



# St. Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H

## **A NEW CHURCH YEAR!**

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

### **Second Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday 8th December 2024**

#### **8am Holy Communion**

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

[Romans 15.4-13](#) and [Luke 21.25-33](#)

#### **9:30am Rise and Shine**

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

Refreshments after the service

#### **11.00am Parish Communion**

With the choir leading the music, congregational hymns,

Junior Church and refreshments after the service. All welcome.

[Malachi 3.1-4](#), [Philippians 1.3-11](#), and [Luke 3.1-6](#)

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

***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 December Prayer Diary](#)



## **An Advent Poem by John Bell**

Light looked down and saw the darkness.

“I will go there” said light.

Peace looked down and saw war.

“I will go there” said peace.

Love looked down and saw hatred.

“I will go there” said love.

So He, the Lord of Light,

The Prince of Peace, the King of Love,

came down and crept in beside us.

John Bell is the author of the Advent Course we are following this year - if you'd like to join the zoom conversations on Monday evening do email Lucy for the details.

Meanwhile we ask ourselves... where do we need Christ to appear among us today...

... and also to wonder, has Christ already crept in among us but we haven't noticed?



If you are planning any celebrations, attending parties or even preparing for Christmas, spare a thought for the environment before reaching for the glittery cards, wrapping paper, decorations or even the glittery make-up. Glitter is

attractively sparkly and adds a touch of magic to many corners of our lives. Glitter is also made from plastic which is a product of fossil fuels and is coated with aluminium, titanium dioxide and iron oxide to give it that shiny glittery appearance. It is already a microplastic and cannot be recycled and neither can anything that has been contaminated with it. It is not biodegradable and often finds its way into rivers and oceans becoming easily ingested by fish, birds, animals and eventually by us. The EU and more locally Morrisons, Waitrose and John Lewis have all banned glitter from their stores. Why not consider using sand, salt, rock sugar or coloured rice as more eco-friendly alternatives for your sparkly projects. With thanks to St Mary le Tower who did the research for this item.

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

Coffee and bacon toasties with conversation and a thought for the day. In the Church Centre this morning from 8.30am.

### **Future Dates:**

21/12/2024

04/01/2025

### **Cornerstones**



Cornerstones will meet on Wednesday 11th December at 2.30-4 pm in the Gladwyn Room in the Church Centre.

This month they are having Christmas nibbles, a game and wrapping some small presents for the residents of Talitha Koum to go with the Christmas cards they made last month.

Do come and join in the festivities.

## Christmas Trees



We are going to decorate the Christmas trees for the Church after the 11am service on Sunday. Everyone is welcome to come and help us, the more the merrier.

It's also the last weekend to visit the Trees@TheTower festival with over 100 trees decorated by a variety of groups and organisations in Ipswich and Suffolk.

Opening times of St Mary Le Tower:

Saturday 10am-5.30pm

Sunday 12pm-5pm

**Save the Dates!**

*"New this year is The Longest Night Service: a space in harmony with all who find Christmas difficult, whatever the reason or circumstance. We have also introduced an accessible daytime Carol Service (with mince pies & hot drinks), easier to join as nights grow longer."*



## Christmas Services

Sunday, 1st at 6.30 pm

**Advent Carol Service**

Tuesday, 10th at 7.00 pm

**Ipswich Lower School**

**Carol Service**

Wednesday, 11th at 7.00 pm

**Northgate School Carol Service**

Friday, 13th at 3.45 pm

**(no parking)**

**St Margaret's CEVAP**

**School Carol Service**

Wednesday, 18th at 2.00 pm

**(no parking)**

**St Margaret's CEVAP**

**School Carol Service**

**Saturday, 21st at 4.00pm**

**The Longest Night Service**

**Sunday, 22nd at 6.30pm**

**Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Monday, 23rd at 2.30pm**

**Accessible Carol Service**

**Sunday, 24th CHRISTMAS EVE**

**4.00 pm Crib Service:** come dressed for nativity! Angels, shepherds and sheep all welcome at this 30 minute service.

**6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight:** all generations gathering for this 45 minute service with candles and carols.

**11.00 pm 'Midnight Mass':** we celebrate the mystery of God's love for all people that draws us back year after year.

**Monday, 25th CHRISTMAS DAY**

**10.30 am Festive Family Communion:** followed by drinks & nibbles for those who are able to stay.



**Parking available in the school playground**

*Welcome people of the parish, the visitors, the curious and the carol singers!*





## **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 10th December 2024**

8.00am Morning Prayer

7.00pm Ipswich Lower School Carol Service

### **Wednesday 11th December 2024**

7.00pm Northgate School Carol Service

### **Friday 13th December 2024**

8.00am Morning Prayer

3.45pm St Margaret's KS2 Carol Service

### **Sunday 15th December**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Café Church

11.00am Parish Communion

### **Tuesday 17th December 2024**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Friday 20th December 2024**

8.00am Morning Prayer

**Saturday 21st December 2024**

4.00pm Longest Night Service

### **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](http://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk)

The Revd Sarah Geileskey:

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

07540 394179

Helen is a self-supporting ordinand, working full time. Her parish rest day is usually on Tuesdays.

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

Verger administrator [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](#).

