

April Fool's Day

St Paul says that we should be "Fools for Christ". We pray that on this (and perhaps every) day we are able to put this command into practise – and we give thanks for the ministry of clergy members who evidently (and correctly) lead by example with this.

Thursday, 2nd April:

We pray for Father David as he prepares for his forthcoming retirement and we give thanks for his ministry (both pastoral and theological) to the church (both at St Margaret's and the other parishes he has served) over the last 40 (two score) years.

Friday 3rd April

We pray for our Pioneer Minister in Training Heather Placement – celebrating the fact that during her year with us, she has made a fantastic impact on church life - and that of our church school as Chaplain. We especially pray for her as she prepares to begin "serving her title" at St Marks Church in Royal Leamington Spa from the end of June.

Saturday 4th April

We remember before God the rest of the clergy at St Margaret's – Father John, Father Keith and Lay Reader Sarah - celebrating the roles they have to play in our worship. We also pray and give thanks for Churchwarden Phil, Heather Churchwarden and Verger Andy for the roles they have in the life of the church.

We also give thanks for those who help lead our worship at St Margaret's – for our Director of Music Christopher, Sub-Organist Amy, Fritz and Liz the Leaders of the Music Group and Bev/David the Leader of our Band.

Palm Sunday:

Today we remember with joy Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem at the start of this most Holy of weeks.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest and to the Son of David.

Holy Monday

Lamb of God, you take away the Sin of the world. Have Mercy on us.

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Lamb of God, you take away the Sin of the world. Grant us Peace.

Holy Tuesday

O Saviour of the World, who by your cross and precious blood hast redeemed us. Save us and Help us, we humbly beseech thee O Lord.

Holy Wednesday

We adore you O Christ and we bless you – because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world

Maundy Thursday

We give thanks for the ability to make our Communion by partaking in the Holy Sacraments at Mass – and for the comfort that these sacraments make to the sick and needy in our Christian Body. We remember that "Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup – We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes in Glory".

Good Friday

Today is generally thought of as a sad day on the Christian Calendar – especially as we contemplate the pain and agony Jesus would no doubt have suffered on the Cross.

But we give thanks that Christ endured his pain for our benefit – and for that we should give thanks with joyful hearts.

Easter Eve

As the disciples mourned the loss of their leader (not knowing what was to come the next day),

we pray for those who mourn loved ones - and that they may be safe in the knowledge that the souls of the faithful departed are at peace – and indeed rose with glory.

Easter Sunday

Alleluia, Christ is Risen
He is Risen indeed, Alleluia

Easter Monday

We pray for those returning from a time of holiday today– and thus we remember anyone stuck in a traffic jam or an airport queue today on their way back to normality.

Easter Tuesday

We pray for people baptised or confirmed over the Easter period (especially at the Vigil service at Bury Cathedral last Saturday) - rejoicing that they are beginning their Christian Faith Journey and looking ahead to a joyous future in Christ.

Easter Wednesday

We pray for those who are lonely at this or any time. We give thanks for befriending schemes that aim to resolve this major problem within our society.

Easter Thursday

We pray for the Inspiring Ipswich Initiative – that the leaders of it may be realistic in their aims – and that in their actions, they remember the presence of other Christian traditions and Religious Cultures within the Community of this town.

Easter Friday

We give thanks for the work of CYM (Christian Youth Ministries) and for the major difference they have made to young people in this town and Diocese – especially through their School Chaplain initiative and the African Adventure Amusement Park at Sizewell.

Easter Saturday

We pray and give thanks for the work of the Town Pastors who give their time voluntarily to assist fellow members of our community.

Low Sunday

We remember those who are depressed, anxious or suicidal – and for those suffering other forms of mental trauma – that they may receive the help they need from medical professionals.

We give thanks for the work of voluntary organisations such as The Samaritans who make such a difference helping those in such needs.

Monday 20th April

We pray for those who are the victims of Domestic Abuse - that they may find a way of escaping their suffering – even though it may appear to be an extremely hard to impossible thing to do

Tuesday 21st April

We pray for the Royal Family – especially for the Majesty of our Queen as she celebrates her 94th birthday today – rejoicing in the service they give and have given to our country.

Wednesday 22nd April:

We pray for the victims of abuse – be it as a result of their race, gender, sexuality, class etc. - which may lead to them having a lower quality of life. Help them to remember that everyone is valued in God's eyes.

St Georges Day:

On this day on which The Patron Saint of England is celebrated, we pray for our country and those that live in it – especially as this time of health instability through the coronavirus and political instability after Brexit.

Friday 24th April

We pray for those who seemingly forget that everyone is equal with God – and thus they feel the need to use their time to abuse others – either personally or by hiding behind a computer screen.

St Marks Day

On this day when the church remembers one of the Gospel writers, we give thanks for having the Bible as a tool on which to base our faith.

Help us Lord to be Kind, Caring and Christian beings in our nature – and thus basing our life on the teachings of your only begotten son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

2nd Sunday after Easter

On this Sunday (and every one between now and Pentecost) we remember Christ appearing to his disciples and others (e.g. on the road to Emmaus) post his resurrection. We pray that Christ may play a prominent role in our lives.

Monday 27th April

We pray that the Anglican Church as a whole may become an Inclusive space (especially to LGBT+ individuals) so that all may be welcome within it.

We give thanks that St Margaret's is an inclusive church and pray that this may continue to be the case in the years to come.

Tuesday 28th April

We pray for those who in the past have been victims of physical and sexual abuse perpetuated by those in respected positions within the church. We regret that in some cases their Christianity has been taken away from them and pray that such incidents must never occur again.

Wednesday 29th April:

We give thanks for the fact that on a daily basis we are able to experience the joys of your most wonderful gift to us in creation. We pray that in this time of uncertainty regarding climate change, we may be able to do our bit to maintain the environment in which we live.

Thursday 30th April:

At the end of this month, we offer up our prayers to our Lord through St Margaret and Our Lady of Grace of Ipswich (the shrine of whom can be found in St Mary at the Elms) through the use of the Angelus and/or the Lord's Prayer.

St.Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H



Prayer Diary April 2020

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