

## **JOHN ELLISTON**

### **ASSOCIATE MINISTER, ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, IPSWICH**

I was born in Guernsey in 1937, and was baptized, confirmed, converted and called to the priesthood at Holy Trinity Church.

My training was at the London College of Divinity, the College at which David also trained, although the College moved to Nottingham and changed its name to St. John's by the time David went there!!

I was ordained in 1961 at Southwark Cathedral and served two curacies – as clergy did in those days – one at Christ Church, Gipsy Hill and the other at St Mary's, Whitton here in Ipswich. Whilst at Gipsy Hill I met Helen who became my wife. At the time she was training at Westminster Hospital to be a nurse, then at Woolwich to be a midwife. We celebrate our Golden Wedding next year. She has been my rock and support all down the years and it is nice to be able to spend so much time together in retirement which began in October 2002, 11 years ago!

We have two children. Rachel is a Vicar's wife! She and Paul live with their four children in Taverham in Norfolk. Joanna lives in Glasgow and is part of the Management team at John Lewis.

In addition to parish ministry, or as extensions to that ministry, I have been a local borough councillor in Grimsby, Rural Dean of Mildenhall, and for six months followed Keith Jones as Rural Dean of Ipswich, prior to going to Guernsey. Whilst vicar of St. Augustine's I became the first chaplain at St. Elizabeth Hospice. In Guernsey, in addition to being Rector of St. Peter Port, I was chaplain to the Police and the RNLI.

We have been attending St. Margaret's for a few months now and feel very much at home. The people have been very welcoming. There will be times when I will be away because I will be taking Services in other churches as and when requested.

We worship a great and mighty Father God. We follow a loving Saviour Jesus who lived, died and rose again for us. We have the joy of daily knowing Christ through the guiding presence of His Holy Spirit. I don't think life can ever be more fulfilling or surprising than the consequences of living within the love of this Holy, Blessed and glorious Trinity. To Whom be praise and glory forever.

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