

## **Curate Report 2025**

I had the absolute privilege of moving over to full time ministry at St Margaret's in January 2025. A real change from working full time and being in part time ministry.

Due to the national funding for my role which came via the Inspiring Ipswich project I was tasked to develop at least one new worshipping community for children and families for St Margaret's and in March 'Together' started and still runs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in the church centre. During the year we also trialled a Saturday gathering. It is a joy to spend time with children and their families from both our church community and those who attend St Margaret's school. As with all new things Together is still evolving but the work we have been doing is invaluable.

As we have also benefited from funding from Suffolk Community Foundation I have been able to lead on new Family Mornings that have taken place in Friday's in the normal Toddlers space during the school holidays. These have built from a holiday club last April to the Family Mornings we see now. We have had a diversity of people attending - from the church community, the toddler group, from the school, the parish and from other groups who use the church centre at different times. Over 150 people have attended these over the time that they have run.

Of course neither of these projects would take place without amazing volunteers, and I want to thank every single person who has been involved in helping in a variety of ways

I have been enormously blessed to have Baptised Nico, Chloe, Evie and Ella, one of the most wonderful things to be able to do in ministry. Welcoming people 'officially' into the church family is a beautiful thing.

I have also spent a lot of my Friday mornings with the community toddler group where I have been able to forge stronger links between those who attend and the church.

Although a focus of my curacy is children and families, I have also been able to develop my ministry in many other ways to ensure that at the end of this training period I am able to be a fully rounded priest for

all that is to come. I thank Rev Sarah for being there at every point but also giving me the space to do things my way too.

I would add much more but you would be here forever!