St.Margaret's Church
IPSWICH

Sunday 1st November 2026
All Saints & All Souls



Today is Hallow'een. All Hallows' Eve. Appropriate then, that tomorrow, Sunday 1st November, our reader George will be taking up an invitation to preach at All Hallows, one of our sister churches in Ipswich as they celebrate their festival day with the dedication of their church as 'All Hallows'. We pray that word regularly, of course, in the Lord's Prayer. Hallowed be your name. Hallow... to render holy, to show great respect, great honour and great reverence. Words that make sense when we think of God's name being hallowed. But All Hallows?
We'll be singing in church this weekend for all the saints... as we celebrate and give thanks for those who have died (at our 3pm service on Sunday) in whose footsteps we follow whilst remembering too, that we, in this current generation, are living saints, like Revd Canon Linda Peall whom we will hear from during the 6pm service of Prayer and Praise as we continue our 'This is our Story' series.

For many, Halloween is a complex time and there are further thoughts here that you might find helpful to peruse.
In a world that has plenty to scare us, it is helpful to be reminded of the light of Christ that shines in the darkness. It is helpful that our faith teaches us that death is not the end of life, but the end of life as we have experienced it in earth, We can be assured by the hope of the resurrection and the worshipping company of angels, their song of prayer, praise and protection unceasing. When we are following Jesus way, we can find hope too, in the company of those saints who surround us every day, sharing the load and laughing with us at some of life's challenges.
If you need a prayer this weekend, I commend this compline (night) prayer to you...

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,

and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Rev Sarah

November 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. *Apologies for those who tried to tune in last Sunday to watch the service, we experienced some unexpected difficulties. There should be livestreaming this week but may be on a static wide angle for most of the service.*

Saturday 31st October (Today!)
9.30am Breakfast for all - see flyer below

Sunday 1st November

8 am BCP Holy Communion
10am Family Communion (L)
3pm All Souls' Service
6pm Prayer & Praise

Tuesday 3rd November
8 am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion Norwood
3.30pm Holy Communion Christchurch Court
Wednesday 4th November
9am School Service
12 pm Holy Communion
Thursday 5th November
~~8pm Choral Compline (L)~~ (Cancelled)
Friday 6th November
8 am Morning Prayer in church
Saturday 7th November
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

1 John 3.1-3 (KJV)(NRSVUE)

Matthew 5.1-12 (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

This week's newsletter is jam-packed, so do scroll to the bottom, to make sure you're up to date with what's going on! You may need to open the email in your browser to see everything, as some email programmes will truncate it.



Help! All Hallows' Eve. 31st October 2026 (Today!)

We look forward to welcoming people at the vicarage on what is a very busy night of door knocking. We share generous hospitality, welcome people with sweets and make contact with many children and families we might otherwise rarely see. Do pray for this outreach.



Prayer and Praise

Come and join us tomorrow for our Prayer and Praise service with contemporary worship and a chance to get to know more about the people that make up St Margaret's Church. Tomorrow's speaker is Rev Linda Peall.


Prayer and Praise
1st Sunday of the Month
6pm
Contemporary worship led by our musicians, with prayers, songs of praise and a chance to get to know more about the people that make up St Margaret's Church as they share something of their faith with us.
Previous Speakers
6th September - Rev Sarah
4th October -Tom Gibbs
Upcoming
1st November - Rev Linda Peall
6th December - TBC
Welcoming people of all faiths and none
St. Margaret's Church
IPSWICH



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.

Annual Giving Survey Results

Thank you to all those who voted in our Annual Giving Survey. It was all very close but please see the results below…

Mission Direct	£463
James Team	£444
CMS	£593




OVR
GLORIOVS
DEAD
Sunday 8th November 10am
Parade Service
with members of the St Margaret's Guiding & Scouting movements
A 40 minute service remembering those who have died in conflict as we reflect on our commitment in this generation to their much longed for legacy of peace and justice.
The service will conclude in time for those who wish to attend the Act of Remembrance at 11am in Christchurch Park following which the Rainbows will serve a fundraising jacket potato lunch in the Church Centre on Bolton Lane. Cash on the day. £10 adults £5 children. If you plan to attend please email helepeck77@me.com
www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
office.stmagsips@gmail.com
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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 activites.
Please get in touch with the office at office.stmagsips@gmail.com for details about the first pop up!
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Bell Ringing
See the tower in action
The ringing platform with its open glass-fronted gallery gives a wonderful insight into the heritage tradition of bell ringing. Come and see the tower in action as we welcome visiting bands of bellringers.
Saturday 14th November: 11.45am - 12.45pm
Visiting Ringers from Saffron Walden
Sunday 22nd November: 1.00-4.00 pm
Visiting Ringers for Full Peal Attempt
Would you like to try?
Rehearsals are usually on Tuesday evenings.
To find out more, please contact
Colin Salter, Tower Captain on 07961 891728 or email
bells.stmagsips@gmail.com.
www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
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Please click here to sign up to the quiz…

Thursday Forum

at Christ Church
Tacket Street
(next to Cox Lane car park)

Thursday Lunchtimes

Refreshments at low cost 12 noon - 1.00 pm
A short talk 1.10 - 1.50 pm
You are welcome to either or both



Season 2026/2027

Nov 5th **Fellowship Afloat - A floating Christian Outdoor Centre**
Sarah Case, Funding Officer

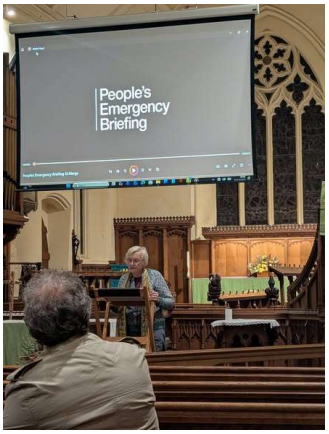
Nov 12th **Mercy Ships - Bringing Help and Healing**
Rod Gibson, Mercy Ships Ambassador

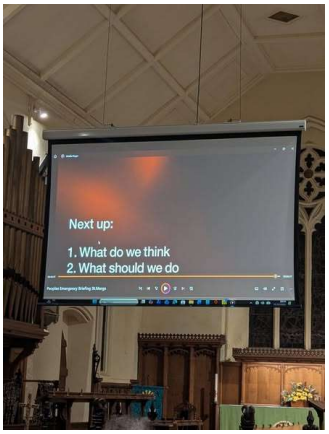
Nov 19th **TWAM - Tools with a Mission**
Philip Wiseman, Volunteer Speaker

Nov 26th **Shotley Peninsula in Pictures**
Ian van der Ende, photographer

Growing Deeper







Thanksgiving

For the privilege of hosting a screening of the Peoples Emergency Briefing last Friday evening: a thought provoking film for all to see and react to as well as go away with positive actions to take.
For the work of our Eco Church team throughout the year.

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Constable Road, George Frost Close, and Parkside Avenue.

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 switch your toilet paper?

Time, perhaps to think about the basics – toilet paper. Are you still buying toilet paper which is wrapped in plastic and is made from new wood pulp? The UK fells an estimated 7 million trees every year to make toilet tissue. You can bulk buy online toilet paper made from recycled paper and wrapped in paper rather than plastic. If you want to upgrade then buy bamboo which grows quickly and can easily be replaced. If you're keen to get back to basics then grow a lavatera outside your bathroom window and reach out for a leaf after every sitting – after all that's how the plant got its name!

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

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 8th November

8 am BCP Holy Communion
10am Parade Service - No Café Church this month.
6pm Communion (L)

Tuesday 10th November

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 11th November
9am School Service TBC
11 am Remembrance Day (Cenotaph)
Friday 13th November
8 am Morning Prayer in church

Sunday 15th November

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

Tuesday 17th November
8 am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 18th November
9am School Service TBC
12pm Holy Communion
Friday 20th November
8 am Morning Prayer in church
Saturday 21st November
8.30am Men's breakfast
7.00pm 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