



Sunday 12th July 2026

Trinity 6



Seeds have been scattered this week, in particular political policy promises from new leaders and leaders seeking to consolidate their political position. The soil in which those policy seeds land varies wildly. As every gardener and farmer will know, right seed, right soil, right weather conditions - all good. But the winds of change are not always favourable and in a drought, the yield will not be what is hoped for. For example, farmers this week have reported the moisture content of grain this year is far below the threshold to meet the market price. We remember them in our prayers.

Meanwhile, some of the policy seeds land on the hard path of stubbornness and anger. Others land on rocky ground - much excitement at first, but the roots do not run deep enough at times of crisis. Promises are soon forgotten and new policies hastily developed. Sometimes the weeds of scandal, or of scarcity of money, rights or resources choke good intentions.

Let anyone with ears, listen!

We will be invited to listen well at Café Church and during tomorrow evening's Holy Communion service. We will be wondering what is needed to tend well to the soil? What are the weeds that need attending to in our individual and corporate life? What are they preventing us from becoming? And what is it that we are literally and spiritually sowing into the soil, to bear fruit to be enjoyed in this season as well to tend to the soil into which tomorrow's roots will seek new depths and the water of life.

Vicar Sarah

Here you can [hear more about the soil and farming on church land](#) in the East of England.

July 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 12th July

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Cafe church

6pm Choral communion (L)

Monday 13th July

School concert - all day

Tuesday 14th July

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 15th July

9am School service

12 pm Holy Communion followed by soup

2pm School service - Leaver's service

Thursday 16th July

3.15-5pm Together

Friday 17th July

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Saturday 18th July

8.30am Men's breakfast

10-4pm Summer HolyDay / Day Trip/ Pilgrimage to Bury St Edmunds with friends from All Hallows Church to include a special service in the Cathedral led by the All Hallows and St Margaret's community, the opportunity to explore Bury St Edmunds for fun, picnics and/or reflective retreat time and the chance to finish the day attending Choral Evensong in the Cathedral. Please sign up using [this link](#).

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

Romans 8.1-11 ([KJV](#)) ([NRSVUE](#))

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23 ([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.

Church News

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



Sat 18th July
We're all going on a Summer HolyDay

A grand day out in Bury St Edmunds

We'll make our way there either by train or in cars, arriving at the Cathedral from 10.30am with friends from Ipswich All Hallows and Lindbergh Road churches for tea and coffee. At 11am we'll worship together in the Lady Chapel before spending the day at leisure, on retreat or joining in with various activities:

- reflective tour with a Cathedral pilgrim guide
- walk the labyrinth
- lunch in Abbey Gardens (bring a picnic/rug)
- explore the ancient abbey ruins
- 2pm in the Cathedral - a special time for families with younger children
- Choral Evensong 3.30-4.15pm

Please register your interest! QR code or go to:
<https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/events/5asvs05>

office.stmagsips@gmail.com
www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none


St. Margaret's Church
IPSWICH

NEXT SATURDAY - LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP - DON'T MISS OUT!

Summer HolyDay, Saturday 18th July 10-4pm

A day out in Bury St Edmunds! With worship, activities and time to explore. Details on the website [here](#) (or later in this newsletter). To register your interest, please click here or add your

details to the sheet at the back of church.

Choir

Please continue to pray for our choir director, Christopher Tinker who remains in the care of the Addenbrookes team. Theo Geileskey is helping out this week (6pm 12th July) and Amanda Lockyer is with us over the summer. Choir practice will usually continue on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm. If you have any queries about music in the meantime, or are thinking about joining or re-joining the choir, do email music.stmagsips@gmail.com

Music day thanks

Five groups performed in church last Sunday as part of Ipswich Music Day. It was a brilliant event, with some wonderful performances. We provided tea, coffee, juice and cakes during the whole afternoon. Many thanks go to everybody who helped on the day by setting-up, serving and clearing-away. Thanks also go to those who contributed a variety of delicious cakes which were much appreciated by all. We made something approaching £200 in donations for the Church Funds. Quentin and Alison Thurtle

Church centre patio, garden, and flowers

After 16 years of looking after the Church Centre patio, 'garden', and flowers, June and Peter Youngs are stepping down. Over the years, they have worked wonders on an important but unglamorous part of the Centre, making it a pleasant and functional area of benefit to all. Many thanks go to them for their continued efforts over the years - their contribution has been much appreciated by the Church Centre team and our users. This leaves a vacancy for someone with mildly green fingers to volunteer to continue their good work! If you are wanting to volunteer in this way, do have a word with someone in the church centre committee among whom are included Quentin, Patrick, Alison, Bart and Sheena,

Ink cartridge recycling

You may have noticed that the box at the back of church disappeared briefly. Its good news – the box was filled and the contents sent to [Recycle4Charity](#), who will recycle them, and St Margaret's will receive a small payment for each cartridge that is recycled. A new box is now in church, so do keep bringing in your empty cartridges. Many thanks Rev Helen

Together in July, and Family Mornings in August

I am looking for 2 volunteers for Thursday 16th July and up to 3 volunteers for Saturday 25th July to help at Together. The Thursday gathering will be in the church centre as usual and the Saturday Together Extra will be in the churchyard. If you have volunteered for Together before and are available, please sign up at the back of church, if you want to help but haven't been before do speak to me

I am also hoping to run two of our ever-popular Family Mornings in August, one on the 7th of August and the other on the 21st. Again if you wish to volunteer do sign up, if its for the first time do chat with me. Thanks, Rev Helen

To volunteer at Together or anything which involves children and/or young people you will need to complete some online safeguarding training and complete a DBS check

Carpet cleaner

This has now been sorted out, thanks to everyone who offered to help with this.

Period products

Another thank you to all those who have supported this, we are now fully stocked for a while and able to provide these much-needed products to those who need them. For more information on

period poverty do click [this link](#).

Gracie Collins - baptism and first birthday

Our church administrator Lucy, with husband Daniel and daughter Gracie will be at the 10am service on the 26th July to celebrate Gracie's baptism - and 1st birthday!

Together, we are listening: Diocesan vision and strategy

Bishop Joanne and team are beginning the process of refreshing the diocesan vision and strategy. This will build on 'Growing in God'. They aim to discern where the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church of England in Suffolk, and where God is leading us. To hear Bishop Joanne talking more about this, please click [here](#). To read more, please click [here](#).

Living God,

*Speak to your Church in this season of listening and
deepen our life in Christ.*

*As we give thanks for the growth you have begun,
open our hearts to your voice
and lead us by your Spirit into the future you prepare.
Amen.*

A series of prayer events will take place across the diocese, focusing on **prayer** and **listening**:

- what are our **gifts**?
- what are our **resources**?
- what are our **challenges**?
- what are the **opportunities ahead**?

One of the prayer events will take place at **St. Margaret's on 28th July**, from **7-9pm**, led by **Archdeacon Sam**.

Vicar Sarah adds 'If we ask these questions of St Margaret's and our church community, how would you answer them?'

Archidiaconal Boundary Review

In the Church of England structures, St Margaret's Church is a 'single parish benefice'. We are one of 12,500 individual charities that make up the Church of England. We have a relationship with The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, the national Church of England (including General Synod - elected by members of Deanery Synods) and The Charity Commission.

A 'Benefice' may consist of one or more parishes which are governed by a Parochial Church Council (PCC).

A group of Benefices form a Deanery (with people elected by PCCs to meet as a Deanery Synod)). A group of Deaneries form an Archdeaconry, with a number of Archdeaconries forming a Diocese, of which there are 42 in the Church of England. Clergy members of Diocesan Synods are elected by clergy, non-ordained (lay) members of Diocesan Synod are elected by lay members of Deanery Synod). With the exception of the Lowestoft area which is in Norwich Diocese, the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich largely covers the civic County of Suffolk, itself divided into boroughs, districts, towns and parishes.

In Suffolk there are three Archdeaconries: Suffolk, Sudbury and Ipswich. Ipswich is unique in the Church of England - there is currently only one deanery in the Archdeaconry of Ipswich. The archidiaconal boundaries

are currently being reviewed with the expectation that by the end of this year, our Bishop will redistribute the existing 16 deaneries, around 120 stipendiary clergy and other ministers, 480+ churches and 680,000+ people more equitably among the three Archdeacons.

If you have any thoughts or observations you would like to share with the Vicar about this we can make sure they are part of the process that determines the new boundaries.

Pentecostal Pray-ers

Remember that our lay reader George is gathering names of those who are interested in engaging with a prayerful push to pray. We have a good number signed up already but George hasn't yet reached his prophetic 50 pray-ers. Do email him at reader.stmagsips@gmail.com to find out more.

Rev Sarah

Feedback following the changes to our worshipping pattern

Thank you to those of you who shared your thoughts and observations regarding the new worship pattern that was introduced in January. The PCC will give it further thought when they meet in July. In the meantime, given the low numbers attending, I will no longer be running a monthly zoom compline service on the fourth Thursday of the month and the Wednesday evening prayer meeting is also stopping with immediate effect.

Rev Sarah



Together!

Thursday 16th July

3.30pm start until 5pm in

St Margaret's Church Centre
on Bolton Lane, just up from the
school

All are welcome

to this relaxed community for all ages.

Join us for storytelling from the Bible,
activities, songs, prayer
and a meal together

Welcoming people of all faiths and none





Together EXTRA Churchyard Edition

25th July, 10 - 11.30am

*Meet in St Margaret's
churchyard by the church
entrance*

All are welcome

to this relaxed community for all
ages. Join us for storytelling,
activities, and brunch

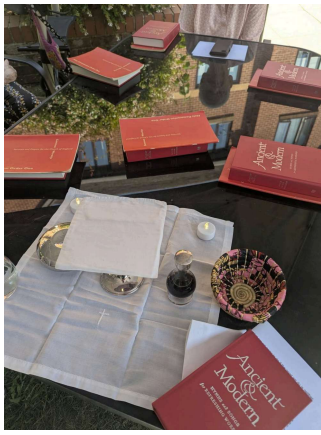
It's preferable to book on this
session, this can be done via the
QR code or emailing
events.stmagsips@gmail.com

Family, Faith and Food



Growing Deeper





Thanksgiving

Giving thanks for a really successful music day last Sunday: everyone involved in hosting; the musicians who played at St. Margaret's; and all visitors to the church.

For outdoor communion with a lovely breeze, which took place under the gazebo at Christchurch Court this week.

For learning with students from St. Margaret's school this week, themed around pilgrimage, prayer - and Fairtrade chocolate!

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Holly Road, Paget Road, and Greenways Close.

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 : Can you make the most of seasonal abundance?

Now that summer days are here you may have a glut of fruit in the garden or find cheap local fruit in markets. Local vegetables may also become more available and cheaper. This is a good time to batch cook and freeze for winter months ahead. Large quantities of food use less energy to cook compared to lots of small ones. This is also a good time to make jam and pickles for the year ahead. Make the most of surplus produce and use less energy.

With thanks to Revd Richard Stainer.

Loving God · Care for Creation · Love Our Global Neighbours

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 19th July

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Time out

Tuesday 21st July

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 22nd July

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 24th July

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Saturday 25th July

10-11.30am Together Extra in the churchyard, on the theme of light

Sunday 26th July

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Worship (L), with baptism for Gracie Collins

6pm Choral evensong (L)

Tuesday 28th July

8 am Morning Prayer

7-9pm Archdeaconry Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 29th July

12 pm Holy Communion

2 pm Memorial Service - Angela Tenwick RIP

Friday 31st July

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Saturday 1st August

8.30am Men's breakfast

Save The Dates

Sunday 9th August - Afternoon Tea

Saturday 12th September - Ride and Stride / Heritage Open Day and 3pm Hymns & Pimms

Saturday 26th September - Bring & Share Harvest Supper 'Around the World' 5-7.30pm

Saturday 17th October - 'Floetry' - a concert performed by Suffolk Chamber Choir

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](#).

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, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm

Number: 07733 609661 and leave a message.

Church Office and Contacts during the Church Administrator's period of Maternity Leave**We are looking forward to Lucy returning to the church office at the end of July 2026.**

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)