sunday of Christmas
Jeremiah 31.7-14; Ephesians 1.3-14; John 1[1-9],10-18
Wednesday, 8th January 11.15am at St Mark's



1 John 4.7-10

Sunday, 12th January Baptism of Christ (First Sunday of Epiphany)
Isaiah 43.1-7; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

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 - Bishop's Waltham Deanery
Officers

...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:* All on our Luke 11 Line

... *those who have recently died:* Eileen Emmerson

... *those who are in Our Year's Mind:* 10th Mo Hasler

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 years, the list of names of those who are in sick or need has been renewed this 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:

MBBBG

Due to necessary 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!

Stay&Play

Our next (free) Stay&Play will take place 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** from 2-4pm at St Mark's. Anyone who would like some company and cake is invited to attend. Each month's programme is different so we hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy. We would love to see you.

The Big Mac Talks (*A meaty Bible study*)

David McCulloch will give another interesting talk after Morning Worship on **Sunday 19th January**. Come along to St Mark's as our service finishes at 10.30am to find out more. All are welcome.

The Bridge

You are invited to the next session of Bridge-folding which will be held in the Coffee Lounge at 2pm on **Friday 31st January**. This is a sociable session, so please come along and join us!

We are grateful for the help of all our volunteers, without whom there would be no magazine. If you know someone who might be prepared to help us, (particularly with delivering *The Bridge*) do please let David Bennison know. Alternatively would you be interested in writing an article for it? If so, please email Warwick at thebridge@cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

This week

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')

Later

Sun 12th	9.30am Holy Communion and Explorers (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 5pm Evensong (St Edmund's)
Wed 15th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 16th	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



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