

Your guide to this coming week

Monday 8th December

9.30am Poplar's Primary School Christmas Service
10am Bible Study – Church Centre (*Last session until 5th Jan*)
11am – 4pm Community Friendship Café
11.30am Midday Prayer – Church Centre (*Luke 5: 17-26*)
5.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

Tuesday 9th December

2pm Busy Fingers (*Last session until 6th Jan*)

Wednesday 10th December

12pm Midday Prayer – Church Centre (*Matthew 11: 28-end*)

Friday 12th December

12pm Holy Communion – In Church
10am onwards Cleaning Day in church
12.30pm – 2.30pm Church Open for visitors
2.30pm Interment of Ashes – t/l Linda Grice
6pm Choir Practice

Sunday 14th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

10am Sung Eucharist
4pm Informal Holy Communion with Carols & Mulled Wine
(In the Church Centre)

TECH SURGERY – Monday 8th Dec 11am – 4pm

Issues or concerns with your mobile, laptop, computer etc?
Then why not pop along, with your device, and
have a chat with Keith - In the Church Centre.

Community Friendship Café

Christmas Lunch – Mon 15th Dec at 12pm

For more information regarding tickets, please see Sarah

Cleaning Day – Volunteers Needed

Friday 12th December – From 10am

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

We are also looking for volunteers to help keep the church
clean between 10th Dec – 4th Jan, while our cleaner, Terry,
is convalescing following an operation. If you can help,
please speak with Sarah.

Prayers for Your Parish - Street by Street

This week, please pray for the residents of:

Steeple View – Map no. 74 / Map Ref. G 9

Sussex Road – Map no. 79 / Map Ref. F / G 12-13

St. Margaret's Road - Map no. 90 / Map Ref. H 10-14

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

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
Tues & Wed 9am–3.30pm
& Fri 8.30am–5pm
07.12.2025

WELCOME TO

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



Sunday 7th December 2025 2nd Sunday of Advent

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Mass Setting: Mass of St. Thomas
Presiding: Canon Simon
Preaching: Rev Jim
Deacon: Gill
Reader: Grace
Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-10
Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12
Intercessor: Kathryn
Introit: Advent Wreath Prayer 2 (Archer)
Hymns: 34, 38, 46, 42 & 721
Anthem: Author of life divine (McDowell)

SCAN FOR
SERVICE
BOOKLET



Refreshments served in the Church Centre

4pm Bereavement & Thanksgiving Carol Service

supported by Gordon Barber Funeral Home

Led by: Canon Simon

Sunday 14th December 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent

10am Sung Eucharist

4pm Informal Holy Communion

with Carols & Mulled Wine (in the Church Centre)

Advent 2 - Responses

People of God: be glad!
Your God delights in you,
giving you joy for sadness
and turning the dark to light.

The advent candle is lit

Be strong in hope therefore;
for your God comes to save.
You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one
in the love of Christ
today and for ever.
Amen.**



Readings for Sunday 7th December

Old Testament: Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

New Testament: Romans 15.4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Collect (Prayer of the Week)

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility
and purity of his first coming that, when he
comes again, we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dates for your Diary

TODAY - Sun 7th December at 4pm
Bereavement & Thanksgiving Carol Service

Sun 14th December at 4pm
Informal Holy Communion
with Carols & Mulled wine (*In the Church Centre*)

Sun 21st December at 4pm
St. Margaret's Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Eve
4pm Christingle & 11.30pm Midnight Mass