



Sunday 4th October 2026

Harvest Festival



Landlords and tenants.

This week's gospel is the story of a landlord who established a vineyard, complete with boundary wall, watchtower and winepress, and entrusted it to others to tend.

When the landlord sent messengers to collect a share of the harvest, those tending the vineyard turned them away, preferring to kill even the landlord's own son.

The response of those hearing the story was to find a way to silence Jesus's voice in their lives. They sought not to please God, but to please themselves.

In this harvest season, let's ask ourselves what it is that we have been entrusted with? What are we harvesting? What are we hoarding? And for what purpose? To serve God? Or serve ourselves?

More thoughts to follow at the 8am and 10am tomorrow. Do come and find out more.

Rev Sarah

October 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.

Saturday 3rd October (today!)

8.30am Men's Breakfast

Sunday 4th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Prayer & Praise

Tuesday 6th October

8 am Morning Prayer

3pm Christchurch Court Holy Communion

Wednesday 7th October

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 9th October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

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.

Parking during the school holidays.

Please note that the 'top' car park is out of action as the wall repairs take place during the school holidays and there is skip on the disabled parking space. If you need help to park your car or with wheelchair assistance, do let us know.

[Click here for Livestreaming](#)

Lectionary

This Sunday

Isaiah 5.1-7 ([KJV](#))([NRSVUE](#))
Matthew 21.33-end ([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



Volunteer Request for Fundraising Project

We are looking for a volunteer to help us set up easyfundraising which is a way of turning the everyday online shopping our congregation and supporters into funds for our Church! We are looking for some help setting it up as well as doing some promotion around it. For more information on easyfundraising please click [here](#). If interested please contact Lucy, Church administrator on office.stmagsips@gmail.com.

Harvest festival updates

Harvest festival has been both busy and joyful at St. Margaret's this week - here are some selected updates.

Together at Harvest

19 of us gathered for Together last Saturday, where we thought about what a good harvest is, and created a display using food cans for the church.



'Harvest around the world in food'

The Harvest Festival 'bring and share' meal on Saturday night was a great success, with over 40 adults and children in attendance, and food from all over the world.



FIND foodbank donations

The St. Margaret's community, including the toddler group, Sunday congregations, and school, shared harvest donations for the FIND foodbank.



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.

Hospital Visiting and Home Communion

If you are admitted to hospital for planned surgery or indeed, suddenly and unexpectedly, do let us know. The pastoral team and clergy often visit people in hospital, but we can only do so if we know you are there! The chaplaincy team at the hospital are also very supportive - if you would like to see a chaplain do tell the hospital staff and arrangements will be put in place for this to happen. You can email or telephone/text/whatsapp any of the clergy, Rev Sarah, Rev Helen or Reader George, let Lucy in the office know or email the pastoral team. If you can't do this and friend or family member can do this for you, the contact details are all on the St Margaret's website. All the contact details are also at the end of this newsletter, scroll down (or click to download all of the newsletter).

Rev Sarah is aware that there are an increasing number of people now for whom to receive Holy Communion at home from time to time would be helpful - if you think this might be for you, again, do please let the clergy or pastoral team know so that arrangements can be made for either the clergy or a member of the pastoral team to visit and share communion.



Throne of Beauty

***Saturday 17th October
7.30pm***

Pieces by celebrated women composers including Hildegard of Bingen, Judith Weir, Cecilia McDowall, Amy Beach, and others

Adults £16 Under 18's £8
Scan QR code to purchase tickets or buy on the door. Refreshments available.



Welcoming people of all faiths and none





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 activities.

Please get in touch with the office at office.stmagsips@gmail.com for details about the first pop up!

Welcoming people of all faiths and none





Counselling Centre Manager

Lead a team that changes lives:

We are looking for a compassionate, experienced leader to head up our counselling, supervision and training services – rooted in Christian values

26 hours per week.

To find out more via our website:

www.inspirecounselling.org.uk

Closing date: 23rd October 2026

An Ipswich based Christian Charity



Growing Deeper



Thanksgiving

For all of the harvest festival activities which have taken place in our church this week. For our flower (and vegetable!) arrangers, who decorated the church so beautifully.

For welcoming year 1 to church on Wednesday afternoon as they learned more about the symbols of baptism and what happens in a baptism service.

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Tuddenham Avenue, Tuddenham Road, and Vermont 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: Could you fix your clothes?

If your sewing skills are limited there are usually good repairers and tailors in your local town who can do more complicated alterations for you at a reasonable price. Again, getting clothes that fit better means that you wear them more. Also, a good invisible mend can extend the life of a garment considerably. Check out your local tailor and give that favourite dress or pair of trousers a new lease of life!

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

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 11th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Cafe church

6pm Choral Communion (L)

Tuesday 13th October

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 14th October

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 16th October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 17th October

8.30am Men's Breakfast

Sunday 18th October

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Time Out

Tuesday 20th October

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 21st October

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 23rd October

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Save The Dates

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](#).

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

OfficeEmail: office.stmagsips@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday 9.30am - 1.30pm, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm (Office closed Tuesday 22nd due to A/L)

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](https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/connect/mydetails/submit)