

Your guide to this coming week

Monday 24th August

No Community Friendship Café – Café returns 7th September
9am – 11am FISH – Church Centre
10am – 1pm – Visiting Bell Ringers in memory of David McLean
11.30am Midday Prayer (Luke 22: 24-30)

Tuesday 25th August

11am Funeral of Roderick Lock at Waveney Crematorium
2pm – 3pm – Visiting Bell Ringers

Wednesday 26th August

10am Wedding rehearsal for Samantha & Martyn
12pm Midday Prayer (Matthew 23: 27-32)

Thursday 27th August

6pm Wedding rehearsal for Mary & David

Friday 28th August

12pm Holy Communion
1.15pm Coffee Concert – Zöe Anderton (Harpist)
12.30 – 4pm Open Church

Saturday 29th August

11am Mary & David Wedding (In Church)

Sunday 30th August

10am Sung Eucharist

St. Margaret's Heritage Open Days

Fri 11th & Fri 18th September
10am – 4pm

Coffee Concert during Heritage Open Days:

Steven Kirk on Fri 11th September at 1.15pm

Come along and enjoy the splendour & beauty of this Grade 1 listed medieval church & soak up its rich history

Suffolk Ride & Stride - 12th September

Cyclists & Church Sitters Needed!

9am – 6pm

Take part in this happy event & help to raise funds for our church's upkeep. You can seek sponsorship for cycling or riding to local churches or be sponsored to church sit. Details at the back of church.

St. Margaret's Coffee Concerts

PLEASE JOIN US AND ENJOY LISTENING TO:



Friday 28th Aug at 1.15pm

Zöe Anderton (Harpist)



FREE ENTRY - DONATIONS WELCOMED ON THE DAY

SAFEGUARDING

We are committed to safeguarding all worshippers, staff and visitors. If you have a concern, please refer to the noticeboards on how to voice your concern

Our Safeguarding Officer is Zoe Parle

10am service is livestreamed - Side aisles not in view

NB: The taking of photos is only permitted with the express permission of the clergy and individuals concerned

Toilet & Baby Changing available in the Centre

CONTACT DETAILS

Rector

Rev. Canon Simon Stokes
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Tues & Wed 9am – 3.30pm

Fri 8.30am – 5pm

THURSDAYS ARE SIMON'S DAY OF REST
23.08.26

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 entrance.

Many thanks for your kind gift.

Sunday 23rd August 2026

12th Sunday after Trinity

Week 5 of Summer Sermon Series – 'Blessed'

This series explores the Beatitudes as Jesus' portrait of kingdom life: a way of being blessed that often overturns ordinary assumptions about success, strength and security.

Each week focuses on one Beatitude.

10am Sung Eucharist

Theme: *Those who have received mercy become people who extend mercy.*

Presiding: Canon Simon

Preaching: Canon Simon

Reader: Val

Reading: Matthew 5: 1-12

Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35 (Read by Samuel)

Intercessor: Jennifer D

Hymns: 818, separate sheets & 719



SCAN FOR
SERVICE BOOKLET

Refreshments served afterwards in the Centre

4pm Songs of Praise Service

Informal Service followed by tea & cake

Church Centre (Outside, weather permitting)

Sunday 30th August 2026

13th Sunday after Trinity

10am Sung Eucharist

Prayers for Your Parish - Street by Street

This week, please pray for the residents of:

Kirby Cane Walk - Map no. 101 / Ref. H/I 6

Langdale Park - Map no. 31 / Ref. E/F 6

Lulworth Park - Map no. 37 / Ref. E/F 6

Readings for Sunday 23rd Aug 2026

New Testament: Matthew 5: 1-12

Focussing on: Matthew 5: 7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because
of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult
you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of
evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be
glad, because great is your reward in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the
prophets who were before you.

Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will

pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go. "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Sermon focus: Mercy is kingdom evidence: it reveals that grace has moved from belief into practice.

Additional passages for reflection & application:
Micah 6: 6-8, Hosea 6: 6 and Luke 10: 25-37

Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Date for the Diary!
Sunday 27th September
Harvest Festival Sung Eucharist
with Shared lunch afterwards

HYMN: Jesus, be the centre

*Jesus, be the centre,
be my source, be my light, Jesus.*

*Jesus, be the centre,
be my hope, be my song, Jesus.*

*Be the fire in my heart,
be the wind in these sails,
be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.*

*Jesus, be my vision,
be my path, be my guide, Jesus.*

*Be the fire in my heart,
be the wind in these sails,
be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.*

HYMN: Above all powers

*Above all powers, above all kings
above all nature and all created things;
above all wisdom and all the ways of man,
you were here before the world began.
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones
above all wonders the world has ever
known;
above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
there's no way to measure what you're
worth.*

*Crucified, laid behind a stone;
you lived to die, rejected and alone;
Like a rose, trampled on the ground,
you took the fall, and thought of me,
above all.*

REPEAT

HYMN: Amazing Grace (my chains are gone)

*Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*