



• *Weekly news, readings and prayers*

Sunday 9th November

Remembrance Sunday



Photograph taken by Revd Sarah in St Margaret's Churchyard

I realised this week that I haven't actually seen a single live firework this year, but I have felt them. Last Saturday, the floors and walls and ceilings of the pub trembled at the sound of the fireworks in Christchurch Park. Neighbours enjoying the festivities this week have made for occasionally noisy and near intrusions into daily living, taking me by surprise, often just as the day turned dark. My heart occasionally skipped a beat. Pip, my dog, took cover underneath the nearest table.

I do enjoy the colours and patterns of a firework and the historic remembrance that reminds us to keep a watch on who in society holds power. But that booming pressure deep in the chest when some of the more powerful fireworks explode... there's no getting away from it - it's breath-taking.

For those who have lived through war, for those who live in war zones today, for those who have served and for all who live today with the consequences of war, sudden and loud noises can quite

literally take from them the breath of life itself.

This weekend we remember those who have given their last breath in the service of others. We honour those whose daily-breath is a constant reminder of what has been lost. We give thanks for the breath of life that we have received. With every breath we take, might we always seek God's justice for all in the pursuit of that heavenly peace which passes all earthly understanding.

Revd Sarah

November Prayer Diary

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 - Parade Service

Remember that the roads in the vicinity of St Margaret's will be closed around the time of the Remembrance Parade.

10.50 am Act of Remembrance in Christchurch Park

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 will be open daily for private prayer, reflection and visiting from 10am to 3pm.

Lectionary

This Sunday

8am BCP Holy Communion

Colossians 1.3-12

Matthew 9.18-26

9.30am Rise & Shine Parade ServiceMatthew 5.8

Church News

This Weekend! For all the details scroll to the end of the newsletter.

Saturday

- Men's Breakfast - 8.30am today in the Church Centre. Food, fellowship and worship with old favourites and this song too: Blest Are They.
- Inspiring Ipswich Conference - 9am-3pm Colchester Road Baptist Church.
- The Hold - '80 Years since VE Day' - 1-4pm free exhibition and ticketed talk £8

Sunday

- 8am and 9.30am services in Church. 10.50am Act of Remembrance in Christchurch Park with St Margaret's Church Choir, The Minster Choir and Ipswich Choral Society singing with one voice.
- 12pm Rainbows' Jacket Potato Lunch in the church centre.

Cornerstone

Meeting in the Church Centre this Wednesday (9th November) 2.30-4pm. Fellowship and conversations for all who would like to drop in.

An Interfaith Event exploring the meaning and significance of marriage

On 12 November from 12:30pm to 4:30pm there will be an inclusive event that brings together voices from a range of faiths to explore the meaning and significance of marriage at the University of Suffolk, 19 Neptune Quay. Wikipedia says about 'Mother's Union' that its main aim is to support monogamous marriage and family life, especially through times of adversity. This event offers a welcoming space to celebrate diversity, deepen understanding, and build meaningful interfaith connections through the exploration of one of life's most enduring commitments. For more information and to register use the link

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/university-of-suffolk-unlocked-an-interfaith-conversation-tickets-1582597574949?aff=oddtcreator>

From 'Priest-in-Charge' to Vicar: 10am Advent Sunday 30th November

Please save the date and come to this service as a celebration of the life of St Margaret's Church as we begin a new church year and a new season. It would be such a joy to see EVERYONE together

The PCC and the Patrons (Simeons Trustees) have agreed with the Bishop and Archdeacon's proposal that the 'suspension' of the Benefice of St Margaret's Ipswich, be lifted. This is church legal terminology which means that I can be permanently licensed as Vicar of St Margaret's Church. This will take place during a single, 10am service on the morning of Advent Sunday (30th

November 2025). Archdeacon Sam will be joining us and I hope that we can begin the new Church year with a great celebration and re-commitment to being God's church in this place at this time.

At 6.30pm we will gather for a candlelit Advent Carol Service.

Refreshing Worship: 2026 Service Patterns

Following reflection and discussion at PCC Meetings in February, June and September 2025 the Parochial Church Council (PCC) have been considering changes to the worshipping pattern at St Margaret's Church. The PCC spent October 2025 listening to the church and wider community before meeting on 4th November 2025 to finally discern a new pattern of worship to be introduced from January 2026.

Six (6) opportunities for conversation and listening took place in person, with more than twenty (20) emails received and numerous informal conversations. Helpful feedback was received from over 35 individuals, some representing households and families, thus increasing the numbers of people who actively joined in the conversation. Revd Sarah also attended both choir and bell ringing practices. The feedback across the board was thoughtful and varied, though understandably sometimes contradictory. At all times the conversation was carefully considered, often with regard for the needs of others. The listening has informed adjustments to the PCCs original proposals.

During their deliberations the PCC recognised that a refreshed pattern of worship will not meet every individual's preference and that it will take time for the changes to settle in. Members of the PCC remarked on the willingness to welcome change, particularly the number of individuals who recognised the sacrificial need to make space for others and to find ways of worshipping together more often. It is hoped that the refreshed worshipping patterns will allow those worshipping at St Margaret's now, and those who will join in the coming weeks and years, to grow younger, to grow in spiritual depth and to grow in number. We continue to keep all of this in our prayers.

Revd Sarah

Priest-in-Charge & Chair of PCC 8th November 2025

*Printed copies of this will be available in church from Sunday 9th November, with accompanying notes. Sunday services will take place at 8am, 10am and 6pm. Midweek Worship will include a weekly 12pm service of Holy Communion on Wednesdays. Children & families are welcome to all services – those marked * are usually particularly well received. For people who prefer a quieter, less noisy environment – the services marked + are usually well received.*

Sunday Morning Worship

	1 st Sunday of the month	2 nd Sunday of the month	3 rd Sunday of the month	4 th Sunday of the month	5 th Sunday of the month
8 am (services 35 minutes)	Holy Communion + according to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). A service in traditional language with readings from The Authorised Version (King James Version) of the Bible in accordance with the Church of England's published version of the 3-year Revised Common Lectionary				
10 am (services no longer than 1 hour)	Family Communion * <i>livestreamed</i> A service of Holy Communion with 'Junior Church' returning from the church centre to receive Communion and to share learning. The choir sing an introit, the Eucharistic prayer responses and lead an alternating choir/ congregational-led Gloria. Opening and closing hymns are accessible to the whole church family. There are 2 readings with a gradual hymn. Prayers of healing / anointing with oil during distribution of Communion. Refreshments follow after the service.	Café Church * <i>In church centre</i> Breakfast is served from 10am. Gathering around tables with singing, prayers, activities to explore faith and going deeper faith-conversations. Closing prayer and song. Occasional informal Communion. With appropriate seating and picnic blankets, where possible Café Church will take place in the churchyard in summer months.	Family Communion * <i>livestreamed</i> A service of Holy Communion with 'Junior Church' returning from the church centre to receive Communion and to share learning. The choir sing an introit, the Eucharistic prayer responses and lead an alternating choir/ congregational-led Gloria. Opening and closing hymns are accessible to the whole church family. There are 2 readings with a gradual hymn. Refreshments follow after the service.	Sunday Worship * Beginning by sharing God's peace with one another, we sing, hear readings and tell the stories of faithful living. With a deeply reflective story followed by prayers of intercession, the service concludes with a blessing. Refreshments follow during which time ministers will be available for individual prayer and a discussion group open to all will explore the service themes more fully.	Parish Praise * <i>Livestreamed</i> A morning service with gathering prayers and confession, 2 readings, a talk and prayers of intercession. This service will either include Holy Communion or a Baptism. There will be a focus on singing during this service, and a short talk. Refreshments follow after the service.

Sunday Evening Worship

	1 st Sunday of the month	2 nd Sunday of the month	3 rd Sunday of the month	4 th Sunday of the month	5 th Sunday of the month
6pm	Prayer & Praise * A service with contemporary worship songs, the possibility of extended prayers and an exploration of scripture and faith through a talk, an interview or a visiting speaker. This informal service will last 45 minutes.	Choral Communion + <i>livestreamed</i> A service of Holy Communion with 'Junior Church' in a bag' for young people in the pew. This service will last just over an hour. The choir sing an introit and the Kyries/Gloria (in season). There are 3 readings with a sung psalm before the Gospel reading.	Time Out + A 45-minute service of prayer, meditation and contemplation in the Celtic, Taizé or similar style with occasional informal Communion.	Choral Evensong + <i>livestreamed</i> A 40-minute service of sung Evening Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). With hymns, psalms, readings and a short sermon, this choral service is an opportunity to prayerfully and meditatively reflect at the end of the day.	

Weekday Worship

Monday	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Quiet day					
Tuesday					
8am (30 mins)	Morning Prayer + Daily Prayer according to the pattern of Common Worship: a said service with prayers, psalms and readings.				
3.30pm	[Holy Communion at Christchurch Court]				
Wednesday					
9am	[School Service during term time]				
12pm (35 mins)	Holy Communion + A weekly spoken service using the 'red' Common Worship Communion books (in nave or chapel). Includes a 'thought for the day'. On the first Wednesday of the month, prayers for healing and wholeness will be included, along with the offer of priestly anointing with oil. As this community grows, there will be opportunities for people to join in readings and leading prayers.				
7pm (up to 45 mins)		Prayer Gathering + A chance to explore prayer and to pray.			
Thursday					
3.15/3.30 after school (approx. 90 minutes)			Together * Church Centre Songs and prayers, Godly Play, activities and a shared warm meal.		
8pm (20 minutes)	Compline + <i>livestreamed</i> Night prayers sung by the choir.			Compline + <i>zoom</i> An online service of night prayer.	
Friday					
8am (30 mins)	Morning Prayer + Daily Prayer according to the pattern of Common Worship: a said service with prayers, psalms and readings.				
Saturday					
8.30am (90 minutes)	Men's Breakfast Food and fellowship followed by worship		Men's Breakfast Food and fellowship followed by worship		

Notes on the outcomes of Listening Conversations

1. Times of services will be simple and consistent, in a reliable pattern. Services on Sunday will take place weekly at 8am, 10am and 6pm throughout the year. The 10am services that include Holy Communion will usually last no longer than 1 hour, others will last 45 minutes. Services of 30 minutes will take place at 12pm on Wednesdays every week. Other services will be monthly, where possible beginning 'on the hour'.

2. Services will usually follow the Church of England's Common Worship 3-year cycle of lectionary of readings based on the Revised Common Lectionary. At the 8am service the readings will be read in traditional language from the Authorised King James Version, with the corresponding appointed collect prayer for the day also in traditional language (the same collect in traditional language will be sung at Evensong). At other services, the New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised) will usually be read. On occasion, an alternative translation may be used instead (e.g. International Children's Bible, The Message or similar).

3. Four Sunday mornings throughout the year (usually on either the 4th or 5th Sundays of the month) will be appointed as dates for baptisms during 10am Sunday Worship. In future, where there is a clear missional need, stand-alone baptism services may also be arranged by agreement with clergy.

4. A few years ago, the PCC explored the possibility of 'Admitting Children to Holy Communion before Confirmation', concluding then it was not a necessary step. The PCC will review this decision.

5. A team of carefully discerned and trained people will be needed to ensure continued provision of prayers 'for healing and wholeness'/prayer ministry during services. This will take time to grow and so the ministry will begin with licensed ministers only.

6. Bells will continue to ring before services on Sunday mornings, except for the 2nd Sunday of the month (Café Church), when worship will usually be in the Church Centre.

7. Preaching at Sunday Morning Services will offer a mix of traditional sermons, interviews or reflective storytelling. Sunday Evening Services in the choral tradition will include a '5-10 minute' sermon.

8. Music

a. The choir & organ will lead the music provision weekly at at least one of Sunday Worship services. In addition, midweek Choral Compline will return (a short, 20-minute service of night prayer) will be sung once a month.

b. Further conversations have yet to take place with members of the band and music group in the coming weeks to work out who can be available when, before finalising the provision of live music for other services.

c. Some services will include videos and/or recorded music.

9. Children & Families

a. Children and families who have joined St Margaret's Church over the last couple of years spoke candidly of the inclusive and welcoming atmosphere they value at St Margaret's Church. Particularly, they were clear that the inter-generational worshipping experience benefits both children and adults alike as we learn from one another and grow with one another, not only on Sundays, but also in continued prayer, reflection and conversation during the week.

b. Further conversations will be taking place to refresh 'Junior Church', including choosing a new name for this aspect of the refreshed worshipping pattern.

10. Livestreaming

- a. Following the conversations about 'Junior Church', further conversations may need to take place about which elements of livestreamed services will include images, and which parts of the service will show an 'alternative' camera shot (as is currently the case to preserve privacy when receiving Holy Communion).
- b. The volunteer team remains very small. Further volunteers are welcome to learn. Where volunteers are available, we will endeavour to stream at least one service every Sunday, either morning or evening.

Hexachordia Concert - Sunday 7th December at 4.00pm

To book your tickets [click here](#), scan the QR code or contact the church office by email: office.stmagsips@gmail.com phone or text 07833 609661.



Hexachordia

Heigh-ho, the Holly!

Sunday 7th December 4.00 pm

Music, mirth and merriment for the festive season, as this hour-long concert reveals what Christmas and New Year was like for folk at all levels of society in the 16th & 17th centuries.

Come along and hear the Medieval and Tudor origins of today's familiar carols played on the gittern, vielle, crumhorn, lute, viol, recorder and bagpipes.

Complimentary drinks & cake served after the concert. Tickets: £8.00 Standard or £5.00 Concessions. To secure your tickets scan the QR code or contact: office.stmagsips@gmail.com or text/phone: 07733 609661

Find us on Soane Street near to Christchurch Mansion.
Parking in St Margaret's VAP School, Bolton Lane, Ipswich, IP4 2BT

www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none

St. Margaret's Church
IPSWICH

This Weekend in Detail follows

Inspiring Ipswich - do come along!**8th November**

We will be 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](#). A super lunch is being organised for all who attend and we have been asked to contribute a short film that shares the story of St Margaret's over recent years. We are hoping that as many people as possible will be willing to be included by appearing on this video saying 'I'm here'... or 'we're here'.



Faithful & Fruitful:
A Celebration of Inspiring Ipswich

Saturday 8 November
10am - 3pm
Colchester Road Baptist Church

RSVP
Scan to book
your free tickets:



Remembering Together

6.30 pm Sunday 2nd November

We gather for a special service to give thanks and to remember those who have died. Whether recently bereaved, remembering from long, long ago, supporting or attending on behalf of a friend or neighbour you will be very welcome.

During the service we will hear readings from scripture and poetry. Names will be read aloud and there will be an opportunity to light candles. Ministers will be available to pray with individuals.

If you would like the name of a loved one remembered during this service, please add their name to one of the hearts in the basket on the table near the entrance to the church.

Even after I die, you can still see my face and hear my voice and speak to me in your heart.

*For as long as you remember me
I am never entirely lost.'*

Fred Beuchner,
Whistling in the Dark (1988)



www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none



80 YEARS SINCE VE DAY IPSWICH MEN WHO FOUGHT IN WW2



**STORIES OF CAPTURE, ESCAPE,
TRAGEDY AND SURVIVAL**

WHEN
Saturday 8th November
1.0 pm to 4.0 pm

WHERE
SUFFOLK ARCHIVES
The Hold 131 Fore St, Ipswich IP4 1LN

TICKETS
Tickets cost £8
Book online at:
<https://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/whats-on/>



Find out more about
the men who served
and remember those
who died.

Expert talks and guidance
on researching your own
family's military history

Hear heartfelt stories from
descendants of captured
soldiers

The forgotten story of 67th
Medium Regiment R.A.
T.A., made up of Ipswich
men captured at Tobruk in
1942

Ipswich War Memorial
Project and its growing
digital archive

Exhibition of photos,
letters and personal
testimonies

**SUFFOLK
ARCHIVES**
A SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICE

As a follow-on from the wonderful exhibition in church, for VE/VJ Day 80th Anniversary by the Ipswich War Memorial Project, there is a further opportunity to find out more about a relative's war-time life at an event being held at The Hold in Ipswich on Saturday 8th November from 1pm to 4pm. Please note that tickets are only required for the Auditorium talks, not for the exhibition itself.



Parade Service

with members of the St Margaret's Guiding & Scouting movements

9.30 am Sunday, 9th November 2025

A 40-minute service remembering those who have died in conflict as we reflect on our commitment in this generation to their much longed-for legacy of peace and justice.

This service will conclude in time for those who wish to attend the Act of Remembrance at 11am in Christchurch Park, following which the Rainbows will serve a fund-raising jacket potato lunch in the Church Centre on Bolton Lane. Cash on the day £10 adults, £5 children. If you plan to attend, please email helepeck77@me.com.

 www.stmargaretsipswich.org.uk
welcoming people of all faiths and none


St. Margaret's Church
IPSWICH

Sunday 9th November 12pm

Dear All

We are the very proud First Constable Rainbows, and we want to keep doing something brilliant, but we need your help. Every year this group of incredible children raise money to go together one evening to a local toy shop and select Christmas presents for children who otherwise wouldn't have much at Christmas (to be distributed by FIND). To raise money for this they are holding a remembrance Sunday event and we would greatly appreciate your support.

On Sunday 9th November 2025 (Remembrance Sunday) from 12
Where Garrett Memorial Hall – Bolton Lane Ipswich

You are invited to join us for a warm welcome, a baked potato, hot drink and lots of fun.

Cost Adults – Baked Potato, Choice of topping, Hot Drink and Cake £10 per person

Children – Half Baked Potato, Choice of topping, Cold Drink and Cake £5 Per person

There will also be games, fudge and crafts so please bring some cash.

To book places please E Mails helepeck77@me.com and confirm numbers (or if you have any questions). Please note payment will need to be cash on the day.

We usually cover all our costs so everything raised will go to put smiles on faces at Christmas

Thank you

1st Constable Rainbows

Growing Deeper

Prayer

Praying for our community: residents, visitors, businesses passers-by this week as we pray for Grosvenor Close, Cemetery Lane and Berkeley Close

Support

Remember our Pastoral Team are 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

Do not forget to pray for those in authority and lend your voice to the working out of justice and peace by supporting and challenging our politicians. You can follow what is on the agenda each day for both Houses of Parliament: www.whatson.parliament.uk or you can find out more about www.christiansinparliament.org.uk

Growing Greener

Green Tip of the week

Showers are much better for the planet than baths, but do you have a water -saving showerhead? These shower heads work by restricting the volume of water that they allow to flow through them. Newer models can reduce the volume of water used by half, (30lts on average rather than 60lts) but still provide an enjoyable showering experience! Again, you will save money in the long run as well.

We thank Revd Richard Stainer for the weekly tips.

Loving God • Care for Creation • Love Our Global Neighbours

Services Calendar

9th November - Remembrance Sunday

8am BCP Communion

9.30am Remembrance Day Parade Service

There will be no service at 11am. St Margaret's Church choir will be joined by the Ipswich Minster Choir to sing at the Cenotaph service in Christchurch Park. All are welcome.

11th November

8am Morning Prayer in Church

11am Schools' Service of Remembrance - Christchurch Park Cenotaph

(Note that the civic service will take place alongside the war graves in The Old Cemetery).

12th November

9am St Margaret's VAP School Service

14th November

8am Morning Prayer in Church

16th November - Safeguarding Sunday

8am BCP Communion

9.30am Café Church (Happy 3rd Birthday!)

11am Parish Communion

18th November

8am Morning Prayer in Church

19th November

9am St Margaret's VAP School Service

21st November

8am Morning Prayer in Church

23rd November

8am BCP Communion

9.30am Rise & Shine - with Baptism (no Holy Communion)

11am Morning Worship

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Forward Dates**7th December 2025**

4pm Hexachordia Concert

14th February 2026

Trianon Concert (evening)

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 - Priest-in-Charge

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

George's quiet days tend to be Wednesdays and Fridays.

Churchwardens

Margaret Woodward

Email: churchwardens.stmagsips@gmail.com

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 taking the opportunity to rationalise email addresses. With immediate effect, please use office.stmagsips@gmail.com for all correspondence. The 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 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

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)