

## Your guide to this coming week:

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February

10am Bible Study in Church Centre Lounge  
12pm Midday Prayer in Church  
6pm Bellringing Practice in Church

### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February

NO Busy Fingers this week

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Ash Wednesday

12pm Holy Communion with Ashing - In Church

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

12noon Holy Communion in Church  
12.30pm Church is open for visitors (until 2.30pm)  
6pm Choir Practice in Church

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February

10am Sung Eucharist  
6pm Holy Communion with Hymns

## Ash Wednesday

### Holy Communion Service with Ashing

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at Midday

## LENT COURSE

### 'God On Mute'

*Starting on:*

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 10am Church Centre  
& Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 7pm Rectory

**5 Week Course on:**

*Mondays - 10am in the Church Centre  
& Wednesdays - 7pm at the Rectory*

## Food in School Holidays - FISH

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 12pm

### Volunteers needed to help, please!

If you feel you can help please speak to Simon

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Rector:** Revd. Canon Simon Stokes  
simon@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk  
01502 573046 or 07771 520085

**Office:** Kathryn Williams  
01502 561973  
office@stmargaretslowestoft.co.uk  
Tues & Wed 9am - 3.30pm & Fri 8.30am - 5pm



For Church Life, Events & Activities  
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11/02/24

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## Welcome to

# St. Margaret's Church

Hollingsworth Road, Lowestoft



## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Sunday before Lent

### 10am Sung Eucharist & Celebration of Anna Chaplaincy

Presiding: Canon Simon  
Preaching: Sarah & Pam  
Deacon: Gill  
Readers: Margaret D & Jennifer T  
Readings: 2 Kings 2: 1-12  
2 Corinthians 4: 3-6  
Luke 2: 36-40  
Intercessor: Pam  
Hymns: 2, 700, on pew sheet, 432 & 663  
Anthem: Be still for the presence of the Lord  
(Evans)

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

### 6pm Choral Evensong

Readings: Exodus 24: 12- end  
2 Corinthians 3: 12 - end  
Psalm: 150  
Anthem: Hide not thou thy face (Farrant)

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## Services for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024 First Sunday of Lent

### 10.00am Sung Eucharist

Readings: Genesis 9: 8-17  
1 Peter 3: 18-22  
Mark 1: 9-15

### 6pm Holy Communion with Hymns

Reading: Luke 13: 31-end

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**If you are visiting us today, you are very  
welcome. Please ask the sidespersons at the  
back table for any help. Large-print pew sheets,  
service sheets & hymn books are available.**

**If you wish to make an offering,  
the gift bowl is near the back of the church,  
together with a card-reader.**

*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: 2 Kings 2: 1-12**

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

### **New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6**

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 36-40**

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night

and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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### **3<sup>rd</sup> Hymn**

#### ***Bless the Lord, O my soul (Ten Thousand Reasons)***

*Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin*

***Chorus:*** *Bless the Lord, O my soul;  
O my soul, Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul,  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
it's time to sing, Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before  
me, let me be singing when the evening comes.  
**[Chorus]**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep in singing;  
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.  
**[Chorus]**

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come,  
still my soul will sing Your praise unending;  
ten thousand years and then for ever more!

***Final Chorus:*** *Bless the Lord, O my soul;  
O my soul, Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul,  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
Yes, I'll worship Your holy name.*