

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



Weekly newsletter 18 November 2022



From Hilary...

Remembrance Sunday this last week saw great turnouts at both outdoor war memorials and at Hatley church which was fittingly decorated and open for the day. Well done everyone who made the churches look so nice. At Everton the service flowed straight on from the outdoor remembrance and was well attended. Our thanks to Les Oglesby for conducting the service this year. At Gamlingay some of us made our way from the War Memorial to the Baptist Church where we were given a warm welcome and delicious refreshment after shared worship broadcast on YouTube.

On Monday we said goodbye to Pauline Bodsworth at Gamlingay with Remembrance poppies still in place in church - it felt so appropriate.



St. Mary's Gamlingay



Hatley St. George



This Sunday we celebrate Christ the King on what used to be called Stir up Sunday, the last of the church year. This brings to an end the season in which we especially remember that we are citizens of a Kingdom whose King is the Prince of Peace and whose Kingdom is not principally an earthly one.

Advent

The new Church year begins on Advent Sunday, 27th November, as we begin our preparation for Christmas a full four weeks before the day itself (at its shortest, liturgical Advent can be a mere 3 weeks when Christmas Day is on a Monday, as will be the case next year).

Advent Study groups will be following the four Sunday themes together, using material which can be studied alone by those who do not have the time or inclination to join a group. Mike and Chris Wareham have offered hospitality for in-person daytime meetings on Tuesday mornings. At these meetings Hilary will have Zoom open to allow anyone who wishes to join that group remotely, but the Wednesday evening meetings are particularly aimed at Zoom participants, though in-person participation at the Rectory is also welcome. Week one explores Advent Hope, remembering the Patriarchs.

We are once again inviting Advent windows round the village, decorations on the weekly themes to be shared on social media. Anything produced in church on Sunday could go into the Rectory noticeboard.

Funeral for Philip Gorton

Arrangements are well underway for Philip's funeral which is confirmed for 12 noon on Wednesday 23rd November in Gamlingay church. Philip had planned music for before and after the service and we expect the church to be full, so do be there well on time. Cally Hammond, previous Rector in the Benefice and now Dean of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, will give the address, bell ringers and choir will be on duty, and **we are all asked to dress cheerfully with colour**. Philip hoped for the service to be a positive affair. Although much of the music he has chosen is quite solemn we hope to give him a joyful send-off, he wanted to give us all a 'Happy Party'. Philip would have been 94 on Thursday, so in some respects this will be a birthday party - I'm told Devil's Food Cake is on the menu!

Beware of Scammers!

In Gamlingay Alec Hissett keeps those who sign up for Neighbourhood Watch well up to date with warnings concerning the ways criminals take advantage of others. We are regularly warned about electronic mechanisms for scams, nevertheless it is easy to be caught off guard and end up out of pocket with no come-back.

I want to warn everyone to watch out as I've been alerted by two people of a message purporting to be from me asking for contact. If you do make contact you will be asked to buy digital gift cards for me. **IT IS NOT ME** at the other end of these messages - I would never do this anyway, but you can confirm the message is not from me by checking the actual email address it has come from, (not the email title which looks like it is me) - the address will not be mine. Unfortunately, once you have paid for these cards and sent them you can do nothing to get that value back, as the law argues that it was a personal act of choice. If ever in doubt, do not act.

BENEFICE SERVICES AND EVENTS - November

Sunday 20th November Christ the King (Sunday next before Advent)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

Wednesday 23rd November

9.30am Midweek communion at Gamlingay

Sunday 27th November Advent Sunday (Benefice services)

10.00am Benefice Eucharist at Gamlingay
4.00 pm Benefice Advent Evening Carol Service at Everton.

Wednesday 30th November

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay (reinstated due to cancellation of Hilary's training course.)

Services and Church Events for December (slightly revised)

Heads up and watch this space

There may be a concert on the afternoon/early evening of Thursday December 22nd, brought to us by an ensemble of professional musicians wanting to make a collection to support research into Pancreatic Cancer as well as contributing to St Mary's finances. This will not be placing extra work on the church fundraising group, already extremely busy, so huge thanks to the musicians and their helpers. If this doesn't come off, there will be another opportunity in the New Year.

Sunday 4th December Advent 2

8am Eucharist at Hatley St George - to be confirmed
9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

Saturday 10th December - Gamlingay Christmas Fair

Sunday 11th December Advent 3

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

Sunday 18th December Advent 4

10am Benefice Eucharist at Gamlingay
4pm Christmas Carol Service at Everton
6pm Christmas Carol Service at Gamlingay

Wednesday 21st December

9.30am Communion at Gamlingay
7.00pm Christmas Carol Service at Hatley St George

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

3.00pm Christingle Service at Everton
4.00pm Nativity procession, Gamlingay
4.30pm Christingle and Nativity Service at Gamlingay
11.30pm First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass) at Gamlingay

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day

? 8.30am Hatley Communion
10am Christmas Family Eucharist at Gamlingay
10am Christmas Morning Service at Everton

Wednesday 28th December Holy Innocents

9.30am Communion at Gamlingay TBC

Sunday 1st January New Year's Day (Naming and circumcision of Christ)

10am Benefice service at Gamlingay celebrating the Circumcision of Christ and New Year.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

The Remembrance service at Everton, led by Les Oglesby, was well attended following the 10.55am gathering at the War Memorial. The collection raised £90 which has been sent to the British Legion

Everton PCC may be meeting this Monday if personnel can be gathered, with various items to be discussed.

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

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Reminder - There is a thought that some of us from GBC and St Mary's might do a communal Christmas Lunch this year, particularly with those in mind who might like company but would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day. We know that many of our fellowship will be busy with family, and some who are on their own will prefer not to come out, so at present this is just an exploratory enquiry to see what interest there might be. Please let Hilary know if you would be willing to help in any way - particularly if you or anyone you know might attend but also with food prep (might be done by people not attending).

Churchyard Jubilee Project

Members of PCC were due to meet at church to review the Jubilee Project plans this week, but this was foiled by bad weather! More information next time.

Potton View Care Home

Hilary has been asked to take communion to Potton View, the first occasion being this Wednesday morning. There are also plans for a Christmas service, and possibly a Christmas Party to include members of the Memory Lane group.

Quiz Night

A highly enjoyable and very well attended Quiz Night last Friday evening raised the sum of £393 for church funds. We are very grateful to Ian Parker for putting the quiz together and acting as Quizmaster on the night.

FAIRTRADE CHRISTMAS CARDS

Yes, it's that time again!

They are available now and can be purchased at church or from Valerie by arrangement.



THE GAMLINGAY
FOOD PROJECT

Gift Tree

We have a 'gift tree' at the Food Hub where we invite you to take a label & ask you to purchase a gift for that child/adult. Please return to the Food Hub (or I can collect), unwrapped so we can then deliver during the week before Christmas.



We are also collecting Christmas food and goodies to go into hampers. Items could include mince pies, sticky tape & wrapping paper, sauces, crisps & anything else you may spy during your shopping trip.



Thank you so much

Ros and all the team