

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



Weekly newsletter 26 March 2021



From Hilary:

We have just marked a year since the first lockdown of this Pandemic, with all sorts of reflections around what has happened in between. Having mislaid the key to our Rectory noticeboard it still has last year's materials up, looking rather sad and damp - a reminder of how much hard work was done in haste and how little we could know about what was to come.

A year on we are better placed in many ways - the lock-out from churches is no longer in place, and we will be able to have our ancient buildings open and used, if not quite 'as usual', at least more visibly than last year.

On Sunday we head into Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday. This week will be the climax of our Christian religious observance, with Easter services available in all our churches.

Don't forget clocks change this weekend!

Maundy Thursday Sedar Meal?

Sarah Titmus has Matzos bread (crackers) for any of us who would like some, and there is an option to meet together (on Zoom) to eat a meal remembering the Last Supper. No one, apart from Sarah, has expressed interest yet. Please let us know if you would like to join in. The idea would be to reflect on the Passover, the Jewish celebration with which Jesus' Last Supper is connected, and eat our own meals at home - traditionally this would be lamb. If there is interest I will circulate a list of things to get together for the remembrance and we could share recipes and even provide food for anyone who would like it. This would start at around 5.30pm to give time to get to church afterwards.

The Maundy Vigil.....

....marking the time of Jesus' arrest and trial, takes place following the Benefice Maundy Service at Gamlingay. As the service ends, the altar in Gamlingay will be stripped to stand bare over Good Friday. Altars will be stripped in the other churches following that.

Reserve Sacrament will be kept in Gamlingay and a vigil held until midnight.

Please sign up by sending me a message or giving me a ring if you would like to attend either Maundy or Good Friday communion, and for the vigil.

No one will be left on their own in church for the vigil at Gamlingay and the building will be locked at midnight.

Please indicate the time you intend to be present between 8.30pm and midnight.

If anyone would like to attend any of the other churches on that evening, please let me know.

Blessings All for a Holy Easter.

Hilary

Churches Opening times in Holy Week:

Everton church will be open during Holy Week and including Good Friday – Easter Day

Hatley church can be opened on request and will be open Good Friday – Easter Day.

Gamlingay church will be open daily from 9am – 5pm from Palm Sunday onwards.

All 3 churches will be decorated on Easter Saturday, please check locally to take part.

Any Easter gardens or Easter bonnets from the families' challenge can be brought and left on display.

All Zoom services in Holy Week will be on the same link which is circulated for Palm Sunday and will be re-usable throughout the week. Topic: Holy Week and Easter services 2021
Meeting ID: 819 1119 0170 Passcode: 873640

Sunday 28th March Palm Sunday Clocks 'Spring Forward' to British Summer Time

9.30am Benefice Liturgy of the Palms on Zoom from Everton Church with visuals from other churches

10.00am Benefice Liturgy of the Passion with Communion Zoom from Gamlingay

What's on during Holy Week (Monday 29th - Sunday 4th April)

Every day : Morning Prayer at 8am

Do join us, Chris, Hilary and Sandra, if you can, on Zoom.

Topic: Morning Prayer. Time: This is a recurring meeting open at 8am daily

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 820 5991 7704. Passcode: 621586

Monday 29th March

8.00pm Taize-style Zoom from Gamlingay with visuals from Hatley

Tuesday 30th March

1.45pm Funeral for Tommy Hood at Gamlingay

7.30pm Taize-style Zoom from Everton

Wednesday 31st March

7.30pm Taize-style Zoom from Gamlingay

Maundy Thursday

10.30am Cathedral service on Zoom followed by Full Deanery Chapter meeting over lunch

7.30pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist followed by stripping of altars in all the churches,

and vigils. The service is primarily to be broadcast on Zoom, but communion can be received in one kind by anyone wishing to attend at Gamlingay in person, by arrangement.

Please contact Wardens, Chris or Nick in Gamlingay, Jane in Everton, if you plan to be there.

The congregation will need to observe Covid guidelines on distancing, singing and face coverings.

Good Friday - all churches will be open with reflection space and personal liturgy available

12noon-2pm Way of the Cross music and words (Gamlingay and Zoom), leading to...

2-3pm Final hour Good Friday service : veneration of the cross, communion from reserve sacrament - on Zoom and in person by arrangement - contact Hilary

Holy Saturday Churches will be being decorated throughout the day by arrangement

8pm Easter Vigil/new fire and renewal of Baptismal Vows - Gamlingay Church on Zoom

Easter Day

Easter Communion in person in all Benefice churches, under Covid rules

8am

Hatley St George said service

9.30am

Gamlingay All age Eucharist with admission to Holy Communion (also on Zoom)

11.15am

Everton Communion (possibly also on Facebook Live)

Looking Further Ahead

Sunday April 11th 11.30am **Baptism of Persephone Hay at Everton**

Sunday 18th April at 11.30am Everton Cum Tetworth APCM

Families Celebrating Easter in Gamlingay

Abi Grylls (Youth worker at Gamlingay Baptist i.e. GBC) has been working with Sandra and Sarah planning our shared activity for Gamlingay village, Abi writes:



Easter is quickly approaching and, with all the restrictions we will still be facing this year, will look slightly different. However, we have still got lots on to join in with over the Easter Holidays.

The first thing is an Easter Trail (available to do from Saturday 27th March) which GBC has joined with St. Mary's to do. Starting at GBC you can find the map of this trail and the first "egg". Each egg shares a new section of the Easter story - this is a perfect thing to do whilst on your daily walk.

*GBC and St. Mary's are putting on an **Easter competition**. To enter you have to create either an **Easter bonnet or an Easter garden - or both!***

You can either email your entries or put them on Social Media, tagging GBC & St. Mary's. 1st, 2nd & 3rd place will be announced on Easter Monday & will win a prize.

Your Easter garden has to include

- something representing the 3 crosses*
- something representing the tomb*
- something colourful!*

You can be as creative as you like!

*Finally, GBC are hosting a **community quiz**.*

Anyone and everyone is welcome and there will be a complete mixture of questions. This is on April 9th on ZOOM at 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start.

To sign up follow this link; <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TKFZLHD>

If you would like to submit & lead a round of questions please get back to me (Abi)

We can't wait to see your Easter bonnets or gardens and for you to join us at our quiz!



TASK GROUPS

Each year after the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) the PCC appoints members to specific Task Groups. Each Task Group will have a convener(s) who will take responsibility for the task set by the PCC. Members of the PCC who head Task groups are as follows:

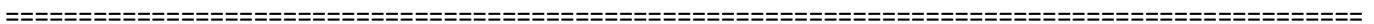
- Ministry, Mission & Worship : Revd. H. Young, Mr C Miller & Mrs S Macrow
- Benefice Pastoral : Revd. Young, Mr C Miller (Mrs V Miller ALM)
- Buildings & Fabric : Revd. H. Young, Mr C Miller & Mr N Ingles (who have responsibility for St Mary,s Church, Church Hall & Church Cottage and the church at Hatley)
- Fundraising : Mrs S Macrow, Mrs S Titmus, Mrs D Martin & Mrs E Thorpe

The following PCC Members are also on the Project group :

- Revd. H .Young, Mr A Hissett , Mrs S Macrow, Mrs S Titmus , Mr M Wareham

Many other members of the congregation offer their help and support to these Task Groups for which the PCC is extremely grateful.

Dawn Martin (PCC Secretary)



Church Spring Clean

We will be giving the church a much-needed Spring Clean on Saturday 27th March starting at 10.30am. So, if you are able, PLEASE come along armed with brooms, dusters, etc., to help.



NB : You will , of course, also need a face covering!!



NATURE NOTES

The snowdrops and crocuses are over but now our gardens are full of daffodils and primroses and dotted in the hedgerows are clouds of fluffy pussy willow and the beginnings of new growth.. A year has passed since the first Covid lockdown and nature has gone full circle – perhaps even improved by the lower levels of pollution in the atmosphere!



A reminder of some key contact details:

Hilary Young , Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Alec Hissett , Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden (outgoing)	alechissett@hotmail.com	650052
Chris Miller , LLM/Reader, Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden	cfm55@btinternet.com	650779
Nick Ingles , Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden elect	nickingles@me.com	07828 934003
Valerie Miller , ALM Pastoral	vjm55@btinternet.com	650779
Sandra Macrow , LLM Children and Families' minister	sandramacrow@btinternet.com	07958 710703
Dawn Martin , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	dawnbeckymartin@aol.com	652832
Eileen Thorpe , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Treasurer	Eileen.thorpe@hotmail.co.uk	651197
Jane Gurney , Everton Churchwarden		
Jane Butcher , Everton Assistant Churchwarden	jane.butcher59@googlemail.com	680105