



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.

22nd February 2026

Lent Appeal

In our parish all donations made during Lent will again this year be divided equally between a local charity chosen by the PCC (the Isle of Wight Youth Trust) and the Bishops Lent Appeal (which is supporting global mission agency USPG, development charity Tearfund, and Portsmouth charity Vista).

To donate, place your gift into an envelope marked 'Lent Appeal' at any of our services. Alternatively, all receipts on the card reader at St Edmund's made during Lent will go to the IoW Youth Trust.

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.

Prayer

Gracious Lord, you call us to love one another as you have loved us. Open our eyes to the needs of those around us, and give us hearts that are quick to serve. Whether through giving, encouraging, or simply being present for someone who is hurting, help us to reflect your kindness and compassion. *Amen.*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS First Sunday of Lent
Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11
Wednesday, 25th February 9.30am at St Edmund's
Jonah ch.3



Sunday, 1st March Second Sunday of Lent
Genesis 12.1-4a; Romans 4.1-5, 13-17; John 3.1-17

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: Swanmore

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

... *those in Our Year's Mind:* 23rd Arthur Penfold, 24th Gladys Aspery,
25th Madge Couvelle, John Deakin and Susan Ryan, 26th Peter Parsons,
Chris Buswell and Dolly Kirby, 29th Lorraine Blessing

*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.*

'Coat of Hopes' on the IoW

A special coat carrying people's hopes about our planet has been walked
more than 2,000 miles around the mainland, and is now here until
16th March. It was originally worn on a pilgrimage to the 2021 COP26
conference and 700 patches articulating people's environmental aspira-
tions have been sewn onto it. There is an opportunity to meet, wear, and
stitch into the coat at St James' on **Thursday 5th March** (9am-5pm)
and **Friday 6th** (9am-1pm)! Info 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)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will be meeting in the Coffee Lounge at 10.30am on **Thursday 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**.

We are grateful for the help of all the volunteers who make this parish magazine possible.

'Pray the Wight'

The Wight Church Network are organising an 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 and bless all our churches, Christian organisations and every Christian outreach and activity. Also to pray for our schools, colleges, institutions, for those in different areas of influence over us and other areas that need prayer.

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 is being prayed for. Further details from Rev Richard Buxton prayer@rydelim.org or Rev Brian Harley brianharley58@gmail.com

How to survive a world in Crisis

An evening with Ruth Valerio (environmentalist, theologian, social activist and author) on **Monday 2nd March** from 7-9pm at Carisbrooke Priory. Free entry with donations encouraged.

Enquiries and bookings to creationmattersx@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. The PCC pays for the lunch which follows the service and all donations received are split between Wootton Primary School's hardship fund and our parish.

Dates for your Diary

This week

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)

Later

Sun 1st Mar	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)
Tues 3rd	9.30am Weekly Prayer Meeting: Lent (St Mark's)
Wed 4th	11.15am Café Communion (St Mark's)
Thu 5th	10.30am Discussion Group (St Mark's) 6pm Choir Practice (St Mark's)
Sun 8th	9.30am Holy Communion (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



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 (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

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