



# St. Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H

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

**Presentation of Christ  
at the Temple  
Candlemas**

**Sunday 2nd February 2025**

**8am Holy Communion**

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

[Romans 13.1-7](#) and [Matthew 8.23-end](#)

**9:30am Rise and Shine**

A service for all ages. A thirty minute interactive service. All welcome.

Refreshments after the service

**11.00am Parish Communion with Candles for Candlemas**

With the choir leading the music, congregational hymns,

Junior Church and fizz and cake after the service as Archdeacon Rich

preaches and licenses Rev Helen as our full time curate with special interest in working with children, families and young people. All welcome.

[Malachi 3.1-5](#), [Hebrews 2.14-18](#) and [Luke 2.22-40](#)

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

***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](#)



Turn off the tap while cleaning your teeth. The clean water that flows out of your tap needs energy in many stages of processing and transport before it gets to the tap. Don't waste it!



## **The Beginning**

With a concert on Saturday evening entitled 'Awakenings', Revd Helen's licensing at the 11am Parish Communion service on Sunday morning and Bishop Martin beginning the transition into retirement - 'only' from the role of Diocesan Bishop as God's call on his life still remains true, this weekend reminds us of our beginnings too. There is much to offer to God in prayer at this time. This weekend we remember how Jesus was brought by his parents to the temple, thus revealing his home and his call.

Many of us too also have been brought to the church as children for baptism.

At your baptism you will have been gifted a candle with words similar to these:

You have received the light of Christ,  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

In a world where there can sometimes feel like the light is far off... and at times in our lives, when life is difficult or painful, the light is no less present. Barbara-Brown Taylor writes about this complexity, if you'd like to think more deeply about such things during this Candlemas week. Perhaps this [article](#) will cast new light as we learn to see the shadows in the light of Christ.

**Revd Sarah**

## **Men's Breakfast**

In the Church Centre this morning from 8.30am onwards. Bacon sandwich, toast... and an opportunity for fellowship and worship together.

## **Audrey Cullingford RIP**

Ann and Lucy are sad to share the news of the death of their dear mother, Audrey Cullingford, on 5th January 2025. She was being fantastically well looked after by staff at Norwood care home when she passed away unexpectedly and peacefully. The family are comforted by the fact that they were all able to spend time with her over Christmas.

St. Margaret's Church was a hugely important part of Audrey's life, and anyone that knew her is more than welcome to join the family at her funeral which will be held at Ipswich Crematorium at 3.15pm on 10th February 2025. Donations in her memory are being collected for Family First, a Christian charity working with families in Ipswich - <https://audreycullingford.muchloved.com/>

## **Awakenings Concert - Today!**

Not too late to join us this evening for this very special concert.

St Margaret's are excited to be hosting Suffolk's brand new semi-professional and inclusive vocal ensemble in their inaugural concert: Suffolk Chamber Choir's 'Awakenings'. With a vibrant programme including works by Palestrina, Eric Whitacre, Cecilia McDowall and former St Margaret's chorister, Ben Parry, with support from Suffolk Soul Singers we are promised a wonderful mix of sacred and secular music.

Tickets direct from the choir through the [website](#) or on the door.

Doors open 7.00pm. Unallocated seating.

Drinks and interval refreshments available.

**AWAKENINGS**  
Suffolk Chamber Choir  
Dominic Ellis-Peckham

SPECIAL GUESTS  
Suffolk Soul Singers  
Andi Hopgood

Saturday 1st February, 7.30pm  
St Margaret's Church, Soane Street, Ipswich IP4 2BE

Tickets £15.00 / £7.50 - scan QR code or buy on the door

### **Helen Prior-Townsend's Licensing**

Come and join us this Sunday 2nd February to celebrate Helen's licensing during the 11am service.

Helen writes...

The day has come and I am excited that we are gathering together for my licensing, starting a hopeful new era in many ways for myself and St Margaret's as a community.

God calls us together to share his word and his love across all people. I am excited to be starting our holiday clubs during the February half term and our new worshipping space that will take place during the week in the afternoons from the middle of March. As Simeon and Anna waited at the temple for the coming of Jesus we can join together to prepare for the coming of new people to our community, whether we can help physically or by prayer let's join as one body to help share the love that God wants us to show to others.



# Helen Prior - Townsend's Licensing

Sunday 2 February 2025  
11am

Come and join us for Helen's  
licensing during the 11am service.  
We will also welcome Archdeacon  
Rich to the Candlemas service.

All welcome. There will be a  
celebratory fizz and cake  
afterwards



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



## **Winter Warmer**

Come and join for a winter warmer lunch on Sunday February 23rd at 12.30pm in the Church Centre. Any offers of a pudding and/or help would be appreciated - please sign up at the back of the Church or text Frederike on 07805 192855.





# Winter Warmer

Sunday 23 February 12.30pm  
Church Centre, Bolton Lane

All are welcome to join a winter warmer lunch following the 11am service

Parking will be available on the school playground.

If you would like to join us, please put your name on the list at the back of church, including any dietary needs. Alternatively you can contact Frederike by text on 07805 192855.

Offers of a pudding and/or help with setting up and tidying afterwards would be much appreciated.

Please make a voluntary contribution to the cost - any surplus will support the good work of this church community.

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





## **Plant Request**

If anyone is going to be splitting any plants, perennial or rockery and have any spare we would gratefully receive them to help enhance the churchyard. One request is please no golden rod.

Ideally we would like them early March when the frosts are over. You can either leave them in the porch or contact Maggie Conder who can collect them.

### **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 4th February 2025**

8.00am Morning Prayer

#### **Friday 7th February 2025**

8.00am Morning Prayer

#### **Sunday 9th February 2025**

08.00am Holy Communion

09.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

#### **Tuesday 11th February 2025**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Friday 14th February 2025**

8.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 16th February 2025**

08.00am Holy Communion

09.30am Café Church

11.00am Parish Communion

### **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

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 Curate, working full time. Her rest days are usually Monday each week and every fourth Tuesday of each month.

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

Verger 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 Verger 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](#).

