

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



Weekly newsletter 7 January 2022



From Hilary...

Happy New Year. January is already disappearing! This first week of 2022 has been one of 'social isolation' for Norman and myself in preparation for Norman's investigative procedure on the first Thursday of the year. I am taking some long overdue time off the following weekend. Later in the month we will be celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - in the morning thinking about unity within our Anglican denomination then, hopefully, with a shared internet presentation with our fellow Christians from Gamlingay Baptist Church as we remember that the Church is more than any one denomination. January ends with a fifth Sunday when we will share the liturgy of Candlemas (Presenting of Christ to the Gentiles) before we begin the count-down to Lent.



As we watch the temperature fluctuations that make the weather feel so 'wrong' for the time of year, our thoughts maybe turn to Spring which cannot be yet but will come, in some form, eventually. Looking at a garden in winter it can seem that everything is dead, but that's not right. There are flowers that bloom at this time of year and all the bulbs are developing underground as well as the trees being dormant but ready to come to life at the right time. I thought I'd share this butterfly picture to remind us that the seasons continue to come round and summer sun will be here eventually - just in case that helps.

Services for the first months of this year

January

Sunday 9th January

8.30am

10.00am

Epiphany Baptism of Christ - Festival

Said Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Hatley St George

Shared Festival Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday Communion on Zoom, and possibly in person, check on Sunday if interested

Sunday 16th January Epiphany 2

10am

Shared Communion at Everton with Ven. Hugh McCurdy, Archdeacon of Huntingdon

Wednesday Communion on Zoom, and possibly in person, check on Sunday if interested

Sunday 23rd January Epiphany 3 (Sunday in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

10.00am Shared Eucharist at Everton

6.30pm Service for Christian Unity on Zoom only

Sunday 30th January Epiphany 4, Celebrating the Presentation of Christ in the Temple

10 am Shared All Age Communion for Candlemas

February and March

While Gamlingay church continues to be out of action during building work, the service patterns for the Benefice churches will continue to be temporary and subject to change. The services for February are still to be confirmed. The pattern will be decided based on the responses to the accompanying questionnaire which some people have already seen and responded to. I don't mind how you get answers back, but please make this a personal response. There will be a revised version of this to return when Gamlingay church is back in action later in the Spring. Please do respond by email if you can, but hard copy through the door at Gamlingay Rectory either directly or via a messenger would be fine, as would a phone call answering the questions. The results will be looked at, in relation to a more permanent pattern in due course, by the long-delayed ministry planning action group. The promise was to set up a pattern for the Benefice post Covid and that is still what we are working towards. Sainly patience is required to hang on to plans when progress is deflected by changing circumstances.

The Covenant renewal

Eternal God , in your faithful and enduring love you call us
to share in your gracious covenant in Jesus Christ.
In obedience we hear and accept your commands;
in love we seek to do your perfect will;
with joy we offer ourselves anew to you.
We are no longer our own but yours.

**I am no longer my own but yours.
Your will, not mine, be done in all things,
wherever you may place me
in all that I do and in all I may endure;
when there is work for me and when there is none;
when I am troubled and when I am at peace.**

**Your will be done
when I am valued and when I am disregarded
when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking;
when I have all things and when I have nothing
I willingly offer all that I have and am
to serve you, as and where you choose.
Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
You are mine and I am yours.
May it be so for ever.
Let this covenant now made on earth
be fulfilled in heaven. Amen**

Please let Brenda have any articles or pictures for the newsletter
by Tuesday evening each week to Brenda.elcome@ymail.com



New Home for Dashie?

I have been alerted to this sweet 10 year old poodle bitch looking for a foster home, which could become permanent if it suits both parties, as Dashie’s elderly owners are not fit to look after her any more. She needs to be on her own with one or two quiet people, not in a busy family home with other pets.

Do contact me in the first place if you or someone you know might be suited and I can share where to ask after her.

Hilary x

Richard Edwards at Everton has been asked by an acquaintance at Blunham Church to advertise their forthcoming Book Sale. This is a regular event (unable to take place last year of course) which in the past has been very popular. We know that many of you are keen readers so this may well be something you would like to attend and support – like us, Blunham Church is constantly in need of more funding!



'THE BIG BLUNHAM BOOK SALE'
is back in 2022!



The 'Big Blunham Book Sale' will be held on
Sat 26th February 2022 - 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ,

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories. Home-made soup with bread, home-made cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. Plus a raffle.

Please see www.riversmeetbenefice.co.uk for up-to-date information
or contact Sue 01767 640572
All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund

A reminder of church opening times and some key contact details:

Everton church open Friday- Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Mondays 10am-4pm.
Hatley church can be opened on request.
Gamlingay church closed to the public until March.

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| Hilary Young , Parish Priest | hilaryafyoung@gmail.com | 650587 |
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| 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 | | 07967 445223 |
| Alec Hissett | alechissett@hotmail.com | 650052 |

Consultation on services, particularly for February 2022

(to be adapted for wider use later)

This is to inform decisions being made in the next week or so but also may be used as a base when we launch our general consultation group. Be aware that this assumes we are able to gather in any numbers.

Please fill in the following, indicating preferences which are important to you.

It should go without saying (but maybe needs to be said) that there is no way everyone can have all their first preferences. Also, the fact of consultation ought not to raise expectations of entitlement - we are privileged to be custodians for a time of the buildings we inhabit but our calling is to serve and worship the God who longs for our deepening relationship with him and, thereby, with one another. We will be blessed as we serve the communities in which we are placed, in our worship and in interactions with one another.

Would you attend church twice on any one Sunday?

Yes No Maybe (if so, what does that depend on?)

Times you can (and would) attend worship on Sundays

Please delete those which do not apply, and indicate a first preference.

If you add a service where you would attend as a second time in church on the same day, please say.

8.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.30am 4.00pm 6.00pm

How often would you attend Church on average?

Every week unless unwell or on holiday
Almost every week
Two or three times a month
Once a month
Very occasionally
For Festivals

If a service is available on line, would you make use of that if unable to attend in person?

Yes No Maybe (if so what does that depend on?)

Where would you be willing to worship?

(NB : Gamlingay Church is not available at the moment but will be on the list when it is).

Please indicate all that apply. If you have a preference, please number from 1 to 4 - 1 being the most preferred. Please don't number any you would not attend.

Hatley St George
Everton
Gamlingay EcoHub
Gamlingay Church Hall

What style of worship do you feel able to participate in/attend?

Again please indicate all that apply and in order of preference if relevant

Common Worship Communion/Eucharist
Book of Common Prayer Communion/Eucharist
Book of Common Prayer Evensong
All Age Eucharists (Family friendly)
Special Occasion services - formal
Special Occasion service - informal