

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



Weekly newsletter 25 November 2022



From Hilary...

This last Sunday we celebrated Christ the King on what used to be called Stir-up Sunday, the last of the church year. May we make a good pudding together! The Kingdom season came to an end, as did the church year. A new one begins this Sunday, the first of Advent, as our thoughts turn towards preparation to receive afresh the Saviour.

During this last week we have also said 'Goodbye' to Philip Gorton, commending him to God's love and care. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to that service, a true family send-off expressing the faith by which Philip lived. Our love and prayers remain with Lindy in her loss.

Advent Year A begins in the lectionary where we follow the Gospel of Matthew.

The Sunday service information will contain material to discuss in Advent groups. Anyone unable to attend the two opportunities on offer, or who prefers to think alone, is welcome to use the questions and reflections independently. My prayer is that we will all grow our faith into this new church year.

Advent Study groups will be following the four Sunday themes together, sharing thoughts on the questions in the Sunday material. If anyone wants to share thoughts by email with me, I will be pleased to hear from them.

We are once again planning for Advent windows around the village. This week, decorations on the theme of 'Hope and the Patriarchs' are invited.

This Week

Sunday 27th November Advent Sunday (Benefice services)

10am Benefice Eucharist at Gamlingay
2.30pm Dedication/Thanksgiving service at Gamlingay for Albert Edward Howes
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.

Next Week

Sunday 4th December, Advent 2

8am Eucharist at Hatley St George - please be in touch to ensure this service takes place
9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

The rest of December

Wednesday 7th December

9.30am Communion at Gamlingay

Saturday 10th December

Gamlingay Christmas Fair and prize draw – see further information below and attached poster.

Sunday 11th December Advent 3

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

Wednesday 14th December

9.30am Communion at Gamlingay

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
7pm Christmas Carol Service at Hatley St George

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

3.00pm Christingle and Pop-Up Nativity Service at Everton
4.00pm Nativity procession Gamlingay followed by.....
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 27th December Holy Innocents

9.30am Communion at Gamlingay TBC

Advance notice into January

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.

New Year Charity Concert

A professional concert in aid of Pancreatic Cancer Research has now been fixed for the afternoon of **Sunday 8th January at 3pm**. More details and tickets will be available in the next week or two.

Institution Service

Hilary is to be formally instituted as Rector of the Benefice parishes on **Sunday 15th January at 2.30pm in Gamlingay**. Although this is, in effect, confirmation of the status quo, it is an opportunity to reaffirm commitments together. All are most welcome to share in this service and refreshments afterwards. Full invitations will be going out in the New Year.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Everton PCC met on Monday and agreed a variety of actions, including the Pop-Up Nativity at 3pm. Children (and adults if they wish!) are invited to join the service dressed as their favourite nativity character, as Everton village remembers the coming of Christ, the light of the world.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Potton View Care Home

Four residents shared a home Communion last Wednesday, with a commitment to making this a monthly event.

The time and day of the planned Christmas service is not yet confirmed. Potton View's own Christmas Party takes place on Wednesday 21st at lunchtime.

Memory Lane

Once again I (ironically) forgot to give advanced notice, but the now regular group of people met and enjoyed fellowship, refreshments and the opportunity to take part in activities. This week some cards and gift-tags were made, and the indoor curling sets came out. These look like being a regular fixture as the game has proved very popular.

The Tuesday before Christmas we will enjoy singing carols with the Community Choir and sharing festive refreshments.



Food Help for Christmas

To those who haven't, and to those who already do give to the Food Project and can spare a little more, a special plea for financial help to provide Christmas parcels for those we support - the stores which have previously donated high value items are unable to help at the level they have in previous years. Please think if you can afford to help a family with a donation of £25, or whatever you can afford. Ros Hissett, Amanda Semerene, either of the churches or the Project directly at the Almshouse will be delighted to receive your gift.

Thank you for your generosity



It's almost time for the.....

CHRISTMAS FAIR!



Saturday 10th December, 12 noon – 5pm

**Stalls - Santa - Refreshments - Mulled Wine - Alice Lucas School of Dance
Gamlingay Community Choir - Grand Draw.**

Donations are requested as follows:

- Prizes for the Grand Draw including suitable items for a food hamper.
 - Bottles and filled jars for the Tombola,
 - Refreshments (see Valerie).

There is a small admission charge of £1.00 for adults, children free.

NB : If anyone can help with setting up on Friday, 9th December from 2pm, that would be great!

Hope to see you all there!

Easyfundraising Update

Great news, we've just been paid £31.56 by #easyfundraising! Thank you to everyone who has helped make a BIG difference and please keep raising donations for us with all your Christmas shopping. If you're not supporting us yet, it's a free and easy way to help during these difficult times. Plus, for a limited time, once you've raised your first £10, Easyfundraising will double it!

Visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/gsmv/payments/6cd195/?utm_campaign=qp-nov-22&utm_source=email

Alec Hissett

Church opening times:

Everton church open Friday – Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am-4pm.

Hatley church can be opened on request.

Gamlingay church open daily 10am – 4pm.

A reminder that if you are temporarily or permanently unable to attend church services and would like to receive communion in your own home, please let us know.

For Gamlingay and Hatley contact Hilary or Valerie.

For Everton contact Hilary.

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

This Newsletter is circulated by email each week to all on the Church Electoral Roll plus anyone else who gives their email details and requests it. It contains any news we have been given to share in our villages (Everton, Gamlingay and the Hatleys) plus news of what's going on in all three churches in the two parishes of the Benefice. Gamlingay with the Hatleys is one parish while Everton and Tetworth is the second linked parish in the current Benefice - both looked after by one parish priest.

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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Valerie Miller , Pastoral	vjm55@btinternet.com	650779
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