

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



Weekly newsletter 4 March 2022



From Hilary...

Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs)

Thank you to everyone who attended our meetings on Sunday, especially those who contributed to refreshments, most welcome in both cases.

A great debt of gratitude goes to those who worked so hard and contributed so much to all that last year's reports contained. Church Wardens, Jane, Chris and Nick, all have work of which they can be proud and for which we are very grateful. That same gratitude continues for those taking up again, or carrying on with, responsibility for decisions (and carrying them out) for our churches. For various reasons we are without Church Wardens this year, their responsibilities being shared among the PCC and Parish Priest. Your love, prayers and support for us all will be very much needed to make this work (we are told we are not alone in the Diocese in being in this situation).

We have been and will continue to be negotiating increasingly challenging administrative requirements, particularly in the areas of safeguarding. It is right that we should not only keep one another safe, but also make sure that we are accountable in doing that. Please be patient if this means signing something, doing some more training, or receiving a job description for something you have been doing for years. And - thank you for what you each contribute to supporting our common life as the People of God, through Jesus Christ the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Planning for our futures and Living Ely 2025

<https://www.elydiocese.org/about/strategy/living-ely2025/>

Our new PCCs have the task of setting priorities for our parishes for this year, as economics change again for the worse when they were already going to be tougher and we have moral and statutory Safeguarding requirements to meet. I quote here a piece of wisdom shared in the resurrection of the Scargill Community after closure:

'Without the business, we have not mission,

Without the mission, we have not business to be here'

Both mission and business are required, each for the other to thrive. We trust God for his provision and continue to ask and be thankful when it comes. We cannot afford not to work in both fields so please don't snipe at one another (or me!) if you find your calling doesn't match someone else's or you feel the emphasis isn't right - it won't be all the time but be aware you may not have the whole picture when you think things should be done differently. Do ask and listen to the answers as to what is going on. As the Methodist covenant says, if not in so many words, 'in some things I may please myself and God, in others I can only please God'. But let's not get that the wrong way up, God is not pleased by our being miserable! Let us find joy in our duty, and in our joy find our duty.

As churches we will be looking at everything we do (and don't do) as we take stock after two years of pandemic and, who knows, maybe on the brink of WW3. We look in the light of our calling to be the 'good' (salt and light in biblical imagery) in all the places our lives touch - from our homes to the whole wide world. We do this in the context of an increasingly fractured and destabilised society. My prayer is that we can do this together as the Body of Christ - let us not be tempted into fractious blaming of one another for what is not possible or demanding of others what we are unable to provide ourselves. The world is falling apart, let's not break the church!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

There are village celebrations planned in Gamlingay and Hatley during the weekend in June designated for the Jubilee. The Saturday is very much taken up, but the churches have the Sunday when the Pentecost (Whitsunday) celebrations will have the added dimension of celebrating the Queen's long reign as head of the Anglican Church.

In Hatley a village party is being advertised.

In Gamlingay representatives from various groups, including the two churches in the village, attended a meeting where what is being planned in the village was shared.

There will be a publication coordinated by a small group and contributed to by all, including St Mary's in Gamlingay.

This is designed to support the celebrations, raise the profile of various organisations contributing and provide a keepsake, particular to the village, from the occasion. At St Mary's the main project for the Jubilee, which is hoped to have a legacy well beyond the day, is the eco-project in the churchyard and church hall garden. This will be led, together with the PCC, by Jenny Shelton and her husband Kevin. A party on the afternoon of the Saturday in the church hall and garden will celebrate and inform about the project. It will be one of many around the village and there may be a map to show people who wish to 'do the rounds' where to look. There may well also be an exhibition in church covering the 7 decades of the Queen's reign, invitations are in preparation for contributions from the History Society and the Photographic Society.

There is no news, as yet, from Everton but plans will be shared here in due course.



This Week

First Sunday in Lent, 6th March

- 8.30am** BCP communion at Hatley St George
10.30am Benefice Communion at Everton
6.00pm Evensong at Clare College Chapel (booking required)

Wednesday 9th March

- 9.30am** Midweek communion at The Rectory.

Sunday 13th (Lent 2)

- 10.30am** Everton Communion Revd Robert Sibson presiding

Sunday 20th (Lent 3)

- 9.30am** Holy Communion at Hatley
4pm Evensong Service at Everton

Sunday 27th Mothering Sunday - posies will be distributed from both services

- 9.30am** 'Mothering' service at Echo Hub
11.15am Benefice Mothering Sunday All Age communion service at Everton

Lent 2022

The course exploring themes of Faith, Hope and Redemption using the film 'The Greatest Showman' begins next week. As a result of the information provided, Hilary and Chris are running two sessions each week - a Zoom one on Tuesday evenings (which could include individuals joining face-to-face at the vicarage) and a face-to-face only session on Thursday afternoons. More details on location will be available on Sunday. The Zoom session will be 7.30pm - 9pm.

Link Topic: Lent Study 2022 Meeting ID: 827 1111 6762. Passcode: 342373

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82711116762?pwd=Y3R4SDUydEJGTy9rOVlpZ2dCWTVidz09>

Provisional Advance notice for April

Sunday 3rd April - Passiontide begins

10.30am Benefice service at Everton

Sunday 10th April, Palm Sunday (Holy Week begins)

Time TBC -Liturgy of the Palms with donkey procession in Gamlingay - location of service TBC

Time TBC depending on above - Liturgy of the Passion at Everton - probably 11am

Monday 11th -Wednesday 13th April - Taize-style worship, locations TBC

Thursday 14th April

7pm Maundy Service Everton - washing of feet and reserved sacrament, stripping of altars

Friday 15th April Good Friday

Liturgy TBC at Everton and Hatley, with (possibly) something in Gamlingay

Saturday 16th April, Holy Saturday

7pm Renewal of baptismal vows, new fires, blessing of new candles at Everton

Sunday 17th April, Easter Day

8.00am First Communion of Easter TBC

9.30am Baptism and Easter Communion at Eco Hub

11.15am Benefice Easter Service at Everton

(There may be an 8am said service at Hatley St George - tbc)

War in Ukraine our response *From Dick Edwards in Everton.....:*

I learned from the news just now that 80 ladies gave birth underground in Kyiv without any medical supervision which is unbelievable for our fellow Europeans in 2022. I thought it would be great if we could get something going so that the church can send a lump sum to the Disaster and Emergencies Committee who will match any contribution with Gift Aid as well. We will call it the **St Mary's Ukraine Appeal**

Church bank details for BACS transfers:

Account name : EVERTON CUM TETWORTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL,

Sort code: 20-74-81 **Account number :** 00434620

> please use your surname as a reference, I can then add your address to claim gift aid

Cheques: please make payable to Everton-cum-Tetworth PCC (**important, must be exactly as this**).

> please include your address if you are a taxpayer, in order to claim gift aid.

Cash: In church, please use any envelope and mark for St Mary's Ukraine Appeal together with your address if you are a taxpayer.

Alternatively ring Dick and I will come and fetch your contribution:

01767 681 454 / 07768 174 513

Or through Dick's letterbox: Stone Lodge, Everton Road, Sandy, Beds, SG19 2DE include your address if you are a tax-payer again for gift aid.

NB: *Dick is happy to receive and process donations from anywhere in the Benefice.*



Charlie Update

Charlie the Donkey has a smart new blanket and newly trimmed feet this week. He should be a lot more comfortable now Luke, the farrier, has given his toenails (hooves) a long-overdue trim. The donkey halter bought for him is not big enough, so he's still using one kindly loaned.

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.

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------|
| Hilary Young , Parish Priest | hilaryafyoung@gmail.com | 650587 |
| Chris Miller , LLM/Reader | cfm55@btinternet.com | 650779 |
| Nick Ingles , Gamlingay/Hatley 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 |
| Alec Hissett | alechissett@hotmail.com | 650052 |

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

