

Your guide to this week:

Morning & Evening Prayer are said in our own homes.

Monday 11th December

NO Bible Study (Resumes on 8th January)

12pm: Midday Prayer for Advent - In Church

6pm: Bellringing Practise (Last one until 8th January)

Tuesday 12th December

Busy Fingers (Finished until 9th January)

7pm: Christmas Carols & Songs Evening - Church Centre

Wednesday 13th December

12pm: Midday Prayer for Advent - In Church

Friday 15th December

12noon: Holy Communion

12.30pm: Church is open for visitors (until 2.30pm)

6pm: Choir Practice

Sunday 17th December

10am: Sung Eucharist

6pm: Christmas Carol Service - In Church

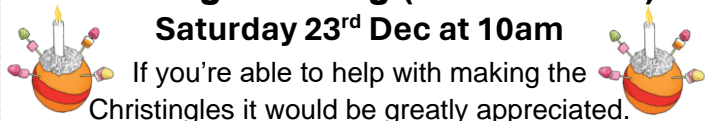
Christmas Eve Helpers Needed!

Christingle & Midnight Services

If you think you can help in some way then please speak with Simon, Pam, Roy or Kathryn. Thank you!

Christingle Making (Church Centre)

Saturday 23rd Dec at 10am



If you're able to help with making the Christingles it would be greatly appreciated.

Festive Dates:

Festive Food & Carol Evening - 12th Dec at 7pm (Centre)

Christmas Carol Service - 17th Dec at 6pm

Christmas Eve - Crib & Christingle at 4pm

Christmas Eve - Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Christmas Day - Family Communion 10am



Epiphany Pantomime

Saturday 6th Jan - 3pm (Church Centre)

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. TICKETS ARE FREE, BUT YOU'LL NEED A TICKET EACH FOR ADMISSION TO THE PANTO.

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY WELCOMED ON THE DAY.

Advance Notice - PCC Meeting

Please note, January's PCC Meeting has now moved to Wednesday 10th January at 7pm

Rota Volunteers Needed

Readers, Intercessors, Sidespeople & Coffee Helpers

If you feel you would like to help in some way on a Sunday, please speak to Simon, Pam, Roy or Kathryn.

CONTACT DETAILS

Rector: Revd. Canon Simon Stokes
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01502 573046 or 07771 520085

Office: Kathryn Williams
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Tues & Wed 9am - 3.30pm & Fri 8.30am - 5pm

10/12/23

Welcome to

St. Margaret's Church

Hollingsworth Road, Lowestoft



Sunday 10th December 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Presiding: Canon Simon
Preaching: Gerda
Deacon: Sarah
Readers: Gill & Sarah
Readings: Isaiah 40: 1-11
2 Peter 3: 8-15a
Mark 1: 1-8
Intercessor: Pam
Hymns: 34, 46, 75, 51 & 581
Anthem (*Choir*): People look East (Archer)

6pm Sung Evensong

Leading & Preaching: Canon Simon
Readings: 1 Kings 22: 1-28
Romans 15: 4-13
Reader: Sheila
Hymns: 30, 143 & 319 (Psalm 40: 12-end)
Anthem (*Choir*): Never weather-beaten sail (Campion)

Tea & coffee are served in the Church Centre following the service. Why not come and join us?

Services for Sunday 17th December 2023 3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Presiding: Canon Simon
Preaching: Revd. Jim
Deacon: Gill
Readings: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11
1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28
Readers: Helen & Val
Intercessor: Sue

6pm Christmas Carol Service

If you are visiting us today, you are very welcome. Please ask the sidespersons at the back table for any help. If you wish to make an offering, the gift bowl is near the back of the church, together with a card-reader. Large-print pew sheets, service sheets & hymn books are available. TOILETS are in the centre – if you need them during the service, the key is available from the back table.

Lectionary Readings & Prayers for this Sunday

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40: 1 - 11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

New Testament Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8 - 15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 1 - 8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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.

Advent 2 – Lighting of the Candle: Responses

Come Christ Jesus.

Awaken our peace.

The candle is lit.

Come, Christ Jesus.

Awaken our peace. Let it rise and shine and live. Amen.



Midday Prayer for Advent

St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft

Mondays & Wednesdays 12noon

The church will be open for midday prayer