



• *Weekly news, readings and prayers*

**Sunday 24th August 2025**

10th Sunday after Trinity

**Stay at home? Or join in?**

Do you think British society has permanently changed after the Covid lockdowns of 2020/21 when PM Boris Johnson required us all to "Stay at Home"? Do you go out less often now than you used to? Are you involved less in sporting activities and/or social activities and/or charitable work than you used to be? I hope not but I do think people - who of course, collectively, make up society - are more self-focussed than they used to be and not-so-willing to serve what might be described as 'the common good'.

Sky Sports has recently been trumpeting the fact that it will be showing 215 live Premier League football matches this season, 87 more than last, so, for the sports fans amongst the readers of this newsletter, the opportunity clearly exists to spend more time at home in front of the telly as a spectator rather than participating in society! But the Christian faith operates by way of the **giving** of self for the benefit of others not just for oneself and it's best exercised in a 'taking part' kind of way rather than a 'stay-at-home' one (*although I fully acknowledge that some folk cannot participate for all sorts of reasons*).

So, if you've subconsciously allowed Boris's 'You Must Stay at Home' mantra of five years ago to limit what you do today, grit your teeth and "get out more!" - a cliché that's generally used these days in a negatively humorous way but one that does contain a kernel of truth. See you in church some time, there's a lot going on!

George Woodward, lay minister in training

## Services

**Livestreamed services** are marked (L). Please use the button below to view services at the times given or catch up at anytime.

Livestreaming

**8.00 am** BCP Holy Communion

**9.30 am** Rise & Shine Holy Communion

**11.00 am** Morning Worship (L)

**POSTPONED** - Primary School Bangers a new date will be announced soon

We look forward to welcoming you to St Margaret's Church.

*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 for private prayer, reflection and visiting from 10am to 4pm.

## Lectionary

### This Sunday

**8am BCP Holy Communion**

1 Corinthians 12.1-11

Luke 19.41-47

**11am Morning Worship**

Isaiah 58.9b-end

Hebrews 12.18-end

Luke 13.10-17

## Church News

**Be Ye Men of Valour: Exhibition marking the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2 - last few days**

**Saturday 9th - Monday 25th August**

'Be Ye Men of Valour' marks the 80th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Ipswich War Memorial project launched this important exhibition on Friday, 8th August and it continues through until the end of the Bank Holiday weekend. Do make time to browse the many stories of the Ipswich families still living with the consequences of war.

**29th August 9.30-12.30pm**

Family Activity Mornings (Church Centre) Morning of activities for all ages followed by lunch together. With Suffolk Community Foundation funding, these events are free to attend (although donations to continue this work are gratefully received). To register your place, email [events.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:events.stmagsips@gmail.com)

**3.30pm Sunday 31st August**

## Marriage Blessing - Jason and Jamais

Our sincere congratulations to Mr and Mrs Webbsmall-Eghan who were recently married! You will know them better as Jason and Jamais who regularly attend the 9.30 and the 11.00am services with their daughter Rae. There will be a special service of blessing with prayers for their marriage taking place at 3.30pm on Sunday 31st August to which **everyone is welcome**. Do come and support them prayerfully on this special day, the anniversary of the day on which Jamais' grandparents were married at St Margaret's - they too will be here to mark the occasion. Tea and cake will be served following the service - if you would like to help with this, please speak with Maggie Conder.

## Ride & Stride, Heritage Open Weekend and Community Open Day

Save the dates: 13th-14th September.

We are grateful to the Inspiring Ipswich Project that has sponsored our Open Day event.

**Ride and stride** (Saturday) - if you want to bike around Ipswich (or further afield) visiting churches and raising sponsorship for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, sign up or speak with Richard Jackson or Sarah Boggis (Sarah is seeking sponsorship for signing people in as they visit us!) and we are thankful to Sue who has volunteered to ride and raise funds for St Margaret's.

**Heritage Open Weekend** (Saturday and Sunday) - with activities and an opportunity to look around the church with new eyes and church members to welcome you. ***John Grierson is looking for welcoming volunteers for Saturday and Sunday afternoon - do let him know if you would like to help.***

**'Abbey and Eddie at Buggingham Palace'** on Saturday morning we welcome author Revd Dr Karen Smith to share a story and build bug hotels (for young children and their families).

**Drop in Café** from mid morning with coffee/tea and cake and bacon sandwiches (served over 'brunch' time. Volunteers for bakes - please speak to Rev Helen!

**3.30pm Hymns and Pimms** in the churchyard (other drinks available).

# Growing Deeper

## Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for Kettlebaston Way, Bildeston Gardens, Brettenham Crescent.

## Support

Remember our Pastoral Team are here to support members of the St Margaret's community whether ill or in need of a friendly confidential ear, details can be found towards the bottom of this email

**Lucy our Parish Administrator sends her thanks**

Thank you yo everyone for your lovely messages about Gracie. She is doing really well after having to come a little early and is a big fan of a 1am party - Mummy and Daddy no so much! And a big thank you to Maggie, Annie and Frederike for my meals on wheels/legs. It really does take a village!



## Gratitude

We give thanks for the delivery of a new and bigger fridge in the church centre which has been funded by the Inspiring Ipswich Project to support our outreach work that is being led by Revd Helen. We continue to pray for the midweek 'Together' initiative, that it will bear fruit.



### August Prayer Diary

## Growing Greener

### Eco Tip of the week - recycled from last week and the week before!

Reuse or recycle unused clothing.

Revd Sarah Hall (formerly a reader at St Margaret's but now a curate at St Augustine's regularly takes men's clothing to HMP Warren Hill. New or lightly used men's clothing, clean and in very good condition will be accepted. Until the end of August there will be a box at the back of church in the coffee area, near the FIND food bank box, should you wish to rehome a few items of unused (or outgrown) clothing.

**Loving God • Care for Creation • Love Our Global Neighbours**

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# Calendar

Anything underlined you can click and it will take you through to the website for more information.

*Join in daily with Morning Prayer from across Suffolk live at 8.30am or click any time during the day to catch up. You do not have to have a Facebook account to join in - just click on the link <https://www.facebook.com/share/15aAbJZnN6/?mibextid=wwXlfr>*

## Services Coming Up

### Sunday, 24th August

8am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise and Shine Holy Communion

11.00am Morning Worship

### Friday, 29th August

8am Morning Prayer in Church

### Saturday, 30th August

12.30pm The Marriage of Jacob and Nataliya

### Sunday, 31st August

8am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise and Shine

11.00am Parish Communion

3.30pm Marriage Blessing for Jason and Jamais

### Friday, 5th September

8am Morning Prayer

### Sunday, 7th September

8am BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Rise and Shine

11am Parish Communion

## Save the Dates

### 6th - 14th September : National Week of Prayer

Revd Susan Allison (St Helen's and the Waterfront Churches) writes:

*Dear friends,*

*24/7 Prayer have an amazing goal for as many churches accross the globe to pray from 1st - 7th September andd I would like to invite you and your prayerful church families to join us across Ipswich to fill the 24/7 prayer room at Holy Trinity Hall, Back Hamlet Ipswich.*

*If each church took a specific time slot, say, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24 hrs (at your discretion and choice), booking it out on the link below, it would be fantastic.*

*Imagine Ipswich blanketed in prayer from all denominations, in unity for the town and beyond.*

*Please be part of this venture,*

*Further info from <https://www.24-7prayer.com/weekofprayer/>*

*Sign up link <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/8c5c69>*

### **13th and 14th September : St Margaret's Community Celebration**

Ride and Stride and Heritage Open Day, in the morning we welcome Revd Dr Karen Smith, bringing her story alive for children 'Abbey & Eddie Visit Bugingham Palace', refreshments offered to the community (perhaps even a BBQ) and tables and chairs to sit outside and enjoy the environment, our history and beautiful heritage.

***If you would like to be involved in this event, please speak with Revd Helen.***

Click here for more details about cycling or walking as part of the Ride and Stride event. If you look carefully at the pictures, you might even see Sarah Milner (from the 8am congregation) who is involved in coordinating this even across Ipswich. Thank you Sarah.

### **27th September**

Morning: Decorating the Church for Harvest

11am Together at Harvest (Church Centre)- A Special Extra Together community gathering for all ages, which will include lunch.

3.30pm George Woodward to be licensed as a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

### **28th September**

10am Combined Service - Harvest Festival

**Harvest Lunch will follow the service. Details to follow**

6.30pm Choral Evensong for Harvest

### **8th November**

10am-3pm Faithful and Fruitful

We mark the end of the Inspiring Ipswich project, giving thanks today for yesterday whilst looking to God for all that is yet to come. You can [register here](#).

### **14th December**

4pm Hexachordia Concert

## 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:

#### Rev'd Sarah Geileskey - Priest-in-Charge

Email: [revsarahgeileskey@gmail.com](mailto: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**

#### Rev'd Helen Prior-Townsend - Curate

Email: [helenptstmags@gmail.com](mailto:helenptstmags@gmail.com)

Telephone: 07540 394179

**Helen's rest days are usually Monday each week and every fourth Tuesday of each month.**

#### Churchwardens

Margaret Woodward

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

#### Office

Email: [office.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto: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 taking the opportunity to rationalise email addresses. With immediate effect, please use [office.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:office.stmagsips@gmail.com) for all correspondence. The [verger.stmagsips@gmail.com](mailto:verger.stmagsips@gmail.com) will be monitored until the end of August. There is a plan in place to maintain the current office opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays 9.30am - 2.30pm. However, if you have a particular reason for visiting the office, do email 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](mailto: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](mailto:safeguarding.stmagsips@gmail.com)

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](mailto: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)