



*Weekly news, readings and prayers*

Sunday 2 March 2025  
Sunday next before Lent

This is the first edition of our revamped newsletter. We appreciate it is a bit of a change but we hope it makes it easier for people to see all that is going on at St Margaret's. Any feedback is welcome. We will be looking to add more pictures and slightly tweak sections but the system has had an upgrade so still some working out to do!

**A Reflection from Rev Sarah** I wonder if you know someone who shines?

'Shine' might be used to describe someone who stands out for doing something extremely well. Or perhaps to describe their appearance. Or perhaps someone who has a distinguished quality about them. These things can be fleeting. The shine can fade. Those who seek to walk in the way of Christ are called to shine differently. We are called to reflect the light of Christ that others might see and learn to walk God's paths of justice and peace in all things. There are impossibly big things in our world that often seem so far away from the light of life and love: but may the little light of faith in each of us remain kindled, trusting in God's faithfulness to us, in God's promise to shine through us and in one another, to keep the lights burning when from time to time as individuals our own lights fade.

So brightly his face reflected God's radiance that Moses kept his face veiled so as not to dazzle the world. As we prepare this week to retreat into a Lent season, traveling towards the torn veil in the temple, may we not be tempted to hide away. Instead, let's keep the lamps burning as we follow Christ's footprints into the wildernesses of this life: trusting that God is with us and will lead us out to the other side... from darkness into the light.

## 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** Holy Communion**9.30 am** Rise and 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 from 10am to 3pm.

Lectionary

**This week****8am BCP Holy Communion**[1 Corinthians 13.1-end](#)[Luke 18.31-end](#)

**11am Parish Communion**[Exodus 34.29-end](#)[2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2](#)[Luke 9.28-36](#)

Church News

### Reader in Training

Christine Bryer will be joining us for the month of March as part of her reading training. Please read a brief introduction from Christine below:

*Hello, I am Christine Bryer I live in Kesgrave which is just on the outskirts of Ipswich, I live here with my husband Mike. I am training to be a Reader in the church and I am coming to be with you all for the month of March. This forms part of my training and I will be licensed to All Saints Kesgrave with Little Bealings and Playford. This is known as placement training and I intend to be as fully involved as I possibly can be, allowing some spare time for studying which will still be going on. I hope to learn all I can about how the church functions and works together, believe me I will be taking notes!! I will be starting with you on the 2 nd March and I look forward to getting to know you all very soon. Until then every blessing Christine Bryer*

Growing Deeper

### World Day of Prayer Friday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

This year's service is written by the women of the Cook Islands and entitled "I Made You Wonderful". It is an international Christian event celebrated annually in over 170 countries. The service will include prayers, music and stories from the Cook Islands and everyone is welcome.

Two churches will be celebrating the service in Ipswich at 2pm.

*Salvation Army Citadel, 558 Woodbridge Road, IP4 4PH*

*Chantry Methodist Church, Kingfisher Avenue, IP2 8RS*

## March Prayer Diary

Growing Greener

**Eco Tip of the week**

Time to look at something fundamental – toilet paper. Much of our toilet paper comes in plastic wrappings. Much of it involves the destruction of large areas of forest. If you shop around online you can find toilet paper that is wrapped in paper and is either recycled or made from sustainable bamboo.

**Loving God · Care for Creation · Love Our Global Neighbours**

## Calendar

Anything underlined you can click and it will take you through to the website for more information.

**This Week****Saturday 1st March**8.30-10.30 Men's Breakfast (Church Centre)

**Wednesday 5th March**12.30pm[Ash Wednesday Service](#)**Upcoming****Tuesday 11th March**

7.30-9.15pm[In person Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer**Wednesday 12th March**

12.30-1.30pm:[Lent Lunch](#)Soup and Conversations Starters

2.30-4pm: Cornerstones Group (Church Centre) Friendship, tea and chat.

7.30-8.30pm[Online Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer**Wednesday 19th March**

12.30-1.30pm:[Lent Lunch](#)Soup and Conversation Starters

7.30-8.30pm[Online Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer.

7.30-9.15pm[In person Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer**Thursday 20th March**

3.30-5.30pm[Together](#)

New way of gathering to learn about God, especially for children and families.

**Monday 24th March**7.30-9.15pm[Zoom Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer

**Sunday 23rd March**11am Special Service[Lent Appeal Bishops Kagera Fund](#)**Tuesday 25th March**

12.30-1.30pm:[Lent Lunch](#)Soup and Conversation Starters**Wednesday 26th March**

7.30-9.15pm[In person Lent Group](#)Five sessions exploring prayer**Sunday 30th March**

10am[Mothering Sunday Service](#)**Save the Date****Saturday 5th April**

10-11.30am Free[First Aid Training](#)**Wednesday 16th April**

7.30pm[Movie Night](#)Exploring theology through film**Thursday 17th April**7.30pm[Maundy Thursday](#)

## 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.

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](#).

## Contact us:

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

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

**The Revd Sarah Geileskey**

Telephone: 07841 687879

**Sarah's rest days are usually**

**Thursday each week and the second Friday of each month** **Ordinand Helen Prior-Townsend** Email:

[helenptstmags@gmail.com](mailto:helenptstmags@gmail.com) Telephone: 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** Email: [churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com)

**Office** Email: [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com) 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](mailto: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](mailto:safeguarding.stmagsips@gmail.com)

Lucy Collins - Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary. Email [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com)

More information on how you can report any safeguarding concerns is available from The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

[here](#)

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.



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