



- Bumper Edition for our Patronal Festival
- *Weekly news, readings and prayers*

**Sunday 20th July 2025**

**St Margaret's Day**

This week we celebrate St Margaret's story. You can find out more about St Margaret of Antioch in the Did you Know section below.

But what about the story of St Margaret's today? In this bumper edition of our weekly newsletter we see so much evidence of a community of people gathering together to share God's love with one another and to tend and care for God's creation and the world in which we live.

What do we cherish about St Margaret's? What do we hope for as a community? What will we do with the land adjacent to the Church Centre where the social club once stood? What does it mean to be a worshipping community in this generation? How might you help to build the story of St Margaret today? When do we 'waste time together as a family'... time spent together is never a waste! Building friendships and support - a few people getting together for a meal, for a walk, for coffee and a chat... or a picnic in the park?

Family life doesn't 'just happen'. It takes thought, care, prayer, plans and action.  
The same is true of our church family.

As we celebrate our inheritance of faith this weekend, what will our legacy be and what are you doing to play your part in the story and to build our shared family-life together?

Revd Sarah

## 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** Café Church in the Church Centre, Bolton Lane

**11.00am** Parish Communion (L)

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**

1 Peter 3.8-15a

Luke 5.1-11

#### **11am Parish Communion**

Genesis 18.1-10a

Colossians 1.15-28

Luke 10.38-end

## Church News

### **Men's Breakfast - this morning!**

8.30am in the church centre for breakfast and fellowship, followed by worship and prayer from around 9.30am.

### **Maternity Leave**

Our church administrator, Lucy, is now on maternity leave and we keep her and her husband Daniel in our prayers as they prepare for all that is to come. We have not yet appointed an interim church administrator and will re-advertise this over the summer.

### **Church Office and Contacts during Maternity Leave**

We are taking the opportunity to rationalise email addresses. With immediate effect, please use [office.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:office.stmagsips@gmail.com) for all correspondence. The [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com) will

be monitored until the end of August. There is a plan in place to maintain the current office opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays 9.30am - 2.30pm. However, if you have a particular reason for visiting the office, do email ahead of time to confirm.

### **Old Phone - Thank You!**

We think we have acquired a new mobile phone by re-using one that has been recently upgraded by its owner. Thank you.

### **Brass on the Grass : Sun 20th July**

From 2pm this Sunday, Martlesham Brass will be playing in the Arboretum in Christchurch Park. Members of the St Margaret's community are participating and there will be a section inviting children to join in. An event 'highly recommended!' by Frederike Jacob. Take a chair and a picnic and see if you can find other folks from St Margaret's there.

### **Archdeacon Sam : Sun 20th July**

If you are not at 'Brass on the Grass' you may like to attend the 3.30pm Service of Choral Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral to support and pray for our new Archdeacon, Sam, as she is installed. Rev Sarah says, 'I may see you there!'.

### **Strawberry Afternoon Tea : Weds 23rd July**

The Cornerstones afternoon tea will take place on the 23rd July in the Gladwyn Room at the Church Centre, Bolton Lane, from 2.30-4pm. Everyone is welcome. Any questions please contact Maggie Conder on 07933 336808.

### **Big Butterfly Count : Sat 26th July**

Come and join us for a Butterfly count in the Churchyard on Saturday 26th July at 10am. This is part of a national survey looking at butterfly conservation. If you would like to join in from home or elsewhere, you can also [use this link](#) to record your findings. All welcome.

### **Evensong 'Come and Sing' : Sun 27th July**

#### ***Sponsored by the Choral Evensong Trust***

An opportunity to join our choir for a special choral evensong on the 27th July.

Arrival is at 3.45pm for practice from 4pm and then the service at 5.30pm.

Music:

Evening Service in D minor - Thomas Attwood

O for a closer walk with God - Charles Villiers Stanford

Responses (5 part) - William Smith

Plus hymns and a psalm

Music will be available on the day.

***Refreshments are being served to the choir and congregation following this service.***

Please contact the organist, Christopher Tinker, to join this event:

Phone or text 07513 420792

Email [c.tinker@uwclub.net](mailto:c.tinker@uwclub.net)

All welcome at the service.

With special thanks to The Choral Evensong Trust for funding this event, enabling the purchase of refreshments and additional copies of music books to enable us to hold 'Come and Sing' events

more regularly.

## Spectacular Spectacles

Adam Geileskey will soon be travelling to Kagera in Tanzania to represent the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich at the 40th Anniversary Celebrations of the creation of the Diocese of Kagera. You can find out more about the [diocesan link with Tanzania here](#), or follow the diocesan [World Mission Facebook](#) page (you do not have to be a member of Facebook to see the information). The Diocese has been supporting Murgwanza Hospital to train a specialist eye-doctor: his training will be completed over the next year. Adam will be taking used and new glasses with him, as supplies are not always easily available and the team in Kagera will re-purpose lenses and frames for local use. ***If you have any old glasses that you no longer use or would like to buy and donate simple reading glasses, please put them in the box at church by Sunday, 10th August 2025.***

## Run Richard, Run!

Thank you Richard (Rev Helen's husband) for taking on the Ipswich Twilight 10km last night (18th July) in support of our work with children, families and young people. Richard's friends and family, along with a handful of the church community have already contributed an amazing £600! By way of thanks to Richard and as a continued encouragement to Rev Helen in her work, can we raise a little more? You can do so easily through [Richard's JustGiving page](#).

## Christian Aid

A message from June and Peter Youngs...

Recently [Westminster Abbey](#) hosted a [Service of Thanksgiving and Reflection](#) marking the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christian Aid. Born at the end of the Second World War, churches in Britain and Ireland united to support refugees. Rooted in the call for justice, mercy and humility, this service was more than a moment of celebration - it was a reminder of why it began and why it continues to shape its mission and insist that communities which are affected by poverty must lead the response. At the end of the service the congregation renewed their commitment to build a world where every person can live a full life free from poverty. It was a most inspiring service which we, June and Peter were very fortunate to attend.

You might like to learn more about [Revd Ally Barrett's re-imagined version of 'When I Needed a Neighbour'](#) which was sung during the service. The original is now 60 years old! How many of us remember singing the original at school?!

## Old Sound Equipment

Those who have been in touch with bids for equipment that is being disposed of have been contacted. The remaining unrequired equipment needs to be taken to the recycling centre for disposal/recycling/reuse. If anyone is willing to do this, please speak with Churchwarden Margaret.

# Growing Deeper

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for Kiln Close, Tuddenham Avenue and Tuddenham Road.

We give thanks for the pupils in Year 6 who left St Margaret's Primary School this week, praying for them as they prepare to move to secondary school.

### July Prayer Diary

## Did you know?



This weekend we celebrate St Margaret of Antioch (in modern day Turkey) to whom this church is dedicated. Her Feast Day is the 20th of July. She was one of the most popular medieval saints whose veneration came to England with returning Crusaders. We are one of over 250 churches dedicated to her in England; the most famous being that next to Westminster Abbey. Whether she actually lived is now a matter of doubt.

In what is a common story, she was said to be a devout Christian. When a Roman Governor wished to marry her, he demanded she renounce her religion. Having refused, she was tortured and miraculous incidents occurred. The main one was being swallowed by Satan disguised as a dragon. Her cross irritated its stomach and she emerged from it alive. Consequently the dragon became one of her symbols and she became the patron saint of childbirth.

In her honour two dragons were carved, one in the roof of the church and the other on a window spandrel, by medieval craftsmen. For more information please see under the Tower or visit: <https://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk/assets/Uploads/StMargaretofA-webpage.pdf>

## Growing Greener

## Eco Tip of the week

Did you know that the location of your fridge can make a difference in how energy efficient it is! Out of direct sunlight, against an outside wall and ensuring there are a few inches' space all around for air to circulate is ideal.

**Loving God · Care for Creation · Love Our Global Neighbours**

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## Calendar

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

*Join in daily with Morning Prayer from across Suffolk live at 8.30am or click any time during the day to catch up. You do not have to have a Facebook account to join in - just click on the link <https://www.facebook.com/share/15aAbJZnN6/?mibextid=wwXlfr>*

### This Week

#### **Wednesday 23rd July**

2.30 - 4pm Cornerstones Strawberry Afternoon Tea. All welcome. (Church Centre)

#### **Friday 25th July**

8.00am Morning Prayer in Church

#### **Saturday 26th July**

10am A butterfly count in the Churchyard.

#### **Sunday 27th July**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise & Shine Communion

11.00am Morning Worship

6.30om Choral Evensong

A special service of Choral Evensong with refreshments served afterwards - sponsored with thanks by The Choral Evensong Trust.

### Upcoming

#### **1st, 15th and 29th August**

Family Activity Mornings (Church Centre) Morning of activities for all ages followed by lunch together.

**Friday 8th August 6pm Launch Event****Exhibition: Saturday 9th - Monday 25th August**

'Be Ye Men of Valour' 80th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Exhibition launch event on Friday, 8th August, with distinguished guests, drinks and light refreshments. We will hear the story of a young man from St Margaret's Primary School and there will be music to mark the occasion. All are welcome.

***We are looking for people to help with refreshments and welcoming - please speak with Revd Sarah.***

**Save the Dates****13th and 14th September : St Margaret's Community Celebration**

Ride and Stride and Heritage Open Day, in the morning we welcome Revd Dr Karen Smith, bringing her story alive for children 'Abbey & Eddie Visit Buckingham Palace', refreshments offered to the community (perhaps even a BBQ) and tables and chairs to sit outside and enjoy the environment, our history and beautiful heritage.

***If you would like to be involved in this event, please speak with Revd Helen.***

[Click here for more details about cycling or walking as part of the Ride and Stride event.](#) If you look carefully at the pictures, you might even see Sarah Milner (from the 8am congregation) who is involved in coordinating this even across Ipswich. Thank you Sarah.

**28th September**

10am Combined Service - Harvest Festival

## 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:

### Revd Sarah Geileskey - Priest-in-Charge

Email: [revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com](mailto: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**

### Revd Helen Prior-Townsend - Curate

Email: [helenptstmags@gmail.com](mailto:helenptstmags@gmail.com)

Telephone: 07540 394179

**Helen's rest days are usually Monday each week and every fourth Tuesday of each month.**

### Churchwardens

Margaret Woodward

Email: [churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com)

### Office

Email: [office.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:office.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](mailto: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.com](mailto:safeguarding.stmagsips@gmail.com)

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

## Newsletter Contents

Please send any items for next week's newsletter to the Church Office ([office.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:office.stmagsips@gmail.com)), ideally by email, by **Thursday lunchtime please**. If you would like to receive this mailing each week please complete this form <https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/connect/mydetails/submit>