

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



Weekly newsletter 18 September 2020



From Hilary:

Dear all,

The PCCs have met this week with the immediate task of ensuring that we are as prepared as we can be to worship together in our churches on Sunday, but with many other longer-term tasks as well.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the people, both now and in the past, whose work enables the structures of the C of E to function, facilitating all that matters in our shared worship and ministry.

THANK YOU - PCC people.

On that score, it is not too soon to start thinking about our next round of elections in Spring, in particular a reminder that both parishes will be looking for a Treasurer. If you have book-keeping skills, or know someone who has, and might take this important voluntary role on please talk to me (Hilary) or one of the Wardens. Ian Parker, who has done an amazing job for both churches in these last 2 years at Everton and for 7 years in Gamlingay, will support a transition - much better done now than waiting until the last minute.

Back to Church

Details on return to church will be circulated with the church service information. It would be helpful to know if and, if so, which service people are intending to attend to help organise suitably distanced seating - family groups and 'bubbles' will fit differently to singles.

9.30 am Gamlingay Communion/Eucharist Service with hymns

4.00 pm Everton 'service of the word' - exact content will be circulated each week, an Evensong style

Open Churches Weekend

Thank You Very Much to the people who acted as stewards in the Cambridgeshire churches of the Benefice as they were open at the weekend. I missed seeing the Hatley churches then but want to pay tribute to the lovely flowers on show in Hatley St George (photo).

I would also like to encourage those who might have felt it was time wasted if no one came - a lovely pair of baby socks were being constructed in Gamlingay church (see item from Lindy below), and the weather made being in these ancient buildings a pleasure. Also, the stewards got to talk to one another, which felt like a bonus to me at least.



'Growing Disciples'

Before I arrived in the Diocese this course had been running, helping participants to grow their faith and spirituality. Everyone I have spoken to who has been involved with it says the course is very helpful and enjoyable, so I am keen to encourage folk to have a go. I asked about running it on line as we'd been planning one in the Deanery before Covid (which now makes the normal format more difficult) and I'm pleased to say Jes Salt in Buckden is gathering names to start a course this Autumn - numbers needed by end of September. At the moment, I have two people interested. There is room for more, so do be in touch if you think this might be for you.

<https://www.elydiocese.org/growing-in-faith/growing-as-a-disciple/discipleship-course/growing-as-a-disciple-course.php> has lots more information, here is a quote:

We all need to find the right help for where we are on our journey of faith. The *Growing as a Disciple* course is another way of refreshing faith and learning together. This course is about deepening our personal faith and raising our awareness of how God might be calling us to contribute our abilities and time to our churches. We hope that it will also generate enthusiasm and confidence to express our faith as we seek to live as Christ's disciples in our communities, workplaces and in the wider world. In *Growing as a Disciple*, we delve into the Bible, getting the big story of the way God has worked in the lives of very ordinary people to bring about his purposes and our salvation. We zoom in to look at particular stories and ask, 'where are we in this story, and what about our journey of faith?'

Hilary

St. Mary's Church Cleaning

During the lock down the spiders were very busy in church. As a result when it came to re-opening the church to visitors there was a significant cleaning task required, but due to the sterling work of our small cleaning team the low level cleaning has continued over the past couple of months.

The high-level cleaning is much more of a challenge and I am pleased to report that this has now been completed with enormous thanks to Brian Jones' grandson, Ben. As a result, resuming services from Sunday can now take place in a clean church building.

You may have seen this door (picture) on the south aisle wall. This cupboard, set into the wall, was originally used to store standards and banners for processions and ceremonies. It is now used to store the high-level cleaning equipment including a carbon fibre fishing pole with a large fluffy broom head attached. A little unwieldy but ideal for reaching the chancel and nave roof rafters and high windows where the spiders love to spin their webs.



PS We are always looking for volunteers to help on the cleaning rota – let me know if you can help.

Alec Hissett



The Limerick Zoom finale!

As Church we can all now attend
And Zoom services come to an end,
I feel bound to say,
In a strange sort of way,
It's like saying goodbye to a friend!

So, thank you to those who've been striving
To keep our church family thriving.
Zoomed worship and song
Has kept us all strong
At a time when our lives were nose-diving!

THE END!

From Lindy Gorton

I thought people might be amused to hear about my "educational" socks. My great-grand-daughter is 18 months old and I have knitted her some tiny socks: one green and one red. So, not only can she learn her colours, but STOP and GO! If she always wore the same colour on each foot, she might even learn the difference between left and right. Babies are SO precocious they learn without knowing they are learning. *(How about some "educational" mittens to match, Lindy?)*

The 'educational' socks have already been delivered and we have no photo but these beautiful pairs (below) have been knitted by Lindy for another expected great grand-child and the mother – I think you can work out which are which!



While visiting the Gortons about the socks I also took a couple of photos in their beautiful garden.....



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

Another 'sort of prayer' from David Kossoff's book :

YOU HAVE A MINUTE, LORD?

Saying it

Lord – you have a minute? – this is
about saying it; putting it into words.
People don't, Lord. Not about the one
thing they should.
About liking someone.
We don't *say* it, Lord; hardly ever.

I'm not talking about love, Lord.
Lerv, luv. The stuff they use in
poems and pop songs and movies.
That's got *too* many words. Meaningless.
Once, Lord, I was talking to a very
powerful rich tycoon sort of man
who was inclined to walk a bit by
himself, like me, and as I left him
I told him, truthfully, that I liked him.
'I like you,' I said. And suddenly his
eyes were wet.
It was a surprise; a shock; a disturbance.
Oh, a person needs telling, Lord.
It warms a person, Lord.

People don't say it – and the people
they should say it to shrivel a little
for want of hearing it – and themselves
remain silent.

A person needs to hear it, Lord,
To teach him how to say it.
A loving contagion of words, a sort of measles.
You catch it and give it to others.
Begin the infection, Lord,
and let it grow to epidemic.

(Far preferable to the epidemic we've got!)

A reminder of some key contact details:

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