



East Dartford Benefice
St Edmund &
St Alban
www.2dartfordchurches.org



October 2026

Join us for Holy Communion

A special time to gather together,
worship, pray and share in fellowship as
one church family.



Sunday 4th October

10.30am Holy Communion, St Ed's

Bible readings: **Lorraine:** Exodus 20. 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and **Robert:** Matthew 21. 33-end

Prayers: **Theresa** Chalice: **Ryan.** Leading & Preaching: **Mandy**

Sunday 11th October

10.30am Holy Communion, St. A's

Bible readings: **Margaret:** Exodus 32. 1-14 and **Kyal:** Matthew 22.1-9

Prayers: **Ryan** Chalice: **June.** Leading & Preaching: **Mandy**

Sunday 18th October / Luke the Evangelist

10.30am: Holy Communion, St. Ed's.

Bible readings: **Sharon E:** Isaiah 35. 3-6, and **Barbara:** Luke 10. 1-9

Prayers: **Robert** Chalice: **Ryan.** Leading & Preaching: **Mandy**

Sunday 25th October

10.30am: Holy Communion, St. A's.

Bible readings: **Gareth:** Deuteronomy 34. 1-12, and **Ife:** Matthew 22. 34-end

Prayers: **Ayo** Chalice: **Roy.** Leading: **Mandy.** Preaching: **Andrew**

Please note

If you're on the rota but aren't available, please arrange your own cover and let the person leading the service know. If you'd like to join the rota for readings, prayers or chalice, please speak to us — we'd love to have you involved!

Regular activities in our 2 Churches

Monday – Wednesday

9.30am — Drop-in Café, St Ed's
A friendly space for coffee, conversation and company.

Tuesday

9.30am — Kindness & Wellbeing Community, St Ed's
A caring place to pause, connect and be encouraged.

Wednesday

8.30am — Toddler Group, St A's
A lively morning for little ones and their grown-ups.
11.00am — Community Café, St E's
Pop in for a warm welcome, refreshments and friendly faces. Open until 2.00pm.
7.00pm — Slimming World Group, St Ed's
Support, encouragement and practical help each week.

Thursday

9.30am — Morning Prayer, St Ed's
A quiet, reflective start to the day.
11.00am — Over 60s Exercise, St Ed's
Every other week. Gentle movement, friendly faces and a boost of energy.
12 noon — Over 60s Lunch & Bingo, St Ed's
Enjoy a good meal, friendly company and a bit of fun.

Friday

9.30am — Little Edz Toddler Group, St E's
Play and a welcoming space for little ones and their grown-ups.
9.30am — Drop-in Café, St Ed's
Round off the week with coffee, conversation and a warm welcome.

Saturday

9.30am — Men's Breakfast, St A's
1st Saturday of the month. Good food and relaxed conversation to start the weekend. Special guest invited on 3rd October 2026.
10.00am — Knit & Natter, St A's
1st and 3rd Saturdays. Bring your craft, enjoy a chat and share ideas.

Congratulations Porchlight

On Tuesday afternoon, **Porchlight's Health Hub at St Edmund's Church** were winners of an **Excellence Award 2026** for *Delivering Services for Vulnerable People*.

A huge well done to **Jodie, Rupert, Keely, Tony and of course Mounia and Jackie!** 🙌

We were, of course, delighted to be thanked in their acceptance speech — such a lovely moment and a fantastic recognition of the amazing work being done at the Health Hub.

Well done, everyone! 🎉 🏆 ❤️



How to help in 2026

1 - Financially

St Edmund PCC Dartford St Albans Parochial Church Council

Metro Bank
Sort Code 23-05-80
Account No. 46339673

The Co-Operative Bank
Sort Code 08-90-36
Account No. 50004739

East Dartford Benefice

Metro Bank
Sort Code 23-05-80
Account No. 48471757



This QR code links to “Give A Little East Dartford Benefice” to make a single or monthly donation.

Your regular giving makes a real and lasting difference to the life and work of our churches. If you prefer to give on a Sunday, we also have a card reader and collection plate available each week. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

2 - Time and energy

During this time of interregnum, every helping hand really matters. If you could offer a little time, energy or encouragement, we would love to hear from you. Please speak to Lorraine or Roy, our Church Wardens, if you can help with any of the areas below — or if you have another idea to share.

- **Refreshments** — help create a warm welcome after church with drinks, conversation and hospitality.
- **Sound and tech** — support services behind the scenes so everyone can hear, see and take part.
- **Lifts to church** — join a simple rota, perhaps monthly, to help people get to church without the cost of a taxi each week.
- **Sunday School** — be part of a small team helping children learn and enjoy church, while giving parents the chance to stay in the service sometimes.
- **Before/after church** — lend a hand with setting up, tidying away and keeping things running smoothly.
- **Deep clean working party** — help set up a regular schedule for deep cleaning the kitchens at both churches, keeping our shared spaces fresh and welcoming.

Every contribution makes a difference, and we'd love to have you involved!

3 - Prayer

- **Please continue to pray for our future Vicar, Rev Rachel Wilson** — for encouragement, wisdom and peace as God prepares her to return to Dartford and begin this exciting new chapter with us.
- Join our email prayer group, please contact community.prayerline.edb@gmail.com

Dates for your diaries

- 3rd October** **Men's Brunch** — from 9.00am, come along for good food, friendly conversation and a relaxed start to the day. **The Mayor of Dartford will be joining us for breakfast!**
Held on the **first Saturday of the month at St A's.**
- 16th October** **Quiz Night, St Ed's — 7.15pm**
Gather your team, test your knowledge and enjoy a fun evening together — all while raising vital funds for **WaterAid.**
- 10th November** **Licensing & Installation Service for Rev Rachel Wilson, St Ed's**
A special service to welcome **Rev Rachel Wilson** and mark the beginning of this new chapter for our church community. Time TBC.
- 15th November** **A very special Sunday at St Ed's**
We welcome **Rev Rachel Wilson for her first service with us**, as we also celebrate **St Edmund's Church turning 70!**
Please come and share in this joyful milestone, then stay after the service for a celebratory **bring-and-share lunch** together.
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Go with God

Find a conker, acorn, fir cone or leaf...

Sit quietly and hold it in your hand...

What does it feel like to your touch?

What thoughts and feelings do you have as you look at it?

Offer those thoughts and feelings to God in prayer...

Keep the conker, acorn, fir cone or leaf in your pocket to remind you of your prayer.



Contact us

We are currently in a period of interregnum (ending soon) and do not have a full-time priest at present. However, there are people available to talk to, and we can provide information about who to contact and where to find support.

Priest: Canon Mandy Brown 07772121277 (mandykbrown26@gmail.com)

Available: 9.00 – 4.00 Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday

Reader: Andrew Carr (admin@transformingministry.co.uk)

PA: Debbie Westerby 01322311201/ 07305593610 (2dartfordchurhes@gmail.com)

Church Wardens: Lorraine Bathgate (lorraine.bathgate@hotmail.co.uk)

Roy Brown (roydfc@icloud.com)

Prayer: Join our email prayer group: community.prayerline.edb@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/eastdartfordbenefice/

Website: www.2dartfordchurches.org