

ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY – MARCH 2026

Love God – Love People – Follow Jesus

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DIARY

Services during the winter will continue to take place in the Pega Chapel at the back of church where it is warm.

Sunday 1st February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple/Candlemas

11.00 am Holy Communion

Monday 2nd 7.30 pm PCC Meeting

Sunday 8th February – 2nd Before Lent

6.30 pm Holy Communion

Online Service available on Facebook and Youtube from 11am

Sunday 15th Feb – Sunday Before Lent

11.00 am Holy Communion with Messy Church activities for the children

Wednesday 18th Feb - Ash Wednesday – the start of Lent

7.00 pm Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes



Sat 21st Feb 10.00am -3.30pm Marriage Preparation Day in church

Sunday 22nd Feb – Lent 1

6.30 pm Evening Service of the Word for Lent

Mon 23rd 7.30 pm Start of Lent Course “Set our Hearts on Fire”. See below for further information.

Sunday 1st March – Lent 2

11.00 am Holy Communion

Mon 2nd 7.30 pm Lent Course 2

Sunday 8th March – Lent 3

6.30 pm Holy Communion

Mon 9th 7.30 pm Lent Course 3

Sunday 15th March – Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday

11.00 am Mothering Sunday Service – *a service for all ages with distribution of flowers and children's activities.*



Mon 16th 7.30 pm Lent Course 4

Sunday 22nd March – Lent 5 – Passion Sunday

10.30 am Cluster Holy Communion at St Mary's Old Leake

6.30 pm Evening Service of the Word *with Passion Reading*

Online Service available on Facebook and Youtube from 11am

Mon 23rd 7.30 pm Lent Course 5

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

6.30 pm Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing

Services for Holy Week

Thursday 2nd April – **Maundy Thursday** - 7.00 pm Maundy Communion

Friday 3rd April – **Good Friday** - 2.00 pm Hour at the Cross

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday

5.30 am	<i>Easter Sunrise Service for the Cluster at Freiston Shore</i>
11.00 am	Holy Communion for Easter Day

We also aim to provide an **online service** once a month which is available on Facebook or YouTube from 11am on a Sunday morning.

Sanctum: The church is open from 10am – dusk Mon – Sat (closed Thurs mornings for cleaning) as a place of peace and prayer for anyone to drop in.



Messy Church usually meets at the back of church during the service on the 3rd Sunday in the month for craft activities. All children are very welcome to join in.

ROADHOG youth bus parks near the Pavilion on Fishtoft Playing Field every other Wednesday from 7.30 – 8.30 pm and welcomes on board those in school year 6 and above for crafts, games and quizzes and free hot drinks.

Next Fishtoft Village Stops are: 4th & 18th February and 4th & 18th March.



Thank you to everyone who was involved in decorating the church for Christmas. It looked lovely as always and was very much appreciated by those who attended our Christmas services and by mid-week visitors.

We were especially grateful to Beryl Reeson for the beautiful nativity scenes in the chancel which formed the focus of our Crib Service and have been greatly admired. Look out for our very own St Guthlac character which Beryl has kindly made for us and will be used as part of our displays on St Guthlac which we are hoping to put up this year.

Drinks Can Recycling – please continue to drop off your crushed aluminium cans. This has helped us to raise £100s for the church so is really worthwhile. Thanks to Christine for organising the collections.

LENT - As we journey through Lent, we are invited to deepen our faith through prayer and Bible study and to show Christ's love by giving generously to those in need.

Pilgrimage Leaflets and Prayer Cards – We have ordered some prayer cards and leaflets which lead you round different points in the church on a mini-pilgrimage. These will be available from the back of church from the beginning of Lent. Please feel free to take any you want for yourself or to pass on.

We continue to collect for the **Foodbank** - donations can be left in the box at the back of church and go to help the homeless and those in need in Boston. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Our Lent Bible Study course will run on 5 Mondays starting on Monday 23rd February. This continues the Lincoln Diocese's course "Set our Hearts on Fire" which we started during Advent by looking at some of the ways in which we are called to be a community on fire with love for God. During five weeks of Lent, our attention turns inward, as we ask what aspects of our individual lives of Christian faith and discipleship might need a touch of 'holy fire'. All are very welcome to join us - each session is stand-alone so don't worry if you didn't get to the Advent Course or you can't make all the evenings.

The Lent Course 2026 themes:

- These things I pray – Hearts on fire, day by day
- Teach me, my God and King – Hearts on fire for learning
- Let me be as Christ to you – Hearts on fire for others
- All things come from you – Hearts on fire with generosity
- In fear and trembling – Hearts on fire with wonder



For those who wish to follow their own Bible study and reflections during Lent, the Church of England's theme this year is 'Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent'."

You can sign up to receive daily Lent reflection emails, get reflections via the CofE "Everyday Faith" app or you can order a printed booklet from the CofE website where you can also find more information:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/draw-near-life-giving-habits-lent>

May this Lent be a time of renewal, grace and blessing for you.