



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.

30th March 2025

Mothing Sunday Service

This takes place today, **Sunday 30th March, 10am** at St Mark's.

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

Lent 2025

The theme of this year's CofE 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. More information can be found at www.abilitydogs4yp.org.uk/index.html

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2025

The recipients this year are Tearfund, USPG, and Vista. Go to www.portsmouth.anglican.org/lentappeal/ for more details.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, in this season of Lent, we ask for your wisdom to guide us. Show us where you are leading and give us the courage to follow, even when the way is uncertain.

Let this time of reflection draw us closer to your will, and thank you for walking with us every step of the way. *Amen*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)
Either Exodus 2.1-10 *or* 1 Samuel 1.20-end; *Either* 2 Corinthians 1.3-7
or Colossians 3.12-17; *Either* Luke 2.33-35 *or* John 19. 25b-27
Wednesday, 2nd April 11.15am at St Mark's

Isaiah 49.8-15

Sunday, 6th April Fifth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43.16-12; Philippians 3.4b-14; John 12.1-8



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:* Chris B, Suzie Willcox,
Arthur Edwards, and all on our Luke 11 Line

...*those who are in Our Year's Mind:* 4th Mary Lewis, 5th Toni Bennett

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.

Audit of safeguarding

A diocesan online survey is available until **Wednesday 2nd April**, and any member of one of our worshipping communities or church-based activities can complete it anonymously and in confidence at ineqe.com/churchofengland/portsmouth It will give auditors an idea of the culture relating to safeguarding in our parishes.

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Steve Beynon, and he is available on 07894353584 or at safeguarding@cofe parishofwoottonbridge.org.uk

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Café Communion

Our next Café Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 2nd April**. 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!

Bible Study/Discussion Group

After some thought (and discussion!) our Bible Study Group has been re-named 'Discussion Group'. It continues to meet at St Mark's most Thursdays, and you are most welcome to join in on **Thursday 3rd April** at 11am in the Coffee Lounge,

The Bridge

You are invited to the next session of Bridge-folding which will be in the Coffee Lounge at 2pm on revised date of **Friday 4th April**. Please come along and join us – many hands make light work!

MBBBG

The Mark's Brothers' Breakfast/Brunch Gathering will next take place on **Wednesday 9th April** at 10.30am in the Coffee Lounge.

Stay&Play

Our next free Stay&Play will be on **Thursday 10th April** starting at 9.15am. Children aged 8 years and under are invited with an adult!

Easter Services

Sun 13th : 9.30am Service of Palms/Holy Communion (St Mark's)

Mon 14th : 7pm Short Reflection (St Mildred's)

Tue 15th : 7pm Short Reflection (St Mildred's)

Wed 16th : 9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)

Wed 16th : 7pm Short Reflection (St Mildred's)

Thu 17th : 7pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion (St Edmund's)

Fri 18th : 10am Good Friday Morning Worship (St Mark's)

Fri 18th : 11am Walk of Witness (Near Waitrose, E. Cowes)

Fri 18th : 2pm Reflections from the Cross (St Mildred's)

Sun 20th : 10am Easter Sunday Service (St Mark's)

Please join us if you are able to do so.



Dates for your Diary

This week

Sun 30th	10am Mothering Sunday Service (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Wed 2nd Apr	11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's) 2-3pm Lent Bible Study Group (St James' Church Hall)
Thu 3rd	11am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 12-12.30pm Prayer for the Plurality Group (The Rectory) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 4th	9.30am Holy Communion (St. James') 2pm Bridge Folding (St Mark's)

Later

Sun 6th	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 9th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 10.30am Mark's Brothers' Gathering (St Mark's) 2-3pm Lent Bible Study Group (St James' Church Hall)
Thu 10th	9.15am Stay&Play (St Mark's) 11am Discussion Group (Hosted locally)

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