

## Weekly news, readings and prayers

### Sunday 11th May 2025 Easter 4

This week's reading from Act's doesn't just tell us of a miracle happening. It tells us about a woman of service, of talent and generosity to those around her. Dorcas (or Tabitha) was obviously well loved and thought of within the early Christian community in Joppa (now Tel Aviv) where she lived, so much so they couldn't stand the thought of losing her.

This is what Christian community living is about, generosity, giving, living and being with one another in life and when it comes to it in death. I wonder if all the people in the community in Joppa lived like Dorcas. I wonder if all of them showed their love to others in similar ways. We don't read about it in the Bible, but this kind of community life is something that Jesus modelled is passed down to his followers. I wonder if we feel that we live like this now. Do we live a life of sharing, thoughtful deeds, and with those within our community? We cannot be perfect, we are not asked to do that, but can we think about how we can 'be more Dorcas' or live more in community like the early Christians? My wonder this week is how can I do that; what tweaks can I make to be more Dorcas? Maybe yours could be too...

## 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**9.30am**Rise and Shine**11.00am** Parish Communion (L)  
(No Junior Church this week)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 4pm.

Lectionary

**This week****8am BCP Holy Communion**[1 Peter 2.11-17](#)[John 16.16-22](#)**11am Parish Communion**  
[Acts 9.36-end](#)[John 10.22-30](#)

Church News

**Christian Aid Week 11th - 17th May**

Tomorrow marks the start of Christian Aid Week and 7 days of fundraising. This year they will focus on the poverty in the communities of Burundi. Over

70% of people in Burundi face hunger and poverty every single day. For more information and to get involved, please go to the

[Christian Aid Website](#).

**Kagera**

If you completed the Kagera Lent Challenge or would like to make a donation to the Kagera Link Diocese funds, the details can be found

[here](#).

**APCM Sunday May 25th 10.00am. Service will immediately follow.**

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, where reports

are received, elections held, and the church's activities and finances are reviewed,

will be held on the 25th May at 10.00am

in Church. Please go to our [website](#)

to access the agenda and reports. There are also some paper copies at the back of the Church as

well. There is also a printed copy of the electoral roll names on the blue board by the kitchen in

Church. There are also nomination forms for PCC Members, Deanery Synod and Church Warden

if you would like to actively serve the Church community. We currently have 1 Churchwarden

vacancy, 2 Deanery Synods rep vacancies (1 year term) and 8 PCC members vacancies. When

filling out the forms if you could include 2/3 sentences about why you feel called to serve in this

role and what you will bring to the role that would be greatly appreciated. (please email completed

forms to [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com) or post in the cardboard letterbox at the back of Church.

Forms must be handed in before the APCM meeting).

**Confirmation Service - Sunday 15th June, 3.30pm**

Bishop Graeme will be joining us for our confirmation service on Sunday 15th June. Prep sessions for confirmation are beginning soon, for more information please contact Rev Sarah.

**Holiday Club**

We are running a holiday club on the mornings of Thursday 29th and Friday 30th May. Bookings will open soon. If you would like to help, please email Helen at [events.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:events.stmagsips@gmail.com) (you will need to be DBS checked and have safeguarding training).

**Growing Deeper**

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for Tuddenham Road and Bolton Lane

We give thanks and pray for community connections:

- For our Church Centre Committee for keeping our Church Centre running, especially Quentin Thurtle for helping with the building inspection of the centre that took place this week.
- Also to Nick Jacob who is completing the Quinquennial inspection of the Church.

May Prayer Diary

**Growing Greener****Eco Tip of the week**

May is No Mow May and

by leaving a part or all of the garden wild, and better still populated by wild flowers, we can help to preserve pollinating insects, which are vital to biodiversity.

**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** **Tuesday 13th May** 8am Morning Prayer **Wednesday 14th May**

2.30pm Cornerstones Friendship Group. This month the group will be doing some preparation work for Café Church. (Church Centre)

**Thursday 15th May**

3.30pm Together. New way of gathering to learn about God, especially for children and families.

**Friday 16th May** 08.00am Morning Prayer

7.30pm St Margaret's Friends': all welcome as we learn about the medieval carvings with David Evans. Refreshments and nibbles, all welcome. Please bring binoculars with you to see the carvings up close and in detail but they will also be shown on the screen if you don't own a pair of binoculars.

**Sunday 18th May** 08.00am BCP 9.30am Café Church 11.00am Parish Communion **Upcoming**

**Sunday 25th May** *Note change of service time*

**10.00am Combined Service and Annual Parish Church Meeting**

Rev Sarah is praying for God's calling to people to actively serve the St Margaret's Community as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and as this church's Charity Trustees.

## 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:**

Email: 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 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 **Office** Email: verger.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](mailto:atpastoralteam.stmagsips@gmail.com) for more information or contact Maggie Conder at [pastoralteam.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto: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](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](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.