



St. Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H

This Church Year (Year C) features the Gospel of Luke

Epiphany 3

Sunday 26th January 2025

8am Holy Communion

A thirty-minute Prayer Book service in traditional language with no music.

[Romans 12.16-end](#) and [Matthew 8.1-13](#)

9:30am Rise and Shine Communion

A service for all ages. A thirty minute interactive service. All welcome.

Refreshments after the service

11.00am Morning Worship

With the choir leading the music, congregational hymns,

Junior Church and refreshments after the service. All welcome.

[Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a](#) and [Luke 4.14-21](#)

You can view the livestream of the 11am service [here](#).

6.30pm Choral Evensong

with Very Revd Keith Jones preaching

'A 45-minute long peace-inducing church service in which the song of voices sounding together in harmony is heard at the even point between the active day and restful night' (description from the Choral Evensong Trust). With prayers, hymns, choral music and a short reflection, all are welcome.

[2 Kings 6.14b-23](#) and [Romans 12.16b-21](#)

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 from 10am to 3pm

The Church Office (in the Church Centre) is usually open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30am-2.30pm.

[Click here for Livestreamed Services](#)

[Click here for the January Prayer Diary](#)



Eco Tip of the Week



Tempted to buy in impulse when you are shopping? Get in the habit of coming back the next day or week when you have thought through if you really need to buy it.



Faith in Public Life

This Sunday marks the end of the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It's also the Sunday when we remember the story of Jesus teaching in the synagogue: proclaiming the prophecy from Isaiah 61, reminding those gathered in that holy place that there is work to be done and that our faith is to be lived out publicly in the world and lived out practically in our lives.

Our faith informs and shapes who we are and what we do, as individuals and as a church. In the last week there have been local examples of the church speaking Jesus' ways to the wider world. Our churchwarden Margaret writes below about serving one another and serving our community in God's name. At the Washington National Cathedral this week, Episcopalian Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde

preached about unity: not always agreeing with one another, but united by common humanity in the service of the common good - the coming of God's kingdom.

You may have read the coverage of these events. You can listen to Bishop Budde's sermon [here](#). But I wonder if you've considered what these events, local and international, might say about your relationship with God and the way your faith impacts your life - how you respond to other people? How you amend your behaviour and response to reflect the pattern of Jesus' life? How your faith leads you to take an active role in the community?

Questions for us all as we travel towards the end of this Epiphany season. What point is a 'eureka' moment, if we don't share it with others?

Revd Sarah

Ipswich Minister

Margaret Woodward writes...

Last Sunday morning, Bishop Martin officially designated St Mary Le Tower church as Ipswich Minister and George & I were delighted to represent St Margaret's at the minster-making service (if you watch the Look East clip you might just see the tops of our heads!)

The vicar of the new minster church, Tom Mumford, told the congregation: "It's not about the status, it's about the service - this is the start of something, the start of a great adventure. We are a town of extraordinary potential, incredible people and a bright future, and I know that because I see it in all of you every day".

Members of the councils in Suffolk, representatives of the civic authorities and Ipswich MP Jack Abbott were present as was the Dean of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Joe Hawes, other members of the clergy and Ipswich Mayor, Elango Elavalakan and actor / comedian Griff Rhys Jones gave a speech about the town of Ipswich.

After the service, the congregation processed from the church to the Town Hall

where various dignitaries spoke, including MP Jack Abbott who said: "I think the fact that so many people attended the service from so many different walks of life shows what a proud, unifying and celebratory moment this is. This is for everyone, in not only our town but across the county as well and St Mary le Tower is still at the heart of Ipswich after a thousand years and its redesignation as a Minster starts a significant new chapter in our story."

This year also marks the 825th anniversary of Ipswich being granted a royal charter, one of the oldest in the country's history, and it was an important moment because it gave our town greater powers and opportunity. Today and this year is not simply a chance to celebrate our past but to use it as an inspiration for our future too".

Picture below of past and present Vicars of St Mary Le Tower.

The Very Rev. Keith Jones, Rev. Canon Charles Jenkins and Rev. Tom Mumford



Birdwatch - TODAY

Please come and join us this morning for our Birdwatch in the Churchyard. There will be refreshments available afterwards.



www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none

Birdwatch

Saturday, 25th January 2025
10.30-11.30am

Join us for a Birdwatch in the
Churchyard.

Come and see which birds visit our
Churchyard. There will be books to
look up species of any birds you
spot.

There will also be binoculars but if
you have any please bring them.

All welcome.



St. Margaret's Church
I P S W I C H

Monday 27th is the 80th anniversary of the Holocaust. Here is an excellent [video](#) from Sanctuary Foundation which includes a special appearance from Paddington Bear. Ipswich will mark the occasion in a special event at the waterfront 2-3.30pm - details available [here](#).

Audrey Cullingford RIP

Many of you will remember former Mothers' Union member, [Audrey](#), who died recently. Rev Helen will be leading the funeral service which will take place at Ipswich Crematorium at 3.15pm on Monday, 10th February 2025. All are welcome.

Awakenings Concert

St Margaret's are excited to be hosting Suffolk's brand new semi-professional and inclusive vocal ensemble in their inaugural concert: Suffolk Chamber Choir's 'Awakenings'. With a vibrant programme including works by Palestrina, Eric Whitacre, Cecilia McDowall and former St Margaret's chorister, Ben Parry, with support from Suffolk Soul Singers we are promised a wonderful mix of sacred and secular music.

Tickets direct from the choir through the [website](#) or on the door.

Doors open 7.00pm. Unallocated seating.

Drinks and interval refreshments available.

AWAKENINGS
Suffolk Chamber Choir
Dominic Ellis-Peckham

SPECIAL GUESTS
Suffolk Soul Singers
Andi Hopgood

Saturday 1st February, 7.30pm
St Margaret's Church, Soane Street, Ipswich IP4 2BE

Tickets £15.00 / £7.50 - scan QR code or buy on the door



Helen Prior-Townsend's Licensing

Come and join us on Sunday 2nd February to celebrate Helen's licensing during the 11am service.



Helen Prior - Townsend's Licensing

Sunday 2 February 2025
11am

Come and join us for Helen's
licensing during the 11am service.
We will also welcome Archdeacon
Rich to the Candlemas service.

All welcome. There will be a
celebratory fizz and cake
afterwards



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Diarmaid MacCulloch in Bury St Edmunds

Acclaimed Historian Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch is to make a return visit to St John's church in Bury St Edmunds on Thursday 6 February to speak about his recent book *Lower than the Angels: A History of Sex and Christianity*, a major new assessment of one of the most controversial topics in history. Few matters produce more public interest and public anxiety than sex and religion. Diarmaid MacCulloch seeks to calm fears and encourage understanding through telling the 3000-year-long tale of Christians and their forbears encountering sex, gender and the family, with noises off from their sacred texts. The message of *Lower than the Angels* is simple, necessary and timely: to pay attention to the glorious complexity and contradictions in the history of Christianity. is not at all complete. Rev Sarah plans to attend if anyone would like to join her there.

Thursday 6 February 2025 at 7.30pm

St John's Church

St John's Street

Bury St Edmunds

IP33 1SN

Admission £12

Tickets available [here](#)

Winter Warmer

Come and join for a winter warmer lunch on Sunday February 23rd at 12.30pm in the Church Centre. Any offers of a pudding and/or help would be appreciated - please sign up at the back of the Church or text Frederike on 07805 192855.



Winter Warmer

Sunday 23 February 12.30pm
Church Centre, Bolton Lane

All are welcome to join a winter warmer lunch following the 11am service

Parking will be available on the school playground.

If you would like to join us, please put your name on the list at the back of church, including any dietary needs. Alternatively you can contact Frederike by text on 07805 192855.

Offers of a pudding and/or help with setting up and tidying afterwards would be much appreciated.

Please make a voluntary contribution to the cost - any surplus will support the good work of this church community.

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welcoming people of all faiths and none



Future services

In addition to the main services at the top of the pew sheet, here are the details of other services taking place

Tuesday 28th January 2025

8.00am Morning Prayer

Friday 31st January 2025

8.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 2nd February 2025

08.00am Holy Communion

09.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

Tuesday 4th February 2025

8.00am Morning Prayer

Friday 7th February 2025

8.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 9th February 2025

08.00am Holy Communion

09.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

Pastoral Support

Please let us know if you or someone in St Margaret's community is unwell and would like a visit at home or is in hospital - Home Communion can be arranged. [Maggie Conder](#) is our [pastoral care](#) team leader or contact the vicar, [Sarah](#).



Financial Giving

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.

Here are some answers to the practicalities of giving:

- **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.
- **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](#).



John Grierson, Church Treasurer

Contact details

Website: www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk

The Revd Sarah Geileskey:

revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com

The Vicarage, 32 Constable Road, IP4 2UW

07841 687879

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

Ordinand Helen Prior-Townsend:

helenptstmags@gmail.com

07540 394179

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

Churchwardens churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com

Verger administrator verger.stmagsips@gmail.com

Or telephone 07733 609661 and leave a message.

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](#).



