

	<p>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.</p>	
		<p><i>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.</i></p>
<p>14th December 2025</p>		

St Mildred's Church Christmas Tree Festival

The Christmas Tree Festival at St Mildred's Church in Whippingham will run from 11am-3pm on

Thursday 18th, Friday 19th, and

Saturday 20th December, and also

from 1pm-3pm on **Sunday 21st December.**

The café will be open and they would love to see you



Christingle Service



This annual service will be taking place on **Wednesday 24th December**, 4pm at St Mark's.

All are very welcome.

We shall be preparing the Christingles prior to the service at 3pm in the coffee lounge.

Services during cold weather

We have now reverted to using St Mark's coffee lounge for services as the church heating is not effective in cold weather, which is a waste of precious resources.

Advent Prayer for Peace

Prince of Peace, in a world filled with turmoil, grant us the tranquility that only your peace can bring. Help us to be instruments of reconciliation and harmony in our relationships and communities. *Amen*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35.1-10; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11
Wednesday, 17th December 9.30am at St Edmund's
Genesis 49.2, 8-10
Sunday, 21st December Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7.1.-16; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end



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: Arreton, Newchurch and Wroxall

...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:*** Len, Rosemary McC,
Robert, Rev'd Bob, Lorna, Neil, Barbara Edwards, and all on our Luke
11 Line

... ***those who are in Our Year's Mind:*** 17th Vera Barber, 18th India
Drake, 19th Gordon Price, Mary Mennis, and James Godsell

*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.*

Living Faith: Spirituality and Prayer

This module starts on **Friday 9th January 7:30pm**, online.
Studying, and briefly experiencing, different traditions of spirituality
can help us see that how we are drawn to relate to God may be
strongly determined by our personality type, or by the traditions of
the local church with which we are familiar. Go to

www.portsmouth.anglican.org/events/2026/01/09/living-faith-spirituality-and-prayer for details and to register.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Carol Services

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

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

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



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. Each session lasts 35-40 minutes. The homes and dates are as follows:

Coburg Court - Sunday 14th December at 2.30pm

Kynance - Thursday 18th December at 10.30am

For more information contact Jill Traill pandjt@btinternet.com
or Sarah Kite sarahkite47@hotmail.com

MBBBG: Change of date

The Mark's Brothers' Breakfast/Brunch Gathering will be taking place on **Wednesday 17th December**, 10.30am in the Coffee Lounge. If you know of anyone who would appreciate some male company and enjoy a coffee and brunch, please do tell them.

Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will meet for the last time this year on **Thursday 18th December** in the Coffee Lounge at St Mark's from 10.30am. Do come along!

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Christmas Eve Services:

4pm at St Mark's Church: Christingle

7pm at St James' Church: Christmas Communion

11.30pm at St Edmund's Church: Midnight Mass



Christmas Day Services

10am at St Mildred's Church: Family Communion

10am at St Mark's Church: Family Communion

Dates for your Diary

This week

Sun 14th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 2.30pm Carol singing (Coburg Court) 5pm Christmas Carol Service (St Mark's)
Wed 17th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 18th	9.30am Wootton School: Christingle (St Mark's) 10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 10.30am Carol Singing (Kynance) No Choir Practice (St Mark's)

Later

Sun 21st	9.30am Morning Worship (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's) 4pm Carol Service (St Mildred's)
Wed 24th	No 9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 4pm Christingle (St Mark's) 7pm Holy Communion (St James') 11.30pm Midnight Mass (St Edmund's)
Thu 25th	10am Christmas Day Family Holy Communion

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).

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

Weekly Sheet co-ordinator: Helen Davison may be contacted on 882330 or by email at helendavison1@hotmail.co.uk