



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.*

9th March 2025

## Lent 2025

Lent began on March 5th, and the theme of this year's Church of England Lent campaign is *Living Hope*. In our parish all plate donations received at all of our services during Lent will be split equally between the IoW charity 'Ability Dogs for Young People' and the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

### Ability Dogs 4 Young People

This charity started in 2012 to enhance the independence of disabled young people and children on the island. It takes 2 years, a lot of dedication and money to train a puppy. They are all island trained for island people, and more information can be found at

[www.abilitydogs4yp.org.uk/index.html](http://www.abilitydogs4yp.org.uk/index.html)

### Bishop's Lent Appeal 2025

The recipients of the Bishop's Lent Appeal are:

Tearfund: read more about their work at [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)

USPG: read more about them at [www.uspg.org.uk](http://www.uspg.org.uk)

Vista: find out more at [www.harbourchurchuk.org/vista/](http://www.harbourchurchuk.org/vista/)

Go to [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lentappeal/](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lentappeal/) for more details.

## Prayer

Lord, help us to remember your promises and who you are.

It is because of you that we can have hope because you are faithful. Let your faithfulness be the thing we remember and rely on. Let that be the source of our hope and joy. In your name we pray. *Amen*

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS** First Sunday next of Lent  
Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Romans 10.8b-13; Luke 4.1-13  
Wednesday, 12th March 9.30am at St Edmund's



Jonah Ch 3

**Sunday, 16th March** Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3.12—4.1; Luke 13.31-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 - Portsmouth Cathedral

...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

*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.*

## **Celebration of Life Invitation**

Following the death of Ruth Boulton and her subsequent burial on the mainland, her sister is arranging a 'Celebration of Ruth's Life' which is to be held in Shanklin on **Saturday 5th April**.

Ruth was well known in the parish, and a good friend of Mary Pinfold. Those who knew her are invited to drop-in between 11.30am and 4pm on that day and to bring memories to share!

The venue will be the Conservative Club, Shanklin, and her sister asks that if you wish to join to please contact her on 07432 849749 before **Monday 24th March**.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### 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](mailto:stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com). Thank you!

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

### 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.

There is no charge. Free toast and a snack is available to all, and free tea/coffee for adults!

### Elephant Club

This is a social group for those living with memory loss, their carers and friends. The next will take place on **Thursday 13th March** 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 16th March**. Come along to St Mark's as our service finishes at 10.30am to find out more! All are welcome.

### **Mothing Sunday Service**

This will take place at **10am** on **Sunday 30th March** at St Mark's.

It will be a family service which will include a short act of Communion. Everyone welcome to join us, but please note the later start time, and remember to put your clocks forward an hour first!

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

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) 11am Bible Study Group (Hosted locally) 12-12.30pm Prayer for the Plurality Group (The Rectory) 2pm Elephant Club (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 14th	9.30am Holy Communion (St. James')

### Later

Sun 16th	9.30am Morning Worship followed by the Big Mac Talk (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Tues 18th	10am Coffee Morning (St James' Church Hall)
Wed 19th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 2-3pm Lent Bible Study Group (St James' Church Hall)

*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)