

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



Weekly newsletter 10 February 2023



From Hilary...

Hilary and Norman have been away this week, so this is mostly material prepared beforehand. Hilary is expecting to be back for Sunday services.

Theft from Gamlingay

Those who were in church at Gamlingay this last Sunday will have heard the notice given out about 'an incident' which the police are dealing with, and which occurred at the church during the previous week. At the time, the advice given by the police was not to give out more details and to discourage further enquiry. We have still not officially been told anything else. However, the police themselves have put out an information update saying that this was a theft of silver from the safe, which had been left open with the keys left in. We are working with our insurance people who are being very helpful but the items themselves are, of course, irreplaceable and we are devastated at their loss. No cash was taken so we are fairly sure this was a specialist theft, and the thief was lucky in finding access easy (there has apparently also been a theft from Potton church where things were locked away). The PCC will be fully involved in all further developments but please don't pester them, talk to Hilary if you need to know more. If you saw anyone going in or out of Gamlingay Church on Wednesday of last week, please contact Hilary or the police on 101. We have a crime and incident number to use for reporting anything which might be helpful.

Tuesday Lunches

There was no fortnightly Tuesday lunch this week as these have been slow getting underway and Hilary was not here to contribute to this. A huge thank you to Stephen and Jane O for their help previously and (hopefully!) into the future. The Tuesday lunches at Everton are now well established, and Hilary will be making soup for the one next week **at Everton (14th Feb - Valentine's Day!)**.

There will be a Tuesday lunch on February 21st in Gamlingay - that is Shrove Tuesday, so we'll see if we can provide some pancakes.

Lent Study

Arrangements for Lent courses will be confirmed next week but look likely, from current feedback, to run on Monday afternoons (a defined hour from 2pm) and also on Thursday evenings. The Thursday evening one will be looking at what we do in church and in our religious practice and will act as both a refresher/place to ask questions that were never answered before about being a Christian for those who are already 'on the way' and a preparation for Confirmation for anyone interested. The Thursday sessions may well have direct input to Sunday mornings in churches during Lent. For both sessions there will be material available via this publication for those not attending but still interested. It is intended that both Monday and Thursday sessions will be available on Zoom if required.

Lent Charity Collection

We have not donated to Niassa through the MANNA project this last year, so I am proposing that our Lent collection be sent to them. If we do 'Grace Jars' for a Lent collection, maybe some people would like to donate theirs to that cause? There will be a simple lunch at the Vicarage on Mondays during Lent in aid of Niassa. Although it isn't part of the Lent course those who attend the course are welcome to come and eat beforehand and start the conversation.

NB : See, also, the article written by Dawn Martin further on in this newsletter.

Tabletop Sale - Help wanted.

Hilary has booked and paid for a table(s) at this event at the Ecohub on 19th February. This is despite the fact that the event is on a Sunday, so she can't be there for all (much) of the time. This will be in aid of the Church and a mental health charity or Niassa - decision yet to be made. There is a quantity of clothing and other items for this sale that Hilary has and will be setting up on the day before, but help is much needed to staff the stall on the Sunday, 10am - 2pm. Please do get in touch if you can help.

Everton APCM

Please note this will now take place in the Village Hall on Sunday 12th March following the 11.15am service in church NOT on 26th February as listed last week.

Services for the rest of February

Sunday 12th February - 2 Before Lent (Sexagesima)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 15th February

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 19th February - Next before Lent (Quinquagesima)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Ash Wednesday 22nd February

9.30am Midweek Eucharist for Ash Wednesday, Gamlingay

7.30pm Music for Ash Wednesday with Eucharist, Everton.

Sunday 26th February - First Sunday of Lent

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 1st March - St David's Day

9.30am Midweek Communion, Gamlingay

Advanced notice for Services in March

Sunday 5th March - Lent 2

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 8th March

9.30am Midweek Communion, Gamlingay

Sunday 12th March - Lent 3

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton followed by APCM in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 15th March

9.30am Midweek Communion, Gamlingay

Sunday 19th March - Lent 4/ Mothering Sunday - posies distributed from the churches.

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 22nd March

9.30am Midweek Communion, Gamlingay

Sunday 26th March - Lent 5 (Passiontide begins)

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Heads up for Easter

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 2nd when there will be something for Palm processions at all our churches, with Liturgy of the Passion at Gamlingay.



Monday - Wednesday there will be Taizé-style evening services in each of the three churches.

Maundy Thursday -there will be a seasonal meal at the Church Hall in Gamlingay followed by a Benefice Maundy Thursday service after which the altars will be stripped at all three churches, and a vigil available until midnight.



Good Friday - all three churches will be open for quiet reflection - guided reflection from 12-2pm at Gamlingay with communion for reserve sacrament from 2-3pm. Possible evening service TBC.

Holy Saturday - churches will be decorated for Easter during the day. There will be an evening service with elements of the Easter vigil, renewal of Baptism vows and Service of Light.

Easter Sunday - Communion services at all three churches - possibly with Easter egg hunts



MANNA/Niassa

As many of you will probably know, St Mary's has been supporting our brothers and sisters in Niassa, Mozambique for many years both financially and in our prayers. The Amy Lothian School, built several years ago with donations from St Mary's and the wonderful community in Gamlingay, continues to thrive. MANNA is an Anglican charity that supports the people of Mozambique and makes the most wonderful difference to many people's lives. These communities all face problems with lack of access to clean water, good sanitation, education and clinics and it is often the people of the church who are working hard on the ground to fight these injustices.

The Anglican church in Mozambique is growing fast and this year the number of Dioceses has multiplied from 4 to 12 offering more support to displaced victims of the violence in northern Mozambique by supporting health & education projects and community projects. There are, as always, widespread food shortages due to drought, then flooding, as Mozambique is very vulnerable to extreme weather conditions. Fresh drinking water (something we all take for granted) is always a serious problem causing many deaths each year due to cholera, dysentery & gastro enteritis (among others) particularly in children. As we approach Lent and consider what we may give up, please remember the people of Mozambique who face a daily struggle to stay alive. My husband and a friend from St Mary's have had the privilege of spending time with MANNA in Mozambique so had the opportunity of seeing the wonderful work they are doing and making a huge difference to many people's lives

If you would like any more information on the wonderful work MANNA does please look on their website www.manna-anglican.org

Dawn Martin

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.

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.

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

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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
Richard Astell , Everton Treasurer	richard@astell.co.uk	
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
Jane Butcher , Everton contact	Janebutcher59@googlemail.com	