

St Edmund's  
& St Mark's



Wootton Bridge

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.*

4th January 2026



## Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

Please take a look at an article for the New Year which is now on our parish website at [www.cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk](http://www.cofeparishofwoottonbridge.org.uk)

## ‘Thank you’!

We are very grateful to all who continue to give their time to help with the running of our churches. So much goes on in our parish that it can be difficult to thank everyone who contributes, but please know that everything you do (whether big or small) is noticed and very much appreciated!

## New Years Prayer

Lord, in this new year 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** Epiphany  
Isaiah 60.1-6; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2:1-12  
Wednesday, 7th January 11.15am at St Mark's  
1 John 4.11-18  
Sunday, 11th January Baptism of Christ  
Isaiah 42.1-9; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-17



## 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: Diocesan Finance Team

...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 in Our Year's Mind:*** 4<sup>th</sup> Heather Bickley, 10<sup>th</sup> Mo Hasler

*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.*

## 'Luke 11 line'

This can be a difficult time for many. If you are in need of prayer, or if you would like to hold either a situation or someone else in prayer, please let Helen Hopper know. She will then ask those on the 'Luke 11 line' to pray—keeping all requests confidential. Helen is contactable at [helen.hopper47@btinternet.com](mailto:helen.hopper47@btinternet.com)

If you would like to participate in the prayer chain (by email, text, or phone) please let her know this too.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Elephant Club

This is a social group for those living with memory loss, their carers and friends. The next will take place on **Thursday 8th January**, from 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!

### 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](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/events/2026/01/09/living-faith-spirituality-and-prayer) for details and to register.

### Sandra's Leaving Service

On **Sunday 11th January** we shall be holding a plurality Holy Communion service at St Mark's church as it will be Sandra's last service. Starting at 9.30am, this will be the only service taking place in the plurality that morning.

### MBBBG

The Mark's Brothers' Breakfast/Brunch Gathering will next take place on **Wednesday 14th January**, 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 next meet in the Coffee Lounge at St Mark's 10.30am on **Thursday 15th January**. 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 30th January**.

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

Sun 4th	8am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 9.30am Brunch Service (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Epiphany Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Wed 7th	11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's)
Thu 8th	10.30am Discussion Group (Hosted locally) 1pm Funeral: Jack Maloney (St Edmund's) 2pm Elephant Club (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)

### Later

Sun 11th	9.30am Plurality Holy Communion (St Mark's) 5pm Evensong (St Edmund's)
Wed 14th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 10.30am Mark's Brothers' Brunch Gathering (St Mark's)
Thu 15th	10am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Sun 18th	9.30am Morning Worship (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Wed 21st	9.30am 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)