



• *Weekly news, readings and prayers*

Sunday 27th July 2025

6th Sunday after Trinity

Our Gospel reading at this Sunday's 11a.m. service, from Luke Chapter 11, focuses on Jesus's teaching of the Lord's Prayer to his disciples and it does seem a bit surprising that, having been with Him day and night as his earthly ministry gathers momentum with its miraculous signs and wonders, the disciples feel the need to ask Him to 'teach us to pray'. Surely, they'd been watching the Master Pray-er in action and didn't really need to be taught how to do it?

But roll on 2000 years and despite all that's written in the Bible about praying or preached from pulpits about it, prayer remains a rather *peculiar* aspect of the Christian faith. It is the means by which we communicate with God yet, all too often, that communication can seem to be one-way only – complete silence at the other end of the celestial telephone!

It is said that 'practice makes perfect' but I am pretty sure that one can never attain perfection in prayer, however, like most things in life, it's only by doing it that we get better at it. So, like the disciples, begin with the Lord's Prayer and take it from there! Amen!

George Woodward

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 Rise & Shine Holy Communion (new song: [Behold the Lamb](#))

11.00 am Morning Worship (L)

6.30 pm Choral Evensong - A special 'Come and Sing' service with refreshments afterwards, sponsored by the [Choral Evensong Trust](#).

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

Romans 6.3-11

Matthew 5.20-26

11am Morning Worship

Genesis 18.20-32

Colossians 2.6-15

Luke 11.1-13

Church News

10 -10.15 am today, if it's sunny! 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.



Gracie Rose

On Wednesday afternoon (23rd July 2025), Gracie Rose was born at Ipswich Hospital. A daughter for Church Administrator, Lucy and her husband, Daniel. We give thanks for Gracie and keep this new family in our prayers.

Church Office and Contacts during Lucy's Maternity Leave

We are taking the opportunity to rationalise email addresses. With immediate effect, please use office.stmagsips@gmail.com for all correspondence. The 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.

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

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.

Music Group Practice - Monday 28th July, 6.45-8.00pm in church

The music group are getting together on Monday to run through music for August services. If you would like to come and join in, please do! A couple of songs 'new-ish' to St Margaret's will be included. You might also like to sing them at home.

Yet not I, but through Christ in me by CityAlight 2018

Behold the Lamb (Communion Song) by Gettys

Be Ye Men of Valour: 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 still looking for people to help with refreshments and welcoming - please speak with Revd Sarah.

Famine in Gaza

You will already have heard and read and prayed about all that is happening in Israel and Gaza.

You may find these links useful - of course there are plenty of other organisations working to alleviate suffering, bring hope and pursue peace.

[Amos Trust](#)[Disasters Emergency Committee Appeal](#)[Oxfam's petition appealing for a ceasefire](#)[Amnesty International's appeal for a ceasefire](#)**1st, 15th and 29th August 9.30-12.30pm**

[Family Activity Mornings \(Church Centre\)](#) Morning of activities for all ages followed by lunch together. 1st, 15th and 29th August. With Suffolk Community Foundation funding, these events are free to attend (although donations to continue this work are gratefully received). To register your place, email events.stmagsips@gmail.com

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.***

Housing Request

We have been approached by a mature student (25 years old) due to take up an apprenticeship at the Hospital in the autumn (DBS checks and hospital references available) - they are looking for accommodation. They describe themselves as 'a quiet and serious person, I get on better with older people and it will be my first time living away from home. I am hoping to find someone who, for a fair rent, would be happy to have me in their home. I drive and would be very willing to help with shopping and errands etc. and to help around the home'.

Let Rev Sarah know if you might be interested in this.

Bunting!

As we look forward to a community celebration on 13th September, Ride and Stride too and the Heritage Open weekend (13/14 September), is there a group of people that might get together over August to make some St Margaret's bunting that we can put up in the churchyard?

Something with our church logo on it? Something eye catching? If this is something you would like to lead on, have a word with Revd Sarah. You might even pray as you stitch?

Safeguarding Audit

The audit for the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich (which extends across the Diocese to include local church practice) has begun with evidence gathering from the last 12 months. This must be submitted to INEQE by 6 August 2025. INEQE will then visit the Diocese in the Autumn to carry out in-person interviews. As part of the collection of evidence INEQE has requested that we ask people to complete a survey with their views on safeguarding in the Diocese. The surveys are anonymous and will only be seen by the auditors. A summary of findings will be included in the final report. There are several surveys to represent the diverse groups of people across the Diocese. Please complete any which you feel are applicable to you, the link below will take

you to the surveys, where you can choose the one(s) relevant to you. All surveys need to be submitted by 6 August 2025.

Survey link: <https://inege.com/churchofengland/edmundsbury-and-ipswich/>

PCC Meeting

Remember the PCC in your prayers as they meet this week - Wednesday at 7.30pm

Growing Deeper

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for the Vermonts.... Vermont Close, Vermont Crescent and Vermont Road.

We give thanks for the safe arrival of Gracie Rose and for the delicious Strawberry Tea enjoyed this week.

July Prayer Diary

Did you know?



This is the end of the week during which we celebrated 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 your phone charger uses energy if it is left plugged in when you are not charging your phone? When you're not using it, don't forget to unplug the charger too.

Eco Footprint July 2025 : 9.23tonnes CO2

Have you calculated your personal carbon footprint before? The Eco church team at St Margaret's have calculated that the average individual carbon footprint of St Margaret's is currently 9.23 tonnes of CO2. If you wish to anonymously contribute to this average, then why not calculate your carbon footprint at home and make a note of the result and put your footprint, anonymously, into the box at the back of the church and at the end of each month the team will update the average.

To help you can use the Climate Stewards calculator which is at the link

<https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/> Charles Croydon is willing to assist or you can email Maggie Conder and the Eco Church team ecochurch.stmagsips@gmail.com

Loving God • Care for Creation • Love Our Global Neighbours and the like... neighbours

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>

Services Coming Up

Friday, 1st August

8am Morning Prayer in Church

Sunday, 3rd August

8am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise & Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

Tuesday, 5th August

3.30 pm Holy Communion - Christchurch Court

Friday, 8th August

8am Morning Prayer in Church

Sunday, 10th August

8am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise & Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

Save the Dates**6th - 14th September : National Week of Prayer****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.

27th September

3.30pm George Woodward to be licensed as a Lay Reader at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

28th September

10am Combined Service - Harvest Festival

Harvest Supper... shall we get together and eat this year? What do you think?

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

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

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

Office

Email: 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.

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

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), 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](https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/connect/mydetails/submit)