

## Your guide to this coming week

### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March

10am Bible Study & Lent Course Session 5 – Lounge  
11.30am Midday Prayer – Church Centre  
(*Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 24-30*)  
11am – 4pm Community Friendship Café – Centre  
1.50pm School Visit to the Church  
6pm Bell Ringing Practice

### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

1.50pm School Visit to the Church  
2pm Busy Fingers

### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March

12pm Midday Prayer – Church Centre  
(*Gospel Reading: Matthew 5: 17-19*)  
1.50pm School Visit to the Church  
5.30pm Silent Prayer – In Church  
7pm Lent Course – Rectory (repeat of Monday's Session 5)

### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March

School Visit to the Church  
12pm Holy Communion – In Church  
(*Gospel Reading: Mark 12: 28-34*)  
12.30pm – 2.30pm - Church Open for visitors  
1.15pm Coffee Concert – Jill Crossland (Piano)  
6pm Choir Practice

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March

(*Don't forget the clocks will have gone forward 1 hour*)  
10am Parade Service



**Fellowship Walk – Fri 4<sup>th</sup> April**  
For approximately 2 hours

**Meeting outside Church Centre at 2pm**  
We'll then walk to the Wherry Hotel via Normanston Park and Lake Lothing  
Weather permitting. An easier route is also available.  
For more details speak with Linda or Emma

## Lent Course - 3<sup>rd</sup> March – 16<sup>th</sup> April

### Session 5 – Unanswered Prayer

Your will be done

We will be discussing the challenges & realities when our prayers don't seem to be answered

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 10am (Church Centre)  
Repeated Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm (Rectory)

For further information visit: <https://prayercourse.org/sessions/>

### SAFEGUARDING:

St. Margaret's Church is committed to safeguarding all worshippers, staff and visitors. If you have any concerns, please refer to the notices at each entrance door, which gives details of how to voice your concern, or visit [www.stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk)

Please note, the 10am service is livestreamed.  
The seats in the side aisles are never in view

### 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

Toilet & Baby Changing available in the Centre

## WELCOME TO

ST . MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



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 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

### 10am Sung Eucharist

Mass Setting: Mass of St. Thomas - Thorne

Presiding: Canon Simon

Preaching: Canon Simon

Deacon: Loretta

Reader: Terri

Reading: 2 Corinthians 9: 5-15

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Intercessor: Rev Jim

Hymns: 2, 598, 629 (iii), 429 & 652

Motet: A Lent Prose

Anthem: Bread of the World (Bullard)

Refreshments will be served in the Church Centre.



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

### 6pm Sung Evensong

Lead: Sarah

Preaching: Canon Simon

Reader: Caroline

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-9

2 Corinthians 9: 5-15

Hymns: 772, 451 (i) & 628

Psalm: 26

Anthem: If ye love me (Tallis)

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## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Mothering Sunday

### 10am Parade Service

3.30pm Simon preaching at Norwich Cathedral evensong

THIS PEW SHEET IS SPONSORED BY SHEILA HANCOCK  
IN MEMORY OF

PAT RAVEN, HER SON PAUL AND DAVID HANCOCK

PAT - WHOSE FUNERAL WAS TUESDAY & HER SON PAUL

WHO DIED THE SAME DAY AS MY HUSBAND DAVID



## Readings for Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

### Old Testament: Isaiah 55: 1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

### New Testament: 2 Corinthians 9: 5-15

So, I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

#### **Generosity Encouraged**

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your

generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

### Gospel Reading: Luke 13: 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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### Collect (Prayer of the Week)

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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### Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Prayers for Your Parish - Street by Street

This week, please pray for the residents of:

**Crown Street West** - Map no. 144 / Map Ref. I 13

**Compass Street** - Map no. 161 / Map Ref. I 14

**Crown Street** - Map no. 162a / Map Ref. I 13



### Coffee Concert

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 1.15pm

Jill Crossland (Piano)



*Refreshments served before & afterwards  
Free Entry - Donations welcome on the day*

*We look forward to welcoming you there*