

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



Weekly newsletter 12 November 2021



From Hilary

A good deal of communication and planning is going on to enable work to start on Gamlingay church building on Monday (November 15th) as was reported 'hot off the press' last week. At the time of writing the exact arrangements for the services that had been planned through to early January are still being finalised but we are likely to be having a 'mixed economy' - using the other church buildings of the Benefice, with possible supplementary use of the Kingspan room in the EcoHub. This inevitably pushes those who habitually worship at St Mary's in Gamlingay out of their comfort-zone but, as with most challenging situations, there is opportunity for growth:

- We have the opportunity to give to and receive hospitality from our brothers and sisters in Christ 'pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too'.
- We can appreciate the place in which we are most comfortable all the more for being away for a while, particularly as it will be more comfortable when we get back to it.
- This helps us all to realise afresh that 'we are the body of Christ'. The church is fundamentally 'people' not 'place' - important though places are because of what they mean to people and what they enable people to do.

Remembrance Sunday 14th November - services as advertised

I have nine of the candles left - let me know if you have missed out and want one. They were in church at Gamlingay in the morning last week, but not on display, so there may be someone who would still like one.

A reminder - they have cost £2.50 each and are offered for £3 or more donation to church funds of the church of your choice. Thank you to the people who have already donated.



Gamlingay Christmas Fair

Among much that has needed re-planning, the Christmas Fair that would have been in the church at Gamlingay on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December cannot take place as previously. The tickets for the draw are already printed and the draw is licensed for the 12th, watch out for when and how that will now take place - it could well be after the Sunday morning service.

The Fair itself is being planned for the EcoHub on the Saturday, but there is a great deal to do in a short time if this is to be the financial success it needs to be. Gamlingay and Hatley finances depend very much on fund-raising and this event has historically been a very important part of that. If you can help in any way and are not already 'in the loop' please let Hilary know. Watch out for ways to contribute, and let's make this a good event.

Advent

This Advent we will be thinking about Angels, linked to the four weekly themes of Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist and Mary. As well as the study sessions, which will look at some occasions where angels feature in the Bible, there is opportunity for creativity - angel windows around the village.

Advent begins in November this year, Advent Sunday being on the 28th. The planned Authorisation service celebrating our lay ministers will have to be different, but the plan is to authorise our new ALM Children's Work (Sarah Titmus) at Hatley that Sunday in the morning, with an Advent Carols service at Everton in the afternoon.

Hilary

This Week

Sunday 14th November Second before Advent + Remembrance Sunday

Gamlingay	8.00am Said Parish communion (last in church for a while) 10.45am Gather at the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance, followed by church service at St Mary's
Everton	10.45am Gather at church, proceeding to the War Memorial for 11.00am

Wednesday 17th November

9.30am	Midweek Communion at the Rectory in Gamlingay and on Zoom Meeting ID: 857 7959 5724. Passcode: 958554
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Next Week

Sunday 21st November Sunday next before Advent

To be confirmed - probably shared service at Everton.

Afternoon baptism at Hatley St George Church of Mila Melanie Zavadilova

Tuesday Bible Study continues on Zoom.

A reminder of Churches Opening times

Everton church open Friday – Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays 10am-4pm.

Hatley church can be opened on request.

Gamlingay church closed to the public.

Easy Fund Raising

We have just received a payment of **£82.69** from easyfundraising so a huge thank you to everyone who has used this service when shopping online. If you haven't yet signed up it's a very simple way to raise funds for your Church.

Sign up here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/gsmv/>

IMPORTANT NOTICE

With the church closed for building work and with scaffolding erected around it, we would ask everyone to be extra vigilant and immediately report to the Police any suspicious looking activity. If you live nearby, please keep a watchful eye and if anyone is passing by and sees something that looks wrong let someone know straight away. It may be nothing but better safe than sorry.

THANK YOU!

Alec

Grand Draw and Envelope Stuffing Party

It's that time once again when I ask for help putting the Christmas raffle tickets into envelopes for distribution to all the houses in the villages. We will be getting together this coming Tuesday, 16th November, at 7:00p.m. in the Church Hall. It should only take about one and a half hours if we have your help, so please come along if you can.

Following this event, we will also need help posting the envelopes through doors so please let me know if you are willing to deliver to a road or two.

Tel. 650052 or email
alechissett@hotmail.com

Prizes : As in previous years, various local businesses are being asked for donations of prizes but we will need more. We have a hamper ready to be filled. If you are able to provide any suitable items for this or would like to donate another prize, please deliver to 2 Charnocks Close (after 22nd November) or to 45 Fairfield.

The Draw will take place on Sunday 12th December.

Alec Hissett

NB : FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

If you have any items for inclusion in next week's newsletter, please forward directly to Ian Parker - iangparker@hotmail.com

'LINK TO HOPE'

Twenty wrapped shoeboxes crammed full of goodies and ready for onward transmission to Eastern Europe via 'Link to Hope', the organization which The Guild of St. Mary is happy to support each year.



Throughout the year Guild members, and friends, donate suitable items which are stored in someone's garage (thank you that person – you know who you are!) and then in October a happy time is spent sorting, packing and wrapping. The boxes are designated either for families or for the elderly. Knee blankets are particularly welcome for the latter and, as you can see, we had no shortage of those this year! They wouldn't fit in the boxes so were delivered as a separate bundle.

Thank you so much to all who contributed, particularly the lady (not a Guild member) who provided so many of the knitted items.

A reminder of some key contact details:

Hilary Young , Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Chris Miller , LLM/Reader, Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden	cfm55@btinternet.com	650779
Nick Ingles , Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden, Treasurer	nickingles@me.com	07868 144830
Valerie Miller , 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
Jane Gurney , Everton Churchwarden		
Alec Hissett	alechissett@hotmail.com	650052