



Weekly news, readings and prayers

Sunday 15th June 2025

Trinity Sunday

As I write, a plane has fallen from the sky in India, Israel has launched a drone attack on Iran and children in Gaza are still being starved. The world consistently lurches from one crisis to the next. I choose not to write often of these things, practising instead, a steadying of the heart, seeking to trust in God when humanity falls so short. I find that adding to the anxiety through heightened drama creates extra stress - which in turn can make it difficult to make a decision, or to take action. How we speak of these things and the action that we take has the potential to fan flames or pour oil on troubled waters.

"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed..." Matthew 24.6b

The Gospel encourages us to first seek peace - for ourselves and for others.

If you're ready to take calm and considered action: prayer, giving, advocacy, you may find helpful information through [The International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent](#), [The Disasters' Emergency Committee](#), [Jerusalem and the Middle East Church Association](#), [UNICEF](#), and [Amnesty International](#).

Perhaps you wonder where God is in all of this? We wait on the coming of God's realm and dwell in the space and time God bears, waiting and longing and hoping and expecting humanity to turn to the ways of Love, so I offer the familiar words of Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks
 Compassion on this world,
 Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
 Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
 Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
 Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
 Christ has no body now but yours,
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks
 compassion on this world.
 Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Vicar Sarah

PS If you would like to hear more about what we believe and the Trinity I'll be exploring this in more detail during the 11am service. You can always catch up online!

Services

Livestreamed services are marked (L). Please use the button below to view services at the times given or catch up at anytime.

Livestreaming

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

09.30 am Cafe Church

11.00 am Parish Communion (L)

03.30pm Deanery Confirmation Service

We look forward to welcoming you to St Margaret's Church.

Parking is available in St Margaret's School car park during these services. Please drive slowly and carefully through the gates. We are grateful for our partnership with the school.

The church is open daily for private prayer, reflection and visiting from 10am to 4pm.

Lectionary

This Sunday

8am BCP Holy Communion

Revelation 4.1-11

John 3.1-15

11am Parish Communion

Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31

Romans 5.1-5

John 16.12-15

Church News

Nature Count - TODAY 10am

Come and join us for a Nature Count in the Churchyard to see how many plants and animal species we can count. All welcome.

Confirmation Service - TOMORROW 3.30pm

Please join us tomorrow for the Deanery Confirmation service where will be welcoming friends from All Hallows and St Edmundsbury Cathedral with Bishop Graeme leading the service.

Compassionate Conversations

Compassionate Conversation sessions run by St Elizabeth Hospice - an opportunity for individuals and organizations interested in building skills for sensitive conversations

Here are the session details:

- Event at Heath Road Moments Coffee Shop on 16th June 2025, 19.00 - 21:00
- Event at Lowestoft Library on 2nd July 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
- Online event on 23rd July 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
- Online event on 6th August 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
- Online event on 20th August 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
- Online event on 3rd September 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
- Event at Murrayside Community Centre, Ipswich on 17th September 2025, 10.00 – 12.00
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These sessions aim to empower individuals (18+) to have open, honest conversations about end-of-life, loss, and bereavement while learning ways to support others.

Sign up here- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-elizabeth-hospice-30716527042>

Ipswich Twilight 10k

On Friday 18th of July Rev Helen's husband Richard is running the Ipswich Twilight 10k to raise money for our Children and Families work at St Margaret's. If you are able to sponsor him for this you can do so via the link below.

Many Thanks

[Crowdfunding For Good From JustGiving](#)

Bigger Breakfast

In partnership with our Patron, Ex Ipswich Town, and England Football Manager Terry Butcher, Combat2Coffee is organising The Bigger Breakfast, taking place on **Tuesday 24th June**, from 09:00 to 11:00, at Ipswich YM Rugby Club, during Armed Forces Week.

This unique event aims to shine a spotlight on a group too often overlooked — the families of military personnel who are indirectly affected by mental health challenges.

We're inviting up to 1,000 community members to come together and enjoy a **FREE** breakfast, in an atmosphere of connection, support, and shared purpose.

It's more than just a meal — it's an opportunity for the community to come together, strengthen bonds and contribute to raising awareness for a cause that matters

Yourself and others can secure their free place by booking tickets via our Eventbrite page here: www.eventbrite.com/e/the-bigger-breakfast-tickets-1345080645419

Ipswich Music Day Programme St Margaret's Church - Saturday 6th July 2025

1.50pm Introduction

2.00-2.40pm Ipswich Choral Society

2.55-3.45pm Martlesham Brass

3.55-4.30pm Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

4.40pm-5.20pm Suffolk Constabulary Male Voice Choir

If you would like to help offer a welcome on the day or even offer refreshments please let rev Sarah know.

Archdeacon

We welcome our new Archdeacon to Ipswich Deanery: The Venerable Sam Brazier-Gibbs. All are welcome at this service and at the installation service to take place at St Edmundsbury Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday, 20th July 2025.

The Church of England in Suffolk

With our new Parochial Church Council recently elected, it is a timely reminder of the way in which discussions and decisions take place in the Church of England. Through listening to congregations, working as a PCC, representatives from the congregation being elected to attend Deanery Synod and Deanery Synod electing representatives to attend both Diocesan Synod and General Synod, important conversations take place.

At last week's Diocesan Synod, the focus was on wellbeing ([do listen to the 13-minute reflection offered by The Archdeacon of Sudbury](#)) and at the forthcoming Deanery Synod on 17th June, there will be a focus on the Deanery Environmental Plan.

Often, Synods will invite congregations and PCCs to discuss important subjects locally. Many will remember conversations taking place 30 years ago in relation to the ordination of women. The House of Bishops and General Synod is still working on '[Living in Love and Faith](#)', the Bishops having commended prayers for the blessing of same-sex relationships within existing services there will be a further debate and a likely move to authorize those prayers at General Synod in February 2026.

Locally, the PCC will be further developing its sub-committees: where the congregation and PCC work together to live out our faith in this place: our heritage, our environment, our worship, our finances, our buildings - both the church and the church centre, our fellowship and events. Do please remember all of these aspects of church life in your prayers.

Did you know?



St Margaret's had a Rood Screen, also known in Suffolk as a Candle Beam, in the 15th century. It is thought that the old benches in the Sanctuary were fashioned from the screen when it was removed. Evidence of its position can be seen at the east end of the nave and side aisles.

For more information see The Loss of our Medieval Heritage information at <https://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk/assets/Uploads/The-Loss-of-our-Med-Heritage-v10.pdf>

Growing Deeper

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for Soane Street and Bolton Lane.

We give thanks and pray for community connections:

- Thanks to Margaret Llewellyn for weeding the front of the Church Centre on a very hot Friday morning and for toddler group for creating the flower pots to decorate the Church Centre entrance.

June Prayer Diary

Growing Greener

Eco Tip of the week

This week is green week, how about considering reducing your carbon footprint by choosing sustainable options, reducing waste, and conserving resources. This can be done through various actions like using reusable containers, opting for public transportation, recycling, and making small changes in daily habits like turning off lights and saving energy. Focus on making small, manageable changes to create a more sustainable lifestyle.

Loving God · Care for Creation · Love Our Global Neighbours

Calendar

Anything underlined you can click and it will take you through to the website for more information

This Week

Tuesday 17th June

08.00am Morning Prayer

Thursday 19th June

03.30pm Together A new way of gathering to learn about God, especially for Children and their families. Storytelling, activities, prayer and food. All Welcome. (Church Centre)

Friday 20th June

8.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 22nd June

08.00am BCP Holy Communion

09.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evensong

Upcoming

Sunday 29th June

10.00am Holy Communion - following her ordination as a priest the day before at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, we welcome Revd Helen to preside at her first service of Holy Communion and Revd Canon Stuart Batten to preach. Please save this date to come and support and celebrate with Helen.

Sunday 6th July

Ipswich Music Day Christchurch Park - Concerts in St Margaret's Church from 1.50pm: Ipswich Choral Society, Martlesham Brass, Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

Saturday 9th - Monday 25th August

'Be Ye Men of Valour' 80th WW2 Anniversary VE-VJ Day. Keep an eye out for more details...

Offertory

The life and mission of St Margaret's is financially sustained through generous giving. If you have been giving regularly as part of your practice of gratefully living in God's service, thank you. If you're new to the community, or would like to think about celebrating life in this way, you may find the following helpful: we receive no income from 'The Church'... we are the church! So, thank you – for anything and everything that you are able to give in response to God's generosity.

In church you can give in a couple of ways on the day:

- **Collection plate** – during services a collection plate is sometimes passed among the congregation, but you will more often find it at the South door as you leave or arrive. Do use a yellow envelope if you're a tax payer so gift aid may be re-claimed.
- **Tap giving** – during services a tap giving machine is located on the pillar on the west wall, to the left of the bell tower – do consider tapping your card or device. As well as giving regularly, this is also a good way of offering an occasional additional gift.
- **Regular Giving** – St Margaret's is registered with the Parish Giving Scheme, allowing you to be in control of your giving and to give securely and safely online by Direct Debit.
- **Online giving** – If you wish to make a one-off or extra gift online, you can do so securely via the Parish Giving Scheme.
- **Gift Aid** – if you are a tax payer, St Margaret's can claim back the basic tax you have already paid to the government. To make the appropriate declarations, please speak with the treasurer, John Grierson.
- Leaving a **gift in your will** or making a **donation in memory** of a loved one – no matter how large or small, every gift makes a difference. If you would like to talk about this with someone, in confidence, then please consider speaking with the treasurer, John Grierson or the Vicar, Sarah.

Contact us:

The Revd Sarah Geileskey

Email: revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com

Address: The Vicarage, 32 Constable Road, IP4 2UW

Telephone: 07841 687879

Sarah's rest days are usually Thursday each week and the second Friday of each month

Ordinand Helen Prior-TownsendEmail: helenptstmags@gmail.com

Telephone: 07540 394179

Helen is a Curate, working full time. Her rest days are usually Monday each week and every fourth Tuesday of each month.

ChurchwardensEmail: churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com**Office**Email: verger.stmagsips@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm

Number: 07733 609661 and leave a message.

Pastoral Support: The Pastoral Care Team are a small group of volunteers who try and support people in a variety of situations by offering a listening ear, a helping hand or by providing useful information. Please click [here](#) for more information or contact Maggie Conder at pastoralteam.stmagsips@gmail.com.

Safeguarding: This parish recognises that the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount and that we have a duty of care when they are in our charge. We will do everything that we can to provide a safe and caring environment whilst they attend our activities. When there is a disclosure of harm or there are concerns about the welfare of any children, young person or vulnerable adult, all adults in our church community are expected to share their concerns and allegations with one of the following:

Carol Klug - Parish Safeguarding Officer. Email safeguarding.stmagsips@gmail.comLucy Collins - Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary. Email verger.stmagsips@gmail.com

More information on how you can report any safeguarding concerns is available from The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich [here](#)

Items for next week's sheet to the Verger Administrator (verger.stmagsips@gmail.com), ideally by email, by **Thursday lunchtime please**. If you would like to receive this mailing each week please send an email or complete the form on the website.