



. *Weekly news, readings and prayers* **Sunday 7th**

September 2025 12th Sunday after Trinity



I wonder what this last week has been like for you? All change? New school year? Back to work after the holidays? Or holiday season just beginning, now that the schools are back. An unexpected trip to hospital... or indeed, a planned trip? Time away from family? The usual routine? Nothing exciting to report? A new mission? Spending time with a friend? Working through the jobs that have been put off? Something creative? A new plant, nurtured? A date in the diary to meet up with friends, family or neighbours? The unexpected?

Whatever we do, wherever we are and whatever life brings, we can be certain that God is with us, always, in the midst of all of it. Even when we find ourselves wearing a proverbial or literal hard hat. In the joys and the challenges of this week, I hope that you notice God's appearance in your life - a glimpse of hope, a moment of rest, something to make you smile. As I arrived back from Truro last night following some work in the Diocese of Truro with my 'Church Commissioner hat' on, the music of Paddington Station Band playing live, greeting me as my train arrived back in London was enough to make me smile... that, and the sight of a joyful dog greeting their owner!

There's a lot coming up at St Margaret's to be joyful about - let's cherish and nurture the joy in the ordinary things of life - that the remembrance of them might carry us through the more grievous times in life. I look forward to worshipping with you this month, and to all that St Margaret's will be to friend and neighbour as we celebrate our community and mark the Harvest season.

Rev. Sarah, Priest-in-Charge

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**9.30 am** Rise & Shine**11.00 am** 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[2 Corinthians 3.4-9](#)[Mark 7.31-end](#)

11am Parish Communion[Deuteronomy 30.15-end](#)[Philemon 1-21](#)[Luke 14.25-33](#)

Church News

11th September from 8.30am : Coffee and Welcome for St Margaret's School reception families

Maggie and Margaret along with one of our Revs will be welcoming parents into church as they drop their reception-aged children at school for their first full day. An opportunity for parents and carers to get to know one another, and to strengthen the connection between church, home and school. A message will be going out via the school to the reception families - but do also spread the message!



St Margaret's Primary School

Reception families, parents, grandparents & carers

From 8.30am onwards
Thursday 11th September

After you've dropped your child at school for their first full day, do come over to the church for coffee and conversation. A chance to see the church and to meet other new families.

No charge
Everyone welcome.
People of all faiths and none.



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New phone number for Rev Helen

Please update your contacts lists: Rev Helen's new number for calls, texts or WhatsApps is 07541 707543

6th - 14th September : National Week of Prayer

Revd Susan Allison (St Helen's and the Waterfront Churches) writes: *Dear friends, 24/7 Prayer have an amazing goal for as many churches accross the globe to pray from 1st - 7th September and I would like to invite you and your prayerful church families to join us across Ipswich to fill the 24/7 prayer room at Holy Trinity Hall, Back Hamlet Ipswich. If each church took a specific time slot, say, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 hrs (at your discretion and choice), booking it out on the link below, it would be fantastic. Imagine Ipswich blanketed in prayer from all denominations, in unity for the town and beyond.*

*Please be part of this venture, Further info from <https://www.24-7prayer.com/weekofprayer/>
Sign up link <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/8c5c69>*

Audio-Visual Operators
We are looking for additional people to join our small band of audio-visual operators. This worthwhile and vital role could either be manning the sound desk or operating the livestreaming equipment (or both). Full training will be given - it really is easier than it looks! If you are interested, please speak to or email

stuart.quinton@ntlworld.com. Thank you.

Rev Sarah adds: it would be great to diversify this important team! Women... young people... do give it a go! If it's not for you, you can say you've tried a new thing!

10th September

Cornerstone

For more information, contact Maggie Conder.

Cornerstone

2nd Wednesdays 2.30-4pm

Gladwyn Room

Church Centre, Bolton Lane

10th September

8th October

12th November

10th December

*Refreshments and
friendships for all*

For more information email
pastoralteam.stmagsips@gmail.com

Welcoming people of all faiths and none



13th - 14th September

Ride & Stride, Heritage Open Weekend and Community Open Day

We are grateful to the Inspiring Ipswich Project that has sponsored our Community Open Day event.

Ride and stride

(Saturday) - if you want to bike around Ipswich (or further afield) visiting churches and raising sponsorship for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, Rev Sarah or George Woodward can put you in touch with Richard Jackson or Sarah Boggis (Sarah B is seeking sponsorship for signing people in as they visit us!) and we are thankful to Sue who has volunteered to ride and raise funds for St Margaret's.

Heritage Open Weekend(Saturday and Sunday) -

with activities and an opportunity to look around the church with new eyes and church members to welcome you. There'll be a special exhibition of David Evans' closeup photos of some of the carvings over the windows.

'Abbey and Eddie at Bugingham Palace'

on Saturday morning we welcome author Revd Dr Karen Smith to share a story and build bug hotels (for young children and their families). For more details ask

[Rev Helen](#).

Drop in Café

from mid morning: chairs and tables outside with coffee/tea and cake on tap and bacon sandwiches (served over 'brunch' time). Volunteers for bakes - please speak to Rev Helen!

3.30pm Hymns and Pimms

in the churchyard (other drinks available). Rev Sarah leads a happy open-air sing-a-long of some of your favourite songs and hymns. Theo Geileskey will accompany us on the piano. Come along and bring friends and neighbours.



Pop-up Café
10.30am - 3.30pm (ish!)
Saturday 13th September

As part of our first Community Open Day & to coincide with the Ipswich Heritage Open Weekend & Suffolk Historic Churches Trust's Ride & Stride event, a pop-up café will be serving hot drinks, cake & bacon rolls.

No charge
Donations appreciated

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St. Margaret's Church
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Community Open Day
Saturday 13th September 2025

'Abbey & Eddie at Bugingham Palace'
We welcome author, Revd Dr Karen Smith for a morning of story-telling in the churchyard & making bug hotels for young children & their families. Book via the QR code.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust - Ride & Stride
Welcoming cyclists & walkers visiting Ipswich churches (10am-4pm)

Lazy-Saturday Drop-in Café
Bacon rolls & home-made bakes served late morning onwards. No charge - donations welcome.

Heritage Open Weekend
Heritage and Eco activities for all ages to enjoy as you visit St Margaret's Church and Churchyard (Sunday too!) (10am-4pm)

Outdoor sing-along: 'Hymns & Pimms'
Hymns and other drinks served (3.30pm-4ish).

For details email: events.stmagips@gmail.com

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Hymns & Pimms
3.30pm Saturday 13th September

A relaxed outdoor singalong of some of your favourite songs and hymns. Passers-by, friends and family will all be very welcome. With live piano accompaniment & complimentary Pimms (while stocks last - other drinks available!) we hope for sunny weather and a joy-filled end to our first ever Community Open Day.

Community singing is good for wellbeing.
Why not come and give it a try!
If it rains we'll be in the church!

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Harvest Festival Weekend 27th & 28th September 2025

We will be supporting the FIND Foodbank: donations of non-perishable food a toiletries will be very gratefully received.

Saturday morning: 9.30 am we will be decorating the church for harvest...

A note from Angie Cable: HARVEST FESTIVAL CHURCH DECORATING

We will be decorating our Church for Harvest Festival on Saturday 27th September from 9.30 am.

The Church car park will be open for our use.

Please just turn up with flowers/plants/vegetables etc and you will be given a space to decorate.

We look forward to seeing some new friends as well as our regular decorators.

All arrangements will then need to be cleared on or before 11th October.

Thank you all for continued support.

11am-12.45 pm

A special, weekend opportunity to worship 'Together', meeting in the church centre with lunch provided. The

'Together'

worshipping community usually meet after school on the third Thursday of the month - so this is an opportunity for those who have not yet experienced

'Together' to join in. If you would like to know more, speak with [Revd Helen](#) for details.

Saturday afternoon:**3.30 pm**

George Woodward to be licensed as a Lay Minister (Reader) at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. You are welcome to attend the service, or join the

[Cathedral's livestream](#).



Harvest Celebration

Sunday 28th September 2025

10am Harvest Thanksgiving Service
Family Communion with Junior Church.

11.15am The Wonder of Creation
Congregation members share experiences of God's good earth in words & pictures: including the Antarctic & Tanzania.
In church with activities for children & young people.

12.30pm Bring & Share Lunch
In the Church Centre, Bolton Lane: to book places for you & your guests & to arrange your contribution, speak to Frederike Jacob in church or text on 07805 192855.

6.30pm Choral Evensong
With traditional hymns and anthems,
a reflective service at the end of a blessed day.

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Social Justice Campaign Christian Aid

If you would like to lend your voice to Christian Aid's 'Restore' Campaign which explores the way in which the pursuit of climate justice tackles poverty, you can find out more on their website by clicking

[here](#). Information is available about writing to your MP or signing the Christian Aid petition.

PCC & Deanery Synod Meetings

The next Deanery Synod meeting is this coming Wednesday, 10th September - your reps, George Woodward, Frederike Jacob and Maggie Conder will be there. The next PCC meeting will be on Tuesday, 16th September 2025.

Growing Deeper

Prayer

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

Support

Remember our Pastoral Team are here to support members of the St Margaret's community whether ill or in need of a friendly listening ear, details can be found towards the bottom of this email.

Gratitude

For God with us in all things. This week we give thanks for the wonderful celebrations last Sunday when Jacob and Nataliya were married, Jason & Jamais' marriage blessed, for the St Margaret's school staff community Communion Service, Holy Communion at Christchurch Court and Messy Vintage - Harvest with the community at Park Manor.



August Prayer Diary

September Prayer Diary

Growing Greener

Green Tip of the week

This is the first Sunday of Creationtide. Now may be a good time to think about what more you could do personally to protect our planet, God's creation. It might also be a good time to write to your MP or local councillor to express your concern and encourage them to be more proactive in tackling the climate crisis. It might be worth pointing out that we need to move away from fossil fuels as quickly as possible as they are not the answer to the high cost of energy. Fossil fuels must be left in the ground if future generations are to survive.

Loving God · Care for Creation · Love Our Global Neighbours

Services Calendar

9th September 8am Morning Prayer (in school) **10th September**
 9am St Margaret's CEVAP School Service **12th September** 8am Morning Prayer **13th September**
 3.30pm 'Hymns and Pimms' in the Churchyard **14th September** 8am BCP Communion
 9.30am Rise & Shine 11am Parish Communion **16th September** 8am Morning Prayer (in school)
17th September 9am St Margaret's CEVAP School Service **18th September**
 3.30pm 'Together' in the Church Centre **19th September** 8am Morning Prayer **Forward Dates**



St Martin in the Fields

Can These Bones Live?
 Disability, wilderness, hope and God

Saturday 18 – Sunday 19 October 2025
 14th annual conference on disability and church

St Martin-in-the-Fields, London and online
 BSL • Captions

Details and Registration
<https://CanTheseBonesLive.eventbrite.co.uk>

Exploring experience of wilderness & how hope grows.

With talks, workshops, groups, art, theology, liturgy. Hybrid event - on site & online. You do not have to travel to London! You can join online.

Entry by donation. Details [here](#). **8th November** 10am-3pm Faithful and Fruitful

We mark the end of the Inspiring Ipswich project, giving thanks today for yesterday whilst looking to God for all that is yet to come. You can [register here](#).

14th December 2025 4pm Hexachordia Concert **14th February 2026** 4pm Trianon Concert

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 **agift in your will** or making **adonation 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:

Email: revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com

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

Revd Sarah Geileskey - Priest-in-Charge 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: 07541 707543 **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 Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm

Office Email: office.stmagsips@gmail.com Number: 07733 609661 and leave a message.**Church Office and Contacts during the Church Administrator's period of 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.

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](mailto:atpastoralteam.stmagsips@gmail.com) for more information or contact Maggie Conder atpastoralteam.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)