

This Church Year (Year C) features the Gospel of Luke

Second Sunday Before Lent

Sunday 23rd February 2025

8am Holy Communion
A thirty-minute Prayer Book service in traditional language with no music.

2 Corinthians 11.19-31 and Luke 8.4-15

9:30am Rise and Shine Commuion

A service for all ages. A thirty minute interactive service. All welcome. Refreshments after the service

11.00am Morning Worship
With the choir leading the music, congregational hymns and Junior Church. All welcome.

Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end, Revelation 4 and Luke 8.22-25

You can view the livestream of the 11am service here.

6.30pm Choral Evensong
with Revd Sarah Geileskey preaching
'A 45-minute long peace-inducing church service in which the song of voices sounding together in harmony is heard at the even point between the active day and restful night' (description from the Choral Evensong Trust). With prayers, hymns, choral music and a short

reflection, all are welcome.

Genesis 1.1-2.3 and Matthew 6.25-end

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)

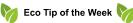
The church is open daily from 10am to 3pm

The Church Office (in the Church Centre) is usually open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30am-2.30pm.

Click here for Livestreamed Services

Click here for the February Prayer Diary

Click here for the March Prayer Diary



Switch to eco cleaning products which biodegrade in the sewerage system and don't damage aquatic life in our rivers and seas. They also contain less harmful chemical for us too.



The power of the Kingdom of God.

If you input 'power' into the word search tool on BibleGateway.com, you'll discover the word appears no less than 441 times in the NRSV Bible – considerably more than 'disciples' (265) or 'healing' (194) or 'prayer' (252) or 'forgive' (132).

In modern day parlance, 'power' generally seems to be used in a negative sense of someone exerting power or control over someone else, subjugating them – brought into sharp focus this week by the power, it seems, that Donald Trump intends to exert over Ukraine, a country already reeling from its illegal invasion by another power, Russia.

In contrast however, the word 'power' is generally used in the Bible in a **positive** context: for the good of people not their harm nor the self-interest of whoever wields the power.

How then do we, as individuals, exercise any power that we might have over others? It could be in the context of something as trivial as the 'power' of my familiarity with 'my' church which I keep to myself rather than share with a visitor to make them feel welcome and at ease.

Try to be aware, this coming week, of any situation in which you find yourself where you're in a position of power over another – it may just be in terms of being more knowledgeable than them about something - and be aware of how you exercise that power and try, consciously, to intend it for good, for the sake of God's kingdom.

George Woodward Lay Minister-in-training

We are refreshing the newsletter and the first edition of the new style will be sent out on Saturday 1st March so please don't be alarmed if it looks different, it is not a scam. The new format, we hope, will enable people to access everything going on at St Margaret's in an easier and clearer way.



Ipswich Minster is hosting a vigil, organised by the Ukrainian community, to mark the 3rd anniversary of the full scale invasion of Ukraine on 23rd February. Proceedings will begin at 2.45pm on the steps of the Town Hall, followed by a procession to Ipswich Minster and a service of Evensong which you may or may not also choose to attend.

Winter Warmer

Not too late to come and join us tomorrow for our winter warmer lunch tomorrow at 12.30pm in the Church Centre.

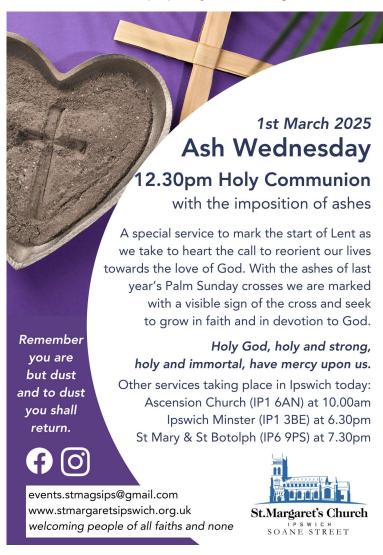


Funeral Friday 28th February 1pm Wendy Rollins RIP

With her colleagues from Ipswich Hospital joining via livestream we join with Wendy's family and friends in giving thanks for her life as we pray too, for all those who now grieve. All are welcome.

We are looking forward to the renewal of the electoral roll this spring and will use the opportunity to update the systems we use to communicate with the church community, as well as to securely hold data and to introduce online booking for some of the events and activities that we hope to undertake through Rev Helen's appointment and work among the wider local community. More details will follow in March!

Ash Wednesday



Palm Crosses and Ash Wednesday

Please remember to return your palm crosses from last year so that we can prepare the ash for this year's Ash Wednesday's service. Palms collected by the end of Sunday 2nd March will be turned to ash and mixed with oil ready for the 12.30pm Service on 5th March.

Lent Lunches



Grandparents' Day

Saturday 15 March 10.30am – 2.30pm | St John's Church, Cauldwell Hall Road, Ipswich IP4 4QE

'What does it take to be a Grandparent of Faith?' This event, organised by the Mothers' Union but open to non-members, is designed to bring together grandparents and honorary grandparents of faith (from little faith to strong faith) and of any denomination. Join us to feel supported, encouraged and affirmed as a spiritual influencer to your grandchildren through a programme of worship, key speakers and small group workshops.

Free tickets available here.

It's time to register for the up-coming Ipswich Deanery Conference ...

'Every Day Discipling' on Saturday 29 March 2025

Come and be inspired by our keynote speaker, Emma Buchan, Head of Churches and Networks Support in the national Vision and Strategy Team; as well as celebrating where we are seeing God at work and another round of great workshops ... all starting with bacon butties from 8.45am!

Who is it for?

Everyone in an Ipswich Deanery Anglican Congregation. Spaces are available for children aged 4-11 years with parents/carers attending the conference.

How do I sign up?

Please register using the Eventbrite link below. You will be asked to identify your church community and to let us know any specific dietary requirements. If you are bringing your children, please ensure that you register each child with their own child ticket

Eventbrite Link

'Together' begins on Thursday 20th March: 3.30-5.30pm in the Church Centre: food for the soul and food for the body. Please keep this in your prayers and share with friends, neighbours and family.



Mothering Sunday



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 25th February 2025 8.00am Morning Prayer

Friday 28th February 2025 8.00am Morning Prayer

08.00am Holy Communion 09.30am Rise and Shine

Sunday 2nd March 2025 11.00am Parish Communion

Tuesday 4th March 2025 8.00am Morning Prayer

Friday 7th March 2025 8.00am Morning Prayer

08.00am Holy Communion

09.30am Rise and Shine

Sunday 9th March 2025 11.00am Parish Communion with Baptism

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. <u>Maggie Conder</u> is our <u>pastoral care</u> team leader or contact the vicar, <u>Sarah</u>.



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
 <u>Parish Giving Scheme</u>, 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 <u>Parish Giving Scheme</u>.
- 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, <u>John Grierson</u>.
- 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, <u>John Grierson</u> or the Vicar, <u>Sarah</u>.



John Grierson, Church Treasurer

Contact details

Website: www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk

The Revd Sarah Geileskey:

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

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 churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com Verger administrator verger.stmagsips@gmail.com

Or telephone 07733 609661 and leave a message.

Items for next week's sheet to the Verger Administrator (
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.