



Sunday 11th October 2026

Trinity 19



Does who we are, what we wear and what we look like really make a difference? Do we change our invitation to others because of any of the reasons above?

The Gospel reading this week contains a parable which to start with is a lovely story about God's radically inclusive welcome, but we are then given an uncomfortable scene – even though the wedding invitation has been given to all someone arrives wearing the wrong clothes and is thrown out.

Even though the King said all were invited after the original people couldn't come still exclusion occurs where the parable seemed to be about inclusion of all.

Perhaps this parable can be read as a reminder that grace is not simply about receiving an invitation but it's about allowing that invitation to change US. There is a danger of treating being open to all as the end of the story, but it isn't God welcomes all of us as we are but God's love is not content to leave us exactly as we are

Grace asks something of us

If we have been welcomed, can we becoming welcoming?

If we have received forgiveness, can we be forgiven?

If we have been given a place at the table, can we make sure there is
room for someone else?

Rev Helen

October Prayer Diary

Services this Week

Livestreamed services are marked (L). Please use the button below to view services at the times given or to catch up at anytime.

Sunday 11th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Cafe church

6pm Choral Communion (L)

Tuesday 13th October

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 14th October

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 16th October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 17th October

8.30am Men's Breakfast

We look forward to welcoming you to St Margaret's Church. **Parking is available in St Margaret's School car park for weekend services.** During the week, the children are in school and we cannot use the playground as a car park. Please drive slowly and carefully through the gates. We are grateful for our partnership with the school. The church will be open daily for private prayer, reflection and visiting from 10am to 4pm.

Click here for Livestreaming

Lectionary

This Sunday

Philippians 4.1-9([KJV](#))([NRSVUE](#))

Matthew 22.1-14 ([KJV](#))([NRSVUE](#))

Read in traditional language - King James Version - at the 8am service and from the New Revised Standard Version (Updated Edition) at other times. i.e.,

Church News

please pray for the life of this church as we seek to grow in faith, hope and love

Volunteer Request for Fundraising Project

We are looking for a volunteer to help us set up easyfundraising which is a way of turning the everyday online shopping our congregation and supporters into funds for our Church! We are looking for some help setting it up as well as doing some promotion around it. For more information on easyfundraising please click [here](#) . If interested please contact Lucy, Church administrator on office.stmagsips@gmail.com.

Children and Families Update

These can now be found in a new monthly newsletter!

The first edition is available at the link below. There will also be paper copies in church. Feel free to pick one up for yourself or share them with friends; alternatively, feel free to send others the link!

[Click here to read the newsletter.](#)

Do share any comments or additions that you think would be useful with Rev Helen.

Church photography

We are in the process of updating our GDPR/Photo permissions, so you may see people walking around with a tablet and checking your permissions and details.

Also if any keen photographers would like to take some updated photos for our website, please let us know!

Nominations for charity donations

At the back of the Church will be a poster with jam jars and tokens with 3 local and international organisations carrying out God's mission in various ways and we have £1500 to share between them. You are invited to place a token in jam jars against your preferred Charity.

Hospital Visiting and Home Communion

If you are admitted to hospital for planned surgery or indeed, suddenly and unexpectedly, do let us know. The pastoral team and clergy often visit people in hospital, but we can only do so if we know you are there! The chaplaincy team at the hospital are also very supportive - if you would like to see a chaplain do tell the hospital staff and arrangements will be put in place for this to happen. You can email or telephone/text/whatsapp any of the clergy, Rev Sarah, Rev Helen or Reader George, let Lucy in the office know or email the [pastoral team](#). If you can't do this and

friend or family member can do this for you, the contact details are all on the St Margaret's website. All the contact details are also at the end of this newsletter, scroll down (or click to download all of the newsletter).

Rev Sarah is aware that there are an increasing number of people now for whom to receive Holy Communion at home from time to time would be helpful - if you think this might be for you, again, do please let the clergy or pastoral team know so that arrangements can be made for either the clergy or a member of the pastoral team to visit and share communion.

Save the Date!

The Eco Group will be showing The National Emergency Briefing film on 23rd October at 7.30pm. It's a 50-minute independent documentary film about the UK climate and nature crisis, presented by naturalist and TV broadcaster Chris Packham. For more information please click [here](#).

Baby Loss Awareness Week (BLAW)

As some of you may be aware the 9th to the 15th November is Baby Loss Awareness Week to help raise awareness and to help break the silence and end the stigma of baby loss. It ends with a global Wave of Light at 7pm on the 15th where everyone is asked to light a candle to remember precious babies gone too soon.

Locally, the [Ipswich Hospital Baby Bereavement Group](#) is hosting a variety of events throughout the week. You can find full details on their [Facebook](#) and [Instagram \(@ipsbbg\)](#) pages. There are also information leaflets and resource links available in the church. This amazing group of volunteers, alongside wonderful bereavement midwife Ali, provides invaluable comfort to many families.

Half of UK adults are connected to baby loss in some way, yet many of us shy away from talking about it. It is completely understandable to worry about saying the wrong thing. But raising awareness and offering a kind word is so important and lets grieving families know they are not alone.

Please see below for some information of some services happening or simply join us in the church to light a candle or sit in quiet reflection. It doesn't matter if your loss was yesterday or many years ago—your grief is held, and you are welcome.

A poem from All On the Board to mark BLAW

Our Babies in Heaven

*If you could have been saved by love and prayers
You would have lived for eternity
Instead we are left asking questions in our heads
And imagining what kind of fine people you would have turned out to be
Just because you were taken from this Earth and our worlds too soon
It doesn't mean that you didn't exist
Your departure left us empty and broken hearted
You will be forever loved and always missed
We may not get to hold your hands or hold you in our arms
But we shall hold you in our hearts with endless love*

*We know family and friends in heaven will guide you and look after you
As you play in paradise with angel wings up in the sky above
You will never grow old, you will never feel cold
You will never have worries or experience sorrow, fear and pain
Until time brings us back together we will love you forever
One day in the future we will see you again*





Throne of Beauty

***Saturday 17th October
7.30pm***

Pieces by celebrated women composers including Hildegard of Bingen, Judith Weir, Cecilia McDowall, Amy Beach, and others

Adults £16 Under 18's £8
Scan QR code to purchase tickets or buy on the door. Refreshments available.



Welcoming people of all faiths and none





W.I.N.E

7.30pm Monday 9th

November 2026

W.I.N.E 0'Clock

(Women in need of encouragement)

A new venture for women to encourage each other through faith, fellowship and life at pop up events.

Please join us at our first gathering as together we discern direction of future events and activities.

Please get in touch with the office at office.stmagsips@gmail.com for details about the first pop up!

Welcoming people of all faiths and none





Counselling Centre Manager

Lead a team that changes lives:

We are looking for a compassionate, experienced leader to head up our counselling, supervision and training services – rooted in Christian values

26 hours per week.

To find out more via our website:

www.inspirecounselling.org.uk

Closing date: 23rd October 2026

An Ipswich based Christian Charity



Growing Deeper

Thanksgiving

For Tom Gibbs, who shared his faith journey with us so openly and generously at 'Prayer and Praise' last Sunday.

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Vermont Crescent, Vermont Road, and St Margarets Street.

Support

Remember our Pastoral Team is 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.

Social Action

Please remember we have a box at the back of the church all year round to collect contributions of food and toiletries.

Growing Greener

Green Tip of the week: Could you batch cook?

A good way to save money and the planet is to try to batch bake in your electric or gas oven. It takes a lot of energy to heat an oven up, but relatively little to maintain the temperature. If you can arrange it so that items are baked or cooked one after the other while the oven is hot, then you will save money and release less carbon.

Our thanks to Rev. Stainer for his weekly green tips.

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 18th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion
10am Family Communion (L)
6pm Time Out

Tuesday 20th October

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 21st October

9am School Service
12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 23rd October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Sunday 25th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion
10am Parish Worship with baptism (L)
6pm Choral evensong (L)

Tuesday 27th October

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 28th October

9am No School Service
12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 30th October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 31st October

9.30am Breakfast for all

Sunday 8th November

10am Parade Service - No Café Church this month.

Save The Dates

Friday 23rd October 7.30pm - Showing of National Emergency Briefing Film. More details to follow
Saturday 21st November - Quiz Night

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](#).

For everyone working hard to contribute toward Harvest Festival at our church this weekend. **Contact us:**

Revd Sarah Geileskey - Vicar

Email: revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com

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

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.

George Woodward - Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)

Email: reader.stmagsips@gmail.com

Telephone: 07990 573258

George's quiet days tend to be Wednesdays and Fridays.

Churchwardens

Bart Bisbal

Email: churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com

Telephone: 07495 759203

Office

Email: office.stmagsips@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday 9.30am - 1.30pm, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm (Office closed Tuesday and Wednesday due to A/L and back open on 16th Oct)

Number: 07733 609661 and leave a message.

We are taking the opportunity to rationalise email addresses. With immediate effect, please use office.stmagsips@gmail.com for all correspondence. We are still trying to maintain the current office opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays 9.30am - 2.30pm but this is not always possible, so if you have a particular reason for visiting the office, do email or call 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](#) for more information or contact Maggie Conder at 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

Frederike Jacob is our assistant Parish Safeguarding Officer

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)