



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.*

23rd November 2025

## Parish News

We are very sad to announce that Sandra will be relocating to the mainland early in February 2026 so that she may be closer to family. Sandra has achieved a lot in her time with us, and will be sorely missed. The decision to move cannot have been an easy one for her to make, but we are very grateful for all that she has brought to our parish and plurality, and wish her well in her new post. Nearer the time parishioners will be invited to her licencing on Wednesday 25th February at Swanmore Parish Church.

## Would you like to spread a little joy?

Churches Together in East Cowes and Whippingham have organised Christmas Carols to be sung in the local retirement and care homes for many years and invite you to join in. It is not a choir, just people from our local churches singing together. Each session lasts 35-40 minutes. The homes and dates are as follows:

**Hazelwood House - Wednesday 3rd December at 6pm**

**Powys House - Wednesday 10th of December at 4pm**

**Coburg Court - Sunday 14th December at 2.30pm**

**Kynance - Thursday 18th December at 10.30am**

For more information contact Jill Traill [pandjt@btinternet.com](mailto:pandjt@btinternet.com)  
or Sarah Kite [sarahkite47@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahkite47@hotmail.com)

## Prayer

May the tender mercy of God give us light for our paths  
and guide us in the ways of peace. *Amen*

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS** Christ the King  
Jeremiah 23.1-6; Colossians 1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43  
Wednesday, 26th November 9.30am at St Edmund's  
Daniel 5.1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28  
Sunday, 30th November First Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 2.1-5; Romans 13.11-end; Matthew 24.36-44



## PLEASE PRAY FOR...



...The Rt Rev Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop Jonathan,  
Asst.Bishop Rob, Area Dean Chris, Associate Area Deans  
James and Vicky

...Sandra Matthews, God's mission and our ministry in Wootton, and  
those who staff our children's ministry

...from the Diocesan cycle of prayers: Portchester

...our Christian brothers and sisters in North Korea and the Middle East

...the children of our church and parish

...the Island School, Street, and Prayer Pastors

... ***those who are sick or in any kind of need:*** Robert, Rev'd Bob,  
Lorna, Neil, Barbara Edwards, and all on our Luke 11 Line

... ***those who are in Our Year's Mind:*** 27<sup>th</sup> Beryl Sheppard

*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.*

## Carol Services

There are three great opportunities for attending a Carol Service in our plurality in December to which you are invited. They are:

**Sunday 7th December, 4pm at St James' (East Cowes**  
Churches Together)

**Sunday 14th December, 5pm at St Mark's**

**Sunday 21st December, 4pm at St Mildred's**



A further opportunity will be at our Christingle Service on  
**Wednesday 24th December, 4pm at St Mark's!**

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will meet in the Coffee Lounge at St Mark's 10.30am on **Thursday 27th November**. Do come along!

### The Bridge

You are invited to the next session of Bridge-folding which will be held in the Coffee Lounge at 2pm on **Friday 28th November**.

### Services on Sunday 30th November

Our next Plurality Holy Communion service will be taking place at St Mark's church at 9.30am on **Sunday 30th November**.

Then at 5pm we are holding a Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent with Cantus Vesperi at St Edmund's. All welcome!

### Café Communion

Our next Café Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 3rd December**. Please book if you would like lunch either by email to [stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com](mailto:stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com).

### Sharing faith at Christmas

The Christmas season brings us enormous opportunities to share the good news of Jesus, yet how can we make the most of all the interactions that happen through carol services, christingles and midnight masses? This webinar is on **Wednesday 3rd December** 12noon to 1pm. Go to [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/events/2025/12/03/webinar-sharing-faith-christmas](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/events/2025/12/03/webinar-sharing-faith-christmas) for details.



### Seasonal Concert



On **Saturday 6th December** there is to be a Seasonal Concert organised by the Friends of St Edmund's from 7pm—9pm at St Mark's Church. We'd love to see you there!

### Light up a Life with Mountbatten

Light up a Life in memory of someone close to your heart. With a donation, dedicate a light on the remembrance tree and join in on **Sunday 7th December** at Mountbatten Isle of Wight, to remember together. Find out more at [www.mountbatten.org.uk/2025light](http://www.mountbatten.org.uk/2025light)

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

Sun 23rd	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's) followed by PCC Meeting (St Mark's)
	9.30am Holy Communion (St James')
	11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
	5pm Evensong (St Edmund's)
Wed 26th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 27th	10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's)
	6.30pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 28th	2pm Bridge Folding (St Mark's)
Sat 29th	10am Christmas Market (Havenstreet Comm. Centre)

### Later

Sun 30th	9.30am Advent 1 Whole Plurality Service (St Mark's)
	5pm Advent Carol Service + Cantus Vesperi (St Edmund's)
Wed 3rd Dec	11.15am Cafe Communion (St Mark's)
	6pm Carol Singing (Hazelwood House)
Thu 4th	10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's)
	6.30pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Sat 6th	10am St Nicholas Day Fayre/Nativity display (Holy Cross)
	7pm Friends of St. Edmund's Seasonal Concert (St Mark's)
Sun 7th	8am Holy Communion (St Edmund'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](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).

**Churchwardens:** Harry Kirby and Steve Beynon

**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)