

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.*

15th February 2026

## Weekly Prayer Meetings During Lent

You are invited to join our weekly Prayer Meetings which will be taking place in St Mark's Coffee Lounge from 9.30am every Tuesday during Lent. The first session will be held on **Tuesday 24th February**. During this time we shall pray for our church, our plurality, our leaders, our new minister, our community and our Island. All are welcome to come and pray together either aloud or silently in support of the spoken prayers which are expected to last about 30 minutes. Coffee will be served afterwards.

## 'Coat of Hopes' coming to the IoW

A special coat that carries people's hopes about our planet has already been walked more than 2,000 miles around the mainland, and will be over here until 16th March. It was originally worn on a pilgrimage to the 2021 COP26 conference and 700 patches have been sewn onto it—each one articulating people's environmental aspirations. Read more about it at [www.portsmouth.anglican.org/news/2026/02/03/special-coat-visits-cathedral-and-island](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/news/2026/02/03/special-coat-visits-cathedral-and-island) There is an opportunity to meet, wear, and stitch into the coat at St James' on Thursday 5th March (9am-5pm) and on Friday 6th (9am-1pm)!

## Prayer

Lord God, we come to you as the source of all comfort asking that you send your Spirit to surround and uphold all those who are grieving, all those who are suffering, all those in fear, and all those in captivity. May the arms of comfort and compassion overwhelm the arms of war. *Amen*

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS** Sunday next before Lent  
Exodus 24.12-18; 2 Peter 1.16-21; Matthew 17.1-9  
Ash Wednesday, 18th February 9.30am at St Edmund's  
1 Kings 10.1-10



Sunday, 22nd February First Sunday of Lent  
Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...



...Archbishop 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: Bishops Waltham Deanery Officers

...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:*** Ash and Tia, Doreen,  
Rosemary McC, Rev'd Bob, Lorna, Barbara Edwards, and all on our  
Luke 11 Line

... ***those who have recently died:*** Dr.John Terry, Ann Salisbury

*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.*

## Services during the Interregnum

Our services are continuing in the format established by Rev'd Sandra.

The Red Service book will be used for Communion services, the number of hymns will remain the same, and the lay-led services will, as far as possible, continue in their existing format. In the light of various changing demands in other areas, our aim is to maintain a stable, consistent routine in our services until a new priest is appointed.

Within the Plurality our 3 parishes continue to share service details and event information between all congregations. We will continue to hold 'Plurality Services' on 5th Sundays and on other special occasions.

When a 'Plurality Service' is held, it will be the only service on that day

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### Coffee Morning

All are welcome to a Coffee Morning taking place at St James' Church Hall from 10am on **Tuesday 17th February**.

### Ash Wednesday Service

We shall host a Plurality Ash Wednesday Holy Communion service at St Edmund's church on **Wednesday 18th February** at 9.30am.

### Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will be meeting in the Coffee Lounge at 10.30am on **Thursday 19th and 26th February**. 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 27th February**.

### 'Pray the Wight'

The Wight Church Network are organising another all-Island day of prayer, on **Saturday 28th February**, in True Vine Church, 26a High Street, Newport to pray together for the Island, seeking God to help, bless, make fruitful and bring a fresh breath of his presence across the whole of the Island in all our churches, Christian organisations and every Christian outreach and activity. Also to pray for our schools, colleges, institutions and for those in different areas of influence over us and other areas that need our prayers.

The prayer day will run from 10am to 4pm, with one hour devoted to each of 5 regions of the Island. People are welcome to stay as long as they wish, but we are invited to join in from 11.15am–12.15pm when our region (of Ryde, Wootton, Bembridge etc.) is being prayed for for further details email Rev Richard Buxton [prayer@rydelim.org](mailto:prayer@rydelim.org) or Rev Brian Harley [brianharley58@gmail.com](mailto:brianharley58@gmail.com)

### Café Communion

Our next Café Communion service at St Mark's will take place at 11.15am on **Wednesday 4th 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).

## Dates for your Diary

### This week

Sun 15th	9.30am Morning Worship (St Mark's) 9.30am Holy Communion (St James') 11.15am Holy Communion (St Mildred's)
Tue 17th	10am Coffee Morning (St James' Church Hall)
Wed 18th	9.30am Plurality Ash Wednesday Holy Communion (St Edmund's)
Thu 19th	10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 11.30am Funeral: Ann Salisbury (St Edmund's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)

### Later

Sun 22nd	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)
Tues 24th	9.30am Weekly Prayer Meeting: Lent (St Mark's)
Wed 25th	9.30am Holy Communion (St Edmund's) 6pm Sandra's Licensing (Swanmore Parish Church)
Thu 26th	10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Fri 27th	2pm Bridge Folding (St Mark's)

*We look forward to seeing you at any of our services or events!*

## **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**

**Churchwardens:** Harry Kirby and Steve Beynon

**Enquiries/notifications:** These may be made directly to one of our Churchwardens or to the Parish Administrator who is contactable either via the parish website or by email to [stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com](mailto:stedmundsandstmarks@gmail.com) (Emails are checked regularly, but not daily). Thank you.

**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)