



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.

2nd March 2025

Lent 2025

Lent begins on March 5th, and at a time of uncertainty and danger for many, we have an opportunity to find real hope and to see how that hope can work in even the darkest moments. The theme of this year's Church of England Lent campaign is *Living Hope*

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2025

Our bishop invites us to donate towards good causes each year, and this year the recipients of the Bishop's Lent Appeal will be:

Tearfund: partners churches in over 50 of the world's poorest countries to tackle poverty and injustice through sustainable development, by responding to disasters and challenging injustice. Read more about their work at www.tearfund.org

USPG: an Anglican mission agency that partners with churches worldwide to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice. Read more at www.uspg.org.uk

Vista: offering support to women in our area involved in the sex industry past or present. More at www.harbourchurchuk.org/vista/

You are able to donate to the Bishop's Lent Appeal either online at www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lentappeal/ or by placing money in any of our plate collections after putting it in an envelope marked 'Bishops Lent Appeal'.

It may well be that our parish or plurality will support an Island charity too. If this is the case an update will be given next week!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS Sunday next before Lent
Exodus 34.29-end; 2 Corinthians 3.12—4.2; Luke 9.28-36 [37-43a]
Wednesday, 5th March 11.15am at St Mark's
Either Joel 2. 1-2, 12-17 *or* Isaiah 58.1-12
Sunday, 9th March First Sunday next of Lent
Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Romans 10.8b-13; Luke 4.1-13



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 - Portsmouth Deanery 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:* Chris B, Suzie Willcox,
Arthur Edwards, and all on our Luke 11 Line
... *those who are in Our Year's Mind:* 6th Tom Rose

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.

Lent: Daily Thoughts and Pictures

The theme this year is Stations of the Cross which will include the 15th Station, the Resurrection, that we will follow on Easter Sunday. We hope you find them helpful and nourishing! If you don't already receive the Weekly Sheet but would like to receive these daily emails, please contact Helen at helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer

Creator God, you made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

GENERAL INFORMATION:

MBBBG

The Mark's Brothers' Breakfast/Brunch Gathering will next take place on **Wednesday 5th March** at 10.30am in the Coffee Lounge. Please tell anyone who would appreciate the company and brunch!

Plurality Lent Groups

The following Lent Groups have now been arranged:

Plurality Lent Bible Study at St James' Church Hall each Wednesday during Lent from 2-3pm. Starting on **Wednesday 5th March**.

Plurality Prayer Group taking place at The Rectory each Thursday during Lent from 12-12.30pm. Commencing **Thursday 6th March**.

Bible Study Group

Our Bible Study Group meets at St Mark's most Thursdays, and you are most welcome to join in the next session which will take place in the Coffee Lounge at 11am on **Thursday 6th March**.

The exception to the norm is that the group makes way for Stay and Play on the second Thursday each month, and instead meets in a member's house. All are welcome.

Café Communion

Our next Cafe Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 12th March**. Please book if you would like lunch either by leaving a message on the parish ansaphone 301880 or by email to stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com. Thank you!

Stay&Play

Our next free Stay&Play will be on **Thursday 13th March** starting at 9.15am. All children aged 8 years and under are very welcome to attend with an adult. We have a range of play and craft activities.

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

David McCulloch will give another interesting talk after Morning Worship on **Sunday 16th March**. Come along to St Mark's as our service finishes at 10.30am to find out more! All are welcome.

Dates for your Diary

This week

Sun 2nd	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 5th	9.30am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 10.30am Mark's Brothers' Gathering (St Mark's) 2-3pm Lent Bible Study Group (St James' Church Hall) 7pm Ash Wednesday Service (St Mildred's)
Thu 6th	11am Bible Study Group (St Mark's) 12-12.30pm Prayer for the Plurality Group (The Rectory) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 7th	9.30am Holy Communion (St. James')

Later

Sun 9th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 5pm Evensong (St Edmund's)
Wed 12th	11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's) 2-3pm Lent Bible Study Group (St James' Church Hall)
Thu 13th	9.15am Stay&Play (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