

Thursday 1 March: We pray for all who contribute to the music at St Margaret's – the choir, the music group, and Dr Christopher Tinker, our Director of Music.

Friday 2 March: We pray for our Parliament and Government, for MPs and members of the House of Lords: grant them wisdom in all their difficult decisions.

Saturday 3 March: Our bells are restored; we pray for our bell-ringers and all who visit our church to ring.

Sunday 4 March: Ipswich Winter Night Shelter has now closed: we pray for all who have been our guests since December.

Monday 5 March: We pray for the work of Talitha Koum, for those who run the service and seek God's path ahead.

Tuesday 6 March: International Women's Day – pray for all women who are oppressed and denied the opportunity to use their gifts due to their gender.

Wednesday 7 March: Christian Central meets today: we pray for the witness of all Christians at work in our town

Thursday 8 March: We celebrate St Felix, the Apostle to the East Angles. We pray for Bishop Martin and Bishop Mike and all our Clergy and Readers.

Friday 9 March: We pray for our local government, for our Councillors, and council employees.

Saturday 10 March: We pray for our uniformed groups and especially for all the leaders who give their time so freely.

Sunday 11 March: Mothering Sunday. We pray for parents, and those who care for children.

Monday 12 March: We pray for the work of Christian Aid as Bishop Mike chairs a local meeting today.

Tuesday 13 March: We pray for our home groups and the Discussion Group as members share fellowship and learn from each other.

Wednesday 14 March: We pray for all who work in the NHS in our town. We acknowledge their dedication and service, and are grateful for their contributions to the well-being of others

Thursday 15 March: We thank you for our families and friends, both here in Ipswich and in many distant places, and ask for your blessing on them all.

Friday 16 March: There are many refugees and asylum-seekers in our town: may we welcome them and offer support and

friendship, remembering that Jesus and his family had to take refuge in a strange land.

Saturday 17 March: St Patrick's Day. We pray for unity amongst Christians and better understanding between those who follow Jesus.

Sunday 18 March: We pray for all who help in our church – our churchwardens, our PCC members, our elders, those who help at services, with our wonderful building and with our Church Centre.

Monday 19 March: We pray for our Men's Group and for the fellowship they offer.

Tuesday 20 March: As we welcome the Spring, we pray for those who have lost hope, that they will be given support in their struggle.

Wednesday 21 March: We pray for our vicar David, for John and Keith our Associate Ministers, and for Sarah, our Reader in training.

Thursday 22 March: each evening in Ipswich volunteers for the Soup Kitchen provide food and drink to those in need. We pray for those who give, and for those who receive.

Friday 23 March: UN World Meteorological Day. Make us good stewards of creation. Help us to be more aware of our use of the world's natural resources.

Saturday 24 March: We pray for peace and justice throughout the world, and especially for countries suffering war and civil unrest.

Sunday 25 March: Palm Sunday. May we welcome visitors to our church – whether they come to join our community, or are most interested in our beautiful building.

Monday 26 March: We pray for those who are sick in body or mind, for healing and comfort.

Tuesday 27 March: We have several care homes nearby; we pray for the residents in those homes, and for all the older members of our community, especially those who cannot leave their home and those who are lonely. Help us to reach out to them.

Wednesday 28 March: The teachers and pupils of St Margaret's school will be looking forward to the Easter holidays. We pray for a time of relaxation and refreshment.

Thursday 29 March: We give thanks for the food we enjoy and for those who produce it. May those with an abundance be aware of those who do not have enough, and be ready to give generously to their support.

Friday 30 March: Good Friday. We pray for Christians who suffer persecution for their belief. May they feel your strength and know that they are not forgotten.

Saturday 31 March: As we look forward to Easter Day we pray for those who see no way

out of despair. We pray that they will find light and hope this Easter.

St Margaret's Prayer Diary

March 2018

Prepared by Belinda Gledhill