# Your guide to this coming week

### Monday 1st December

10am Bible Study – Church Centre 11am – 4pm Community Friendship Café

11.30am Midday Prayer - Church Centre (Matthew 4: 18-22)

12pm Funeral in Church – Nigel Freestone

5.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

# Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

2pm Busy Fingers

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

9.30am School visit to the church

12pm Midday Prayer – Church Centre (Matthew 15: 29-37)

1.30pm School visit to the church 2pm Mothers' Union (Small Hall) 7pm Alpha (final meeting)

### Friday 5th December

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

6pm Choir Practice

### Sunday 7th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10am Sung Eucharist

4pm Bereavement & Thanksgiving Carol Service

Supported by Gordon Barber Funeral Home

### 100 Birthday Cards Appeal

One of the ladies who Rachel looks after at her Care Home will be turning 100 soon & we'd love to present her with 100 cards

If you're able, please would you write a card

To Linda, from (your first name only please)
Please leave cards in the box at the back of church

by tomorrow Monday 1st Dec. Thank you.

Community Friendship Café Christmas Lunch – Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 12pm

Limited places - To get your tickets please see Sarah

# Cleaning Day – Volunteers Needed Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December

If you are able to volunteer to help clean the church & brass in preparation for Christmas, please let Simon, Sarah or the Church Wardens know.

We are also looking for volunteers to help keep the church clean between 10<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> January, while our cleaner, Terry, is convalescing following an operation. If you can help, please speak with Simon.

#### **SAFEGUARDING:**

St. Margaret's Church is committed to safeguarding all worshippers, staff and visitors. If you have any concerns, please refer to the noticeboards on how to voice your concern

NB: The 10am service is livestreamed. Side aisle seats not in view

Toilet & Baby Changing available in the Centre

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Office

Revd. Canon Simon Stokes simon@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk 01502 573046 or 07771 520085 THURSDAYS ARE SIMON'S DAY OF REST

Rector

01502 561973 office@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk Tues & Wed 9am–3.30pm & Fri 8.30am–5pm

30.11.2025

# ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



# Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 Advent Sunday

### 10.00am Sung Eucharist

Mass Setting: Mass of St. Thomas

Presiding: Canon Simon

Preaching: Gerda

Deacon: Canon Simon

Reader: Val

Reading: Romans 13: 11-end Gospel: Matthew 24: 36-44

Intercessor: Rev Pauline

Introit: Advent Response (Archer)
Hymns: choir, 45, choir, 30, 249 & 41
Choir Motet: A tender shoot (Goldschmidt)
Choir Anthem: People look East (Archer)

### Refreshments served in the Church Centre

# 4pm Advent Reflections (In the Church Centre)

As we start our journey of preparation towards Christmas, join us for some advent reflections

Led by: Helen Swift

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# Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

# 10am Sung Eucharist 4pm Bereavement & Thanksgiving Carol Service

supported by Gordon Barber Funeral Home

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# **Dates for your Diary**

### Sun 7th December at 4pm

Bereavement & Thanksgiving Carol Service Sponsored and supported by Gordon Barber funeral services

## Sun 14<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Informal Holy Communion with Carols & Mulled wine (In the Church Centre)

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> December at 4pm St. Margaret's Christmas Carol Service

### Christmas Eve

4pm Christingle 11.30pm Midnight Mass

# Readings for Sunday 30th November

Old Testament: Isaiah 2: 1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruninghooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

### New Testament: Romans 13: 11 - end

Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

### Gospel: Matthew 24: 36-44

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

# **Collect (Prayer of the Week)**

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin
to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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# **Post Communion Prayer**

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your
Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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# **Advent 1 - Responses**

People of God: awake!

The day is coming soon
when you shall see God face to face.

Remember the ways and the works of God.

The advent candle is lit

God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming.
You are God's children.

Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and for ever. Amen.



Prayers for Your Parish - Street by Street This week, please pray for the residents of:

Sanders Close – Map no. 41 / Map Ref. E 4 Spashett Road (southern end) – Map no. 53 / Map Ref. F 7-8 Sharon Drive - Map no. 73 / Map Ref. G 9