Your guide to this coming week

Monday 3rd February

10am Bible Study - Church Centre (Lounge) 11.30am Midday Prayer – Church Centre 11am – 4pm Community Friendship Café – Centre 6pm Bell Ringing Practice – In Church

Tuesday 4th February

2pm Busy Fingers

Wednesday 5th February

12pm Midday Prayer – In the Lounge 12.30pm Deanery clergy chapter meeting, Lounge

Friday 7th February

12pm Holy Communion – In Church 12.30pm – 2.30pm Church Open for visitors 6pm Choir Practice – In Church

Sunday 9th February

10amSung Eucharist6pmSung Evensong (instead of Choral Evensong)The next Choral Evensong will be Sunday 9th March at 6pm)

Electoral Roll – Complete Update

Please make sure you pick up your copy of the new Electoral Roll form (available at the back of church).

Once completed, please return to Sarah or a Church Warden

Lent course

Starts Sunday 2nd March (1st Session during 10am Service) FOLLOWED BY EIGHT MORE SESSIONS: 3rd March – 16th April Every Monday – 10am In the Church Centre

Session repeated every Wednesday - 7pm in the Rectory

APCM – 6th April after the 10am Service If you would like to join the PCC please collect a form from the back of church and return it to a Church Warden

Your Parish - Street by Street

Each week we will be praying for a group of streets and their residents. You can find these streets on the map, pinned up in church.

> This week, please pray for the residents of: Butley Drive - Map no. 62 / Map Ref. F/G 5 Bourne Road - Map no. 68 / Map Ref. F/G 9 Belmont Gardens - Map no. 71 / Map Ref. G 8

Toilet & Baby Changing available in the Centre

CONTACT DETAILS

Rector:	Revd. Canon Simon Stokes simon@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk 01502 573046 or 07771 520085 THURSDAYS ARE SIMON'S DAY OF REST
Office:	01502 561973 office@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk
02.02.25	NORMAL OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Wed 9am – 3.30pm & Fri 8.30am – 5pm

WELCOME TO

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

If you would like to make an offering to St. Margaret's please place your gift either on the collection plate *before* the service or use the card-reader at the back of church.

Your gift supports our ongoing mission work & helps towards the upkeep of this beautiful church. *Thank you for your kind gift*.

Sunday 2nd February 2025 Candlemas

Including the celebration of Anna Chaplaincy

10am Sung Eucharist

Mass of St. Thomas - Thorne Canon Simon Presiding: Preaching: Canon Simon Gill Reader: Hebrews 2: 14 - end Reading Gospel: Luke 2: 22 - 40 Intercessor: Pam 678, 373, 113, 74 & 719 Hymns: Anthem: Nunc Dimittis in C minor (G. Dyson)

Refreshments will be served in the Church Centre.

No Evening Service

Sunday 9th February 2025

4th Sunday before Lent

10am Sung Eucharist 6pm Sung Evensong

Collect (Prayer of the Week)

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.



Scan QR Code to view this week's 10am service booklet

Readings for Sunday 2nd February

Old Testament: Malachi 3: 1-5

Thus says the Lord God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

New Testament: Hebrews 2: 14 - end

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eightyfour. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.