



# St. Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H

*This Church Year features the Gospel of Mark*

## **Seventh Sunday after Trinity** **Sunday 14th July 2024**

### **8am Holy Communion**

A thirty-minute Prayer Book service in traditional language with no music.

[Romans 6.19-23](#) and [Mark 8.1-10a](#)

### **9:30am Rise and Shine**

A service for all ages. Includes a creative activity and/or discussion and/or quiet reflection for people of any age. All welcome. Refreshments after the service

### **11am Parish Communion**

A service of holy communion with traditional choral music. Refreshments after the service. All welcome.

*You can view the livestream of the 11am service [here](#).*

Sunday's lectionary readings:

[Genesis 28.11-18](#), [Revelation 21.9-14](#) and [John 10.22-29](#)

***Parking is available in St Margaret's School car park during these services***  
*(for which we are grateful to the school).*

***The church is open daily from 10am to 4pm***

[Click here for the July Prayer Diary](#)



### St Margaret's Day

Have you read the [brief history of St Margaret's Church](#) on our website? With origins in the Augustinian tradition and standing in grounds alongside Holy Trinity Priory, this parish church was established around 1300 and dedicated to St Margaret of Antioch, a saint popularised at the time by returning crusaders.

Much has changed since that time. History is always bringing up new insights and challenges for this generation. How do we interpret and understand what is past?

Which stories are told... which are overlooked. Or misinterpreted.

The Augustinian Friars are long gone but the legacy reminds us that the church is

never the same, from one day to the next and over the days, weeks and years. We are always growing and changing. Learning, and all being well, becoming a little more the church and the people that God longs for us to be in this generation.

Sometimes that happens imperceptibly. At other times, there's no disguising change.  
A double hammer beam roof was not a subtle addition to the church!

Last weekend a group of 9 people from St Margaret's Church attended a diocesan-led 'Leading your Church into Growth' conference. It was helpful. Not because it's another course. Or another new initiative. Or something else that has to be done.

Rather, we were reminded that God is constantly at work in us and through us as we live, work and pray for the coming of God's kingdom in this generation.

Almost 1500 church members were involved in the construction of the painted roof.  
1500.

God of Mission  
Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Vicar Sarah**

PS Keep an eye out this week as we celebrate... *'Hic sunt dracones'*

... *there may be dragons* appearing in church... another medieval connection, the words appearing on ancient maps to mark that which has yet to be mapped. That which is unknown: places where there may be dragons. It begs the question... where are the dragons in today's world? What are our inner dragons.... and are we ever unnecessarily *draconian* in our response when we find ourselves driven by fear of

the unknown?

There is no where God is not. God is with us.

We need not be afraid. Not of change. Not of opportunities for growth.

Not even of dragons!

### **Vacancy in See**

With Bishop Martin's retirement planned for the end of February 2025, a discernment process is underway to find the next Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The process is being overseen by the Vacancy in See Committee, a statutory committee which has a permanent existence but only meets when there is a vacancy in the diocesan bishopric. The Vacancy in See Committee is in the process of producing a Statement of Needs, which outlines the strengths of the Diocese, the challenges facing it and the qualities the Committee believes the new bishop will need. As part of this process they will be holding a public meeting to hear everyone's views.

### **Public Meeting**

Wednesday 17 July from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

To register please click here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

The public meeting will be chaired by Bishop Mike. The Appointment Secretaries of both the Prime Minister and the Archbishop of Canterbury will be present to provide a short introduction, outline the process and give details of the appointment timetable.

This will be followed by a period of listening, during which attendees are invited to comment on the needs of the Diocese and the characteristics and qualities needed in the next Bishop.

This is a great opportunity to be part of the discernment process. The meeting is open to all.

**Did you know...?**



Today we celebrate St Margaret of Antioch (in modern day Turkey) to whom this church is dedicated. Her Feast Day is the 20th of July.

She was one of the most popular medieval saints whose veneration came to England with returning Crusaders. We are one of over 250 churches dedicated to her in England; the most famous being that next to Westminster Abbey.

Whether she actually lived is now a matter of doubt.

In what is a common story, she was said to be a devout Christian. When a Roman Governor wished to marry her, he demanded she renounce her religion. Having refused, she was tortured and miraculous incidents occurred. The main one was being swallowed by Satan disguised as a dragon. Her cross irritated

its stomach and she emerged from it alive. Consequently the dragon became one of her symbols and she became the patron saint of childbirth. In her honour two dragons were carved, one in the roof of the church and the other on a window spandrel, by medieval craftsmen.

For more information please see under the Tower or <https://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk/assets/Uploads/StMargaretofA-webpage.pdf>

### **Kagera Link Diocese News**



You may be aware that in late July, Rev Sarah and family are travelling to Tanzania to build links with the Dioceses of Kagera, Lweru and Biharamulo.

In conversations with Bishop Darlington this week, we have agreed that where we can 'buy locally' to support the work of the Dioceses, we will do so. We hope

that while we are there, we will be able to buy blankets, for example, to support the 96 children with additional needs that Penina teaches.

Following their school concert this week, the children of St Margaret's Primary School collected cash donations which we hope to use to buy a large play parachute. If there are further cash donations, we will take some other specialist play equipment with us.

We also hope to support girls' education by enabling them to be in school more easily when they have their period.

To do this we are planning to take with us as many pairs of reusable, washable period pants as we can accumulate. You have time to buy online, from the supermarkets or in town if you would like to join in with this by leaving any such gifts in the food bank box in church.

Do invite friends, family and neighbours to join in!







### **Bellringing**

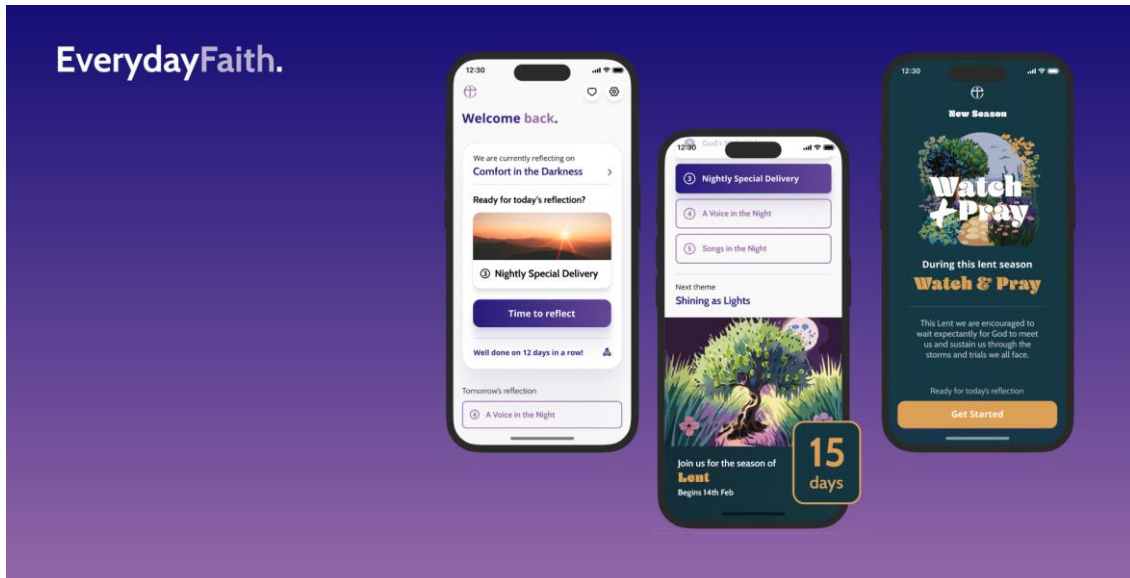
Here are some pictures from our recent Bell ringing practice which takes place on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm. Beginners welcome! Do get in touch if you'd like to know more!

### **Baby and Toddler Group**

Our baby and toddler group will be running throughout the summer holidays. Children from birth to 5 years old are welcome to come along to this drop-in group. There are toys, craft, stories and songs.

It is held in the Church Centre on a Friday from 9.30-11am. Entry is £1.50 per family which includes a snack and tea/coffee for parents. All welcome.

## Everyday Faith App



The Church of England have created a new app called Everyday Faith.

Everyday Faith is designed to inspire, equip and encourage you in your faith every day of the week, not just on Sundays.

Everyday Faith is now available to download for iOS and Android. If you already have the *Watch & Pray* app installed, you will automatically get the update.

Discover more, and download at [atcofe.io/EverydayFaithApp](https://atcofe.io/EverydayFaithApp).

# Summer 2024

## Useful Diary Dates

### April

**Sunday 28th** 11am: Mission Direct speaker followed by 12.30pm: Annual Meeting (APCM)

### May

**Saturday 11th** 9.30-12.30: churchyard working party

**Wednesdays** 8th, 15th, 22nd: Confirmation course  
To be confirmed: children's holiday club sessions

### June

**Sunday 2nd** 11am: Confirmation Service

**Saturday 15th** 2-4pm: Church Fête

**Sunday 23rd** 11am: Church Mission Society speaker

**Saturday 29th** Ordinations at the Cathedral (by invitation) followed by afternoon tea for all in the church centre to welcome our new curate.

### July

**Sunday 7th** Ipswich Music Day: afternoon concerts

**Sunday 14th** We celebrate St Margaret's Day before the holidays begin.

### August

To be confirmed: children's holiday club sessions

**Sunday 25th** 11am: Link Diocese of Tanzania speaker followed at 3.00 pm a concert by The Gainsborough Quartet



[www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk)  
*welcoming people of all faiths and none*



## Future services

*In addition to the main services at the top of the pew sheet, here are the details of other services taking place*

### **Tuesday 16th July**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Friday 19th July**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 21st July**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Cafe Church

11.00am Parish Communion

### **Tuesday 23rd July**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Friday 26th July**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 28th July**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Morning Service

06.30pm Evensong

## Pastoral Support

Please let us know if you or someone in St Margaret's community is unwell and would like a visit at home or is in hospital - Home Communion can be arranged. [Maggie Conder](#) is our [pastoral care](#) team leader or contact the vicar, [Sarah](#).



## Financial Giving

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](#).



John Grierson, Church Treasurer

### Contact details

Website: [www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk)

The Revd Sarah Geileskey:

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

The Vicarage, 32 Constable Road, IP4 2UW

07841 687879

Sarah's rest days are usually Thursday each week and the second Friday of each month

Ordinand Helen Prior-Townsend:

[helenptstmags@gmail.com](mailto:helenptstmags@gmail.com)

07540 394179

Helen is a self-supporting ordinand, working full time. Her parish rest day is usually on Tuesdays and she currently has ordination formation training on most Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Churchwardens [churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com)

Vergers administrator [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com)

Or telephone 07733 609661 and leave a message.

Items for next week's sheet to the Vergers 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](#).