

ST MARY'S GAMLINGAY, HATLEY ST GEORGE & ST MARY'S EVERTON



Weekly newsletter 3 July 2020



From Hilary:

Dear People,

The Benefice churches are open according to our previous practices and have been visited. A huge repeated **THANK YOU** to those who have worked to put the guidelines into practice. How good it is to be back in the church buildings!

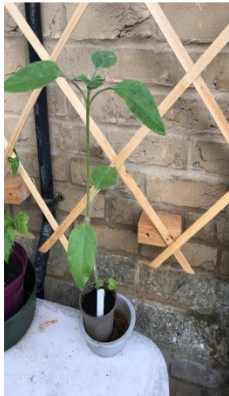
We have, as I write, just received detailed guidelines on how services can take place. We will be consulting as to what (of what is possible) will work best for as many people as possible. Wardens are working with me on the consultation process and the preparation work, including the completion of detailed risk assessments. Here are some key points from the guidance: *(Don't shoot the messenger!)*

- NO singing or chanting in (or outside!) the church or use of wind instruments, though the organ can be played.
- Specific services (weddings, baptisms, funerals and confirmations) outside general Sunday worship are restricted to 30 people. Others depend on capacity to maintain distancing.
- Communion must be in one kind for the congregation (bread only) and should be distributed standing up and with hand sanitising.
- 1 metre-plus distancing should be maintained – 2 metres wherever possible.
- Marked up and one-way systems to be introduced to prevent people brushing past one another. *(Not sure how I can give communion from even one metre away, but it is allowed).*

We will be conducting the 9.30 a.m. Zoom service on all Sundays through until September. Other services will be introduced as and when they can be safely conducted and human resources allow. Do be kind to one another (and to me!) as we do our best to look after each other and ourselves. We are the body of Christ. Our buildings are precious, they mean a great deal, but they are not the body nor is God confined in any four walls.

Also from Hilary:

Here is my latest sunflower picture.
This is the tallest. I have others, not quite as advanced, though planted at the same time.



The hollyhocks are starting to flower - I love them!

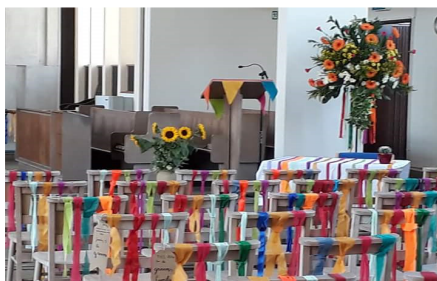


Jane Brown's very special lockdown activity:

As many of you know my daughter Jodie has been at Queens College, Birmingham training to become a priest. After 3 years at college she was supposed to be ordained on Saturday 27th June. However, due to Covid-19 the ordination service has had to be postponed and she will now be authorised via a Zoom service instead before starting work as a curate at St Peter's, Hall Green, Birmingham. I offered to make her a cassock and stole for the occasion of her ordination and have spent my lockdown evenings and weekends sewing. Both are now ready, apart from a need to hem the cassock which I can't really do without trying it on her – roll on July when she can come inside the house and stay.



We had planned to go shopping together for fabric to make the stole but lockdown put paid to that idea so I used some material that Jodie had acquired from a Scrap store. The decoration was made using streamers made of repurposed fabric that decorated the backs of the chairs at her wedding, and the pom-pom trim was left over from her wedding veil that I made. There was just enough to finish off the ends of the stole and the weight helps it to hang nicely.



(They are absolutely beautiful, Jane! Congratulations to you and to Jodie on her ordination)

The Guides have been busy creating characters for 'Lockdown Ladletown' situated on the edge of the Charnocks Close green. Do stop and have a look if you're passing by, they are very imaginative and entertaining.



Lockdown Limerick Challenge!

A limerick is defined as 'a type of humorous poem with five lines, the first two rhyming with the last'. They are fun to write (and read) so why not have a go and send them in for the newsletter? Perhaps stick to the lockdown theme but pick another if you prefer. We could end up with quite a collection.

I've been told I can now form a bubble,	All my friends, to me, are so dear.
With someone else I can double.	It's becoming abundantly clear
But it's making me sick!	That whoever I choose,
Who on earth do I pick	Other friends I might lose
Without getting myself into trouble?	It's a problem dear Boris! Do you hear?

Fundraising Opportunity (Alec Hissett)

St. Mary's Church in Gamlingay has been raising funds for a number of years by using **Easyfundraising**. If you buy goods or services via the internet there are over four thousand companies available that will donate a small percentage of the purchase price to the church. As we are a charity, this is at no additional cost to you. It is very easy to sign up to **Easyfundraising** and you can nominate any charity to receive your donation. Hopefully, you will choose our church.

Here is the link that will take you to the sign-up page and give full details about how the scheme works:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/gsmv/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=cpl

If you have any problems signing up please give me a call on 650052.

Where is it?

While you are walking round Gamlingay can you spot the sites of the items pictured below?

All will be revealed next week!



Please contact Brenda Elcome with anything you would like to go in the weekly newsletter BY TUESDAY EVENING

Brenda.elcome@ymail.com or phone 650489

Finally, a reminder of some key contact details:

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