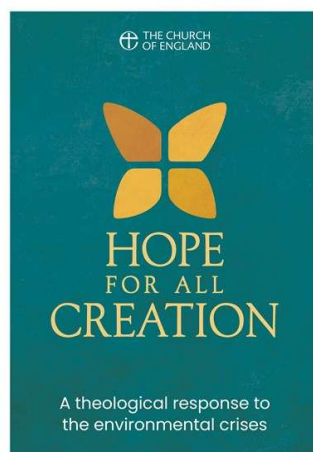




Sunday 6th September 2026

Trinity 14



Creationtide

In recent weeks the fires on Dunwich Heath, the long hot summer and the dry and parched land and events in Nepal are bringing close the reality of the changes in our climate. Many parts of the world have been living with the reality of these consequences for far longer than we have and I have been lamenting and praying and wondering about it all.

At the same time, the Ivy bees have reappeared this week in our churchyard. They are the last of the solitary bees in the UK to emerge in late August and early September to coincide with the flowering of ivy, on whose pollen they feast. They like sandy soil and hundreds of male solitary bees can be seen flying over the ground, searching out heaps of excavated soil in the short grass marking the nesting sites of female bees who will soon emerge for the mating season.

These bees have reminded me that there is much in the world that I cannot attend to. But I can get on and do my bit. So in this month of September, as we look forward at the end of the month to celebrating Harvest together, let us also pray for protection for creation and for courage for those working to regulate and to manage the earth and its resources. Let's pray too, that we would each be protected from apathy and indifference and that we would not grow weary of finding small ways to tread more lightly on the land. And let us wonder what it means to be an EcoChurch? How do you get to church? Do you Walk? Car Share? Cycle?

Perhaps this week you will dance your way to and from church as we give thanks for one another and the goodness of creation all around. That would be a joy to see!

Rev Sarah.

September 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.

Sunday 6th September

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Prayer & Praise

Tuesday 8th September

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 9th September

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Friday 11th September

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 12th September

9am - 5pm Ride and Stride

3pm Hymns & Pimms

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

Romans 13.8-14 ([KJV](#))([NRSVUE](#))

Matthew 18.15-20 ([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

Can you help? Heritage Open Weekend - 12th and 13th September

The weekend of 12th and 13th September is a busy time for St Margaret's as we expect to welcome over 100 visitors to the Heritage Open Days.

Can you spare an hour to welcome these visitors to our magnificent church? No prior experience is needed, just a welcoming smile and a desire to help others enjoy our church. If so, please sign up at the back of church or for further information, please contact: John Grierson 07801 278943 Or john.grierson@btinternet.com

Church opening times:

Saturday 12th, from 9am to 5pm (with Hymns and Pimms from 3pm - please see flyer below)

Sunday 13th, from 1pm to 4pm

Ride and Stride! 12th September

This annual event is taking place on Saturday 12 September, on the first day of the Heritage Open Days weekend. Why not put on your walking boots or pump up your bicycle tyres and head out to visit other churches?

We would also be grateful for volunteers to welcome visitors and to countersign their sponsorship forms. Could you spare an hour on Saturday 12th September, please? We need 2 people to cover each hour from 9am-5pm. A sign up sheet and sponsorship forms are available at the back of the church. For further details about the Ride and Stride, please contact. Richard Jackson - 07768 113497.

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.

Harvest festival church decoration - 26th September

On Saturday 26th September 9.30-11.00am, we will be decorating the church for Harvest Festival. Just turn up on the day with your flowers/ foliage/ vegetable or anything else you wish to use. You will then be allocated a window sill. The car park will be open whilst we are arranging. All arrangements must be cleared on or before Saturday October 10th. We look forward to seeing some new arrangers as well as our regular arrangers. Thank you. *Angie Cable*
angiecable42@gmail.com

Choir

Please continue to pray for our choir director, Christopher Tinker who has returned home from hospital to recuperate. Amanda Lockyer is with us over the summer. Choir practice will usually continue on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm. If you have any queries about music in the meantime, or are thinking about joining or re-joining the choir, do email music.stmagsips@gmail.com

Together for Harvest - Help and sign up!

I am looking for two or three of volunteers to help with Together on Saturday 26th September in the Church Centre. The session is running from 10- 11.30 am, so I would need volunteers to start at 9.30am and we will be finished by 12pm. Saturday sessions have storytelling, activities and a cold brunch or pastries and fruit.

If you would like to join in with this service, it's helpful to have a rough idea of numbers for catering purposes so do [sign up here](#).

Thanks, Rev Helen

Creationtide

[Creationtide](#) or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. It's part of the Church of England 'Environment' programme. The theme for the Season of Creation 2026 is living water, based on [Ezekiel 47:1-12](#). God's life-giving water flows from the temple of God, growing deeper, restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems.

Creationtide resources and events include:

1) Hope for all creation is a new teaching document articulating the bishops' theological response to the environmental crises. Next month, there will be a series of webinars exploring the key themes:

 Tuesday 8 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm - To Tend and to Till

 Tuesday 15 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm - The Five Marks of Mission

 Tuesday 22 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm - A New Heaven and a New Earth

You can find out how to sign up to all of the webinars and the full document here  cofe.io/HopeForAllCreation.

2) Eco Church

Are you interested in the environment, local wildlife or would like to help make our church more eco friendly? Or you may have seen our carbon footprint poster at the back of the church and wondered what it was all about? We have an "eco group" who are looking for some more volunteers to join them. Please contact Maggie Conder on ecochurch.stmagips@gmail.com.

3) Eco church 10th anniversary celebration, at the Cathedral (today!).

A service at the start of Creationtide to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Eco Church, taking place on Saturday 5 September, 3.30pm at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS. Please register [here](#) for this free event. Charles will be reading as part of the service

4) Climate Emergency Briefing Film Screening

Watch this space - Inga is arranging a screening of the Climate Emergency Briefing Film, to take place at St. Margaret's [Date TBC]

Make a Joyful Noise

Save these dates - though please NOTICE THE CHANGE for September. The Hustings for the General Synod Election in this Diocese are taking place at St Margaret's on Monday 14th September. This meeting is for the electorate who have received an email invitation from the Diocese inviting them to register to attend. As such **Make a Joyful Noise** will now practice on **Wednesday 16th September from 7pm** in church. Do come along!



Bag Blessing

Come along to any of the following services or activity morning with your school bag and we will bless it for you ready for the new school year!

Sunday 6th September after the 10am and 6pm services

Your bag can be for any nursery/school/college and you can be a student or staff member

stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
Welcoming people of all faiths and none





musicians & singers

Make a Joyful Noise

**offer your instrument and/or your voice
in singing songs of praise to God**

We enjoy a wonderful variety of music at St Margaret's and long for all musicians and singers in this community to share their God-given musicality. Each month we get together to rehearse and arrange the music for our services.

Choir
Thursdays 7-8pm

Musicians and Singers
Mondays 7-9pm

- 27th July - rehearsing for Aug. & start of Sept.
- 14th September 2026
- 26th October 2026
- 30th November 2026
- 11th January 2027
- 22nd February 2027

office.stmagsips@gmail.com
www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none





Hymns & Pimms 3pm Saturday 12th September

A relaxed outdoor singalong of
some of your favourite songs and
hymns.

Passers-by, friends and family will
all be very welcome.

With live piano accompaniment &
complimentary Pimms (while stocks
last - other drinks available!)

Community singing is good for
wellbeing. Why not come and
give it a try!

If it rains we'll be in the church!

Welcoming people of all faiths and none





Together at Harvest!

**Saturday
26th September
10 - 11.30am**

*All are welcome to a special
Harvest themed gathering*
of our relaxed community for all
ages. Join us in the Church Centre,
for storytelling, activities, songs,
prayer, all on a Harvest theme
finishing with brunch together
Please book via the QR code or link
below



Welcoming people of all faiths and none



[Click here to sign up for Together](#)





Harvest Festival

Sunday 27th September

10am Harvest Parish Worship

A relaxed service led by our musicians with a themed talk and reading

6pm Choral Evensong

with traditional hymns and anthems, a reflective service at the end of a blessed day

All are welcome

Donations for FIND Foodbank

Welcoming people of all faiths and none



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

- Oct 1st** **My passion for Uganda**
Alison Brain who supports children and young people there
- Oct 8th** **East Anglian Air Ambulance: a special appeal**
Supporter Engagement Team
- Oct 15th** **What does a High Sheriff do, and how do you become one?**
Gulshan Kayembe, High Sheriff of Suffolk
- Oct 22nd** **Kabuki Theatre; vibrant Japanese dance-drama**
Evelyn Bailey
- Oct 29th** **Georgia: Challenges and Rewards**
Ann Fox

www.christchurch-ipswich.org.uk

Growing Deeper

Thanksgiving

For teachers, students, and school staff across Ipswich as they return to work and study.

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Bransby Gardens, Cemetery Road, and Finchley Road.

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: Can you conserve water around your home?

This is the first Sunday of Creationtide in the Church of England. Now may be a good time to think about what more you could do personally to protect our planet, God's creation. After this hot summer with 5 heatwaves, It might also be a good time to write to your MP or local councillor to express your concern and encourage them to be more proactive in tackling the climate crisis. It might be worth pointing out that we need to move away from fossil fuels as quickly as possible as they are not the answer to the high cost of energy. Fossil fuels must be left in the ground if future generations are to survive.

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

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 13th September

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Cafe church

6pm Choral communion (L)

Tuesday 15th September

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 16th September

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion - no soup lunch

Thursday 17th August

3.15pm Together

Friday 18th August

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 19th September

8.30am Men's breakfast

Sunday 20th September

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Time Out

Tuesday 22nd September

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 23rd September

9am School Service

12 pm Holy Communion

Thursday 24th September

1pm Funeral

Friday 25th September

8 am Morning Prayer in church

Saturday 26th September

9.30-11.00am Decorating the church for Harvest Festival - please see notice from Angie above

10-11.30am Together Extra

2pm Baptism

5- 7.30pm Bring & Share Harvest Supper 'Around the World'

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](#).

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

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)