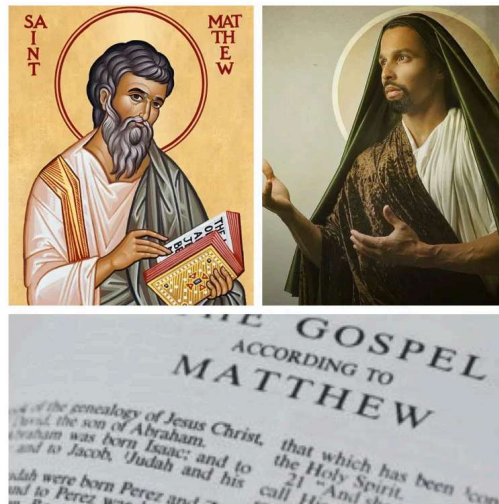




Sunday 7th June 2026

Trinity 1



Vacancies - seeking disciples

If you were to write a job role or a person specification for the position of 'disciple', I wonder what you would include? What skills or experience would a person require? What about their personality traits? If you were appointing one of Jesus' disciples, would you be looking for? What would their references say about them? Try it as an exercise. You might even try and write a job advert. Who would apply?

Would you be offered the job?

This week's Gospel reading begins with an invitation to Matthew, the tax collector, to become one of Jesus' disciples. Tax collectors at the time had a reputation for extracting money from people, often mercilessly. They would adjust the rates collected, pocketing the difference. Matthew had made himself comfortable with the enemy's ways - the Roman Empire. And yet he receives an invitation from Jesus - to follow him. Will Matthew give it all up? What about his money? His career? Can he really change?

What is to be gained?

The collect prayer for the Feast of St Matthew (celebrated in September) reminds us that it is selfish gain that we are to forsake, preferring instead any glory to be given first to God. Could you pray this prayer?

Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches

that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Rev Sarah

[June 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 7th June

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Prayer & Praise

Tuesday 9th June

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 10th June

9am School service

12 pm Holy Communion

~~7pm No evening prayer meeting today~~

7pm Archdeacon's Visitation Service at St Bartholomew's Church, 71 Newton Road, IP3 8HQ (parking in Conservative Club - please lift share if possible)

Friday 12th June

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Saturday 13th June

10am-12pm Churches' Count on Nature in the churchyard

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

Romans 4.13-end ([KJV](#)) ([NRSVUE](#))Matthew 9.9-13,18-26 ([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.

Church News

please pray for the life of this church as we seek to grow in faith, hope and love

Today! Creative Retreat Day, 6th June, 10am-4pm

An opportunity to explore faith on the theme of Creation and Creativity during a day at St Margaret's. Details in the poster towards the end of the newsletter or on the website [here](#). We begin in earnest at 10.30 after **Men's Breakfast (in the church centre from 8.30am)** Even if you can't join in all day, do pop in and see what's happening.

Next Saturday (13th June): Churches Count on Nature

St Margaret's is taking part again this year in Churches Count on Nature. Webinars and bookings are open - click [here](#) for more information. We will gather in the churchyard at **10am on Saturday 13th June** to identify the wildlife in our churchyard. With refreshments for everyone and sticker activities for children, all are welcome. Come for as long as you can. We finish at 12pm.

Worship music CDs for HMP Highpoint

The Chaplain at HMP Highpoint is collecting new and gently used CDs of worship music (contemporary and traditional). Revd Wendy Norris says:

'Prisoners are always asking. They can't get many radio stations given our rural location and many Christian stations seemed to have moved to DAB which the prisoners here don't have.'

If you're having a sort out or would like to send a gift: Rev Wendy Norris, Chaplain, HMP Highpoint, Stradishall, Newmarket, CB8 9YG.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust

St Margaret's Church is an active member of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. Members of the congregation contribute through participation in the annual Ride and Stride event and we receive grants from the SHCT for repairs and renovations for the church building. Suffolk has an amazing range of beautiful historic churches and the SHCT helps ensure their preservation and continued use. The Spring Newsletter contains details of recent grants by the SHCT as well as articles describing some of these churches and their unique features. Perhaps an encouragement to visit some of them this summer!!

You are welcome to read the copy of the Newsletter which is on the table at the back of church or it is available on-line: [Latest Newsletters – Suffolk Historic Churches Trust](#)

Music News

Make a Joyful Noise!

Musicians and singers had a great time in church on Monday night, going through music for church services over the next few weeks. Songs were familiar and new-to-us, and included

['Because he lives'](#); ['How great thou art'](#); ['My Jesus, My Saviour'](#); and ['Indescribable'](#).

The next session will take place in church on the **29th June, from 7- 8.30pm**. If you play an instrument or enjoy singing, come along and join in! For more details email music.stmagsips@gmail.com

Choir

Please keep in your prayers our organist and choir director, Christopher Tinker, who is soon to undergo a procedure for pancreatic cancer. For now Christopher has arranged for other organists to cover services so you may see a variety of people coming to join us over the summer. Choir practice where possible will continue on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm.

Ipswich Music Day

We are again hosting musicians as part of the free music festival across Christchurch Park on Sunday 5th July 2026. If you would like to help with sound on that day, or join a team that we are hoping to put together to sell/serve refreshments, please let the vicar know.



Ipswich Music Day

Sunday 5th July

We love being a venue for this free event in the Ipswich calendar.

1pm
Welcome and Introduction

1.10-1.55pm
South Suffolk Youth Jazz

2.05-2.35pm
Ipswich Choral Society

2.40-3.10pm
Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

3.15-3.45pm
Felixstowe Harmonies

3.50-4.35pm
Martlesham Brass

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welcoming people of all faiths and none



St. Margaret's Church
IPSWICH

Melody Makers

An opportunity for instrumentalists and vocalists in school years 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 to join in with rehearsals and to perform as part of our special St Margaret's Day service on Sunday 19th July at 10am. Places limited - sign up [here](#).



St Margaret's Melody Makers

Fridays 19 & 26th June & 3rd July
for Y3-Y8 pupils to rehearse ready to
perform during our St Margaret's Day
Festival Service: Sunday, 19th July 2026.

If you are a vocalist or instrumentalist about to finish school years 3,4,5,6,7 or 8, we would love you to join us in preparing some special music as part of our celebration of St Margaret's Day. Bring your voice or your instrument and work with Mrs Claire Gower and Revd Sarah. You'll need to make your way from school to St Margaret's Church, arriving no earlier than 3.15pm (and no later than 3.45pm). Water/squash/fruit/biscuits will be offered. We'll finish at 4.30pm.

There is no charge for anyone to participate in this special event although there are a limited number of places so please sign up now by scanning the QR code or following this link:
<https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/events/dowawxsr>

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




Summer HolyDay, Saturday 18th July 10-4pm

A day out in Bury St Edmunds! With worship, activities and time to explore. Details on the website [here](#) (or later in this newsletter). To register your interest, please click [here](#).

FIND (Families in Need) Update

FIND continues to be exceedingly busy as the rising cost-of-living impacts more individuals and families. This impact also means that they are seeing much lower quantities of food donations.

Quick facts - during April 2026....

- **For food**
 - FIND distributed 531 food parcels and 1,254 bags for 910 people (supporting 637 adults, and 273 children).
 - 50% of people accessing FIND were based in central or north-east Ipswich (zones within or adjacent to St. Margaret's parish: IP1 = 31%; IP4 =19%).

- People were commonly accessing FIND due to very low income (36%); or an income gap e.g., awaiting first wage payment (15%).
- **For other needs**
 - FIND supported 50 referrals (representing 27 adults and 23 children) for needs including duvets (x19), pillows (x16), mattresses (x8), and beds (x6).
 - Other needs included cookers, microwaves, tents, sleeping bags and baby items (toys, buggies, clothing, stairgates).

CAN YOU HELP?

A box is available throughout the year at the back of the church for donations to FIND e.g., long-life food and personal care items. Donations can also be made at East of England Co-Op shops, Waitrose at Futura Park, and Sainsbury's (Warren Heath & Ipswich town centre).

FIND currently need carrier bags and bags for life, soup, cooking oil, tinned tomatoes, long life milk, tea bags, tinned fruit, washing powder, toilet rolls, womens and mens deodorant, shaving foam/gel, size 6 nappies.

FIND is also currently looking for volunteer drivers - please see their webpage for more information, and contact them directly for more information.



Sat 18th July We're all going on a Summer HolyDay

A grand day out in Bury St Edmunds

We'll make our way there either by train or in cars, arriving at the Cathedral from 10.30am with friends from Ipswich All Hallows and Lindbergh Road churches for tea and coffee. At 11am we'll worship together in the Lady Chapel before spending the day at leisure, on retreat or joining in with various activities:

- reflective tour with a Cathedral pilgrim guide
- walk the labyrinth
- lunch in Abbey Gardens (bring a picnic/rug)
- explore the ancient abbey ruins
- 2pm in the Cathedral - a special time for families with younger children
- Choral Evensong 3.30-4.15pm

Please register your interest! QR code or go to:
<https://stmargaretsips.churchsuite.com/events/5asvs05>



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



Growing Deeper





Thanksgiving

For sharing communion at Norwood this week, with friends from local churches, who now live together. For St. Margaret's singers and musicians and singers coming together on Monday night, and enjoying sharing music. For Rev. Sarah's trip to Lambeth Palace for the Church Commissioners' AGM.

Prayer

For people, homes, businesses and public services affected by flash flooding across Ipswich earlier this week.

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses and passers-by this week, as we pray for Berkeley Close, Belgrave Close, and Carlton Way.

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 : Make the most of your clothing!

The waste charity [Wrap](#) argues that second-hand purchases are unlikely to replace more than 10% of new sales. It recommends other approaches, such as encouraging people to repair and revamp existing pieces.

Each year in the UK we send 350,000 tonnes of clothing to landfill but by buying second hand, buying better and buying less and finding new ways to style the clothes you already own, you can help change things. The most sustainable clothes are the ones already in your wardrobe. Extending the lifespan of a garment by nine months can reduce its carbon footprint by 20-30 per cent.

With thanks to Revd Richard Stainer.

Forthcoming Services and Events

Sunday 14th June

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Cafe church

6pm Choral communion (L)

Tuesday 16th June

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 17th June

9am School service

12 pm Holy Communion (followed by soup)

Thursday 18th June

3.15-5pm Together in the church centre

Friday 19th June

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Saturday 20th June

8.30am Men's Breakfast

Sunday 21st June

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Communion (L)

6pm Time Out

Tuesday 23rd June

8 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 24th June

9 am School service

12 pm Holy Communion

Thursday 25th June

~~8pm No zoom Compline today~~

Friday 26th June

8 am Morning Prayer in Church

Save the Date

Saturday 18th July

Day Trip / Pilgrimage to Bury St Edmunds with friends from All Hallows Church to include a special service in the Cathedral led by the All Hallows and St Margaret's community, the opportunity to explore Bury St Edmunds for fun, picnics and/or reflective retreat time and the chance to finish the day attending Choral Evensong in the Cathedral. Please sign up using [this link](#).

Rev Helen will be on a curate placement with Lark Valley and North Bury Team in Thingoe Deanery (combining part of the town and surrounding villages of Bury St Edmunds) from the end

of May until the beginning of July.

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

Office

Email: office.stmagsips@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 2.30pm

Number: 07733 609661 and leave a message.

Church Office and Contacts during the Church Administrator's period of Maternity Leave**We are looking forward to Lucy returning to the church office at the end of July 2026.**

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)