

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



## Weekly newsletter 4 February 2022



*From Hilary...*

### Services in February

As we count down to Lent over the next few weeks, I have set a service pattern for February that I hope enables most people to worship, at least some of the time, in a way that is most comfortable for them. It does mean all of us will be outside our comfort zone at some stage if we stay together and I pray that we may be generous and visible people of Jesus Christ in this. On the last Sunday in February worship in each parish is arranged to precede the APCMs (assuming these can take place as agreed) and both are planned to include some hospitality.

**Everton APCM** will follow coffee at the Parish Hall after a 10am service.

**Gamlingay/Hatleys APCM** will follow a service of Evening Prayer (service of the Word) at Gamlingay Church Hall, with refreshments afterwards - exactly what form that will take is to be confirmed.

Depending on how February goes, Lent services in March could follow a similar pattern. As expected, there is a great range of preferences indicated by the 20 survey responses, some limited to one place at one time, others very flexible. There are several cases of opposite first preferences, (e.g. : EcoHub as the first choice for some but not at all for others; likewise some can and will travel, others can't or won't)

### Advance Notice - Evensong at Clare College Chapel

On the first Sunday in Lent the Revd. Mark Smith, Dean of Clare College (Clare College is a Patron at Everton) has extended an invitation to attend Evensong at the college. I will be preaching as guest at this service, which will be at 6pm.

Mark writes....

*"It would be lovely to welcome members of your congregation to join us for the service. They're very welcome to stay for supper too - I think the cost for that will be about £5 per person, which is just paid by contactless card at the Buttery till when they get their food."*

I understand that supper is a cooked meal including a roast and veg with vegetarian options - detailed menu nearer the time. Numbers will be needed around a week beforehand and are capped at about 30.

Clare College is undergoing extensive repair work, including to their hall, so the meal arrangements will be less formal than usual. Please let me know if you might be interested. If this offer were to be over-subscribed it would be a case of 'first come first served' – obviously there is no obligation to include the meal if people wish to attend the service only.



## Electoral Roll

As the regulations require, notice has been given in each parish of the required Electoral Roll revision. As this is not a year for full revision (when everyone comes off and has to be actively added on) no action is required by existing members, apart from checking the published roll for their details.



Additions and subtractions can take place over the next two weeks - subtractions by request or though death, additions by application. The rolls will then be published and will thereafter be closed, apart from factual corrections, until after the APCMs. Church representation rules allow anyone who is baptised, a member of the CofE and who lives in the parish and fills in an application, to be on the roll of that parish. In addition, those who worship in another parish other than where they live are also entitled, if they meet the other criteria, to be on that parish's roll. It is therefore possible for people in either of our Benefice parishes to be on both Electoral Rolls if they so wish, provided they do actually worship in both churches.

**This Sunday**, the first of Ordinary Time this year, can be marked as the anniversary of the accession to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II. As this is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year (we shall be celebrating that fully at Pentecost weekend in June along with the rest of the country) we shall be using readings and prayers marking Sunday's date at Everton's shared service. The earlier morning service at Hatley will use readings as suits the congregation attending - the Prayer Book lectionary for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany is available as well as the readings we shall use later..

## Follow-Up to Zoom Apology

Apparently the Zoom was much better this week as we closed Epiphany season with a Candlemas celebration on Sunday. We did nothing different technically, so it seems to be just 'luck of the draw' - bless you those who keep persevering!

## RIP

Patrick Lindford's remains were interred on Monday at Everton, following a service at Biggleswade where the RC Father presided.

We were all sad to learn of Pam Barnett's death last week. Her funeral has been arranged for 12.30 on Thursday 17th February at Everton, followed by burial in the churchyard with her John. The Everton Church family and wider community will miss Pam greatly.

## Diocesan Announcement

The Venerable Hugh Kyle McCurdy, currently Archdeacon of Huntingdon and Wisbech, is stepping down on 18th April 2022 after 17 years in the role. He will continue to support the Diocese and the Bishops in leading the implementation of Living Ely 2025 and assisting the Market Towns Project (part of the CofE Strategic Development Funding) to flourish. Hugh, will among other things, become Chair of Strategic Implementation Group and be responsible for overseeing the integration of the Buildings Oversight Board and the Market Towns Board into the new Group.

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*Bishop Stephen writes: Hugh is an accomplished and dedicated servant of the gospel as archdeacon. I value our professional relationship and our personal friendship. I know that in this way I am in a large company. It is because of this that I am delighted that as one blessed time of ministry for Hugh comes to an end, more blessing is on the way as he moves to a new half time role among us for at least two years, keeping us to the implementation of our diocesan strategy. He will also have more time to pursue his own interests.*

*Hugh will change roles on Easter Monday, 18th April. Bishop Dagmar is already working with others to draw up the role description for Hugh's successor, so that the advert can be placed promptly, and the search begin. I invite your prayers both for Hugh and Ruth and for those who will consider applying to be the next Archdeacon of Huntingdon and Wisbech*

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## Lent 2022 and Living Ely 2025

Our shared PCC meeting last Monday indicated an interest in following a Lent Course related to a film. In view of this, we will be using a course written by Rachel Mann a few years ago (published 2018) exploring themes of Faith, Hope and Redemption using the film 'The Greatest Showman'. If you would like to follow this, contact Hilary or Chris for details of the book which will be useful to have.

We shall also, separately and not just for Lent, be looking at a course written for the Diocese and adapted for a Lent course from pre-existing material. It fits well with the planning process for Living Ely 2025, thinking about what our churches are called to be, now and into the future. That course, entitled 'Baggage and Treasures' helps us to think about what we need to take with us, and what we need to leave behind, as we journey into the future.

A reminder that a group in the Deanery will be meeting to allocate tasks of consultation and information-gathering, and to ask again that you join me in thinking and praying about how we might each engage with this. There is a small, folded card for each church member and lots more information, with more to come, on the Diocesan website <https://www.elydiocese.org/about/strategy/living-ely2025/>

### This Week

**Sunday 6th February** 4th Sunday before Lent, Queen's Accession 1952

**8.30am** BCP communion at Hatley St George (NB later than advertised last week)

**10.30am** Shared Communion at Everton

### The rest of February

**Sunday 13th February** 3rd Sunday before Lent

**10.00am** CW Eucharist at Hatley St George

**4.00pm** BCP Evensong at Everton (communion to follow for those who wish)

**Sunday 20th February** 2nd Sunday before Lent

**10.00am** CW Shared Benefice service at Everton

**Sunday 27th February** Sunday next before Lent

**10.00am** CW Communion at Everton St Mary followed by .....

APCM for Everton Cum Tetworth at the Parish Hall

**6.00pm** Service of the Word at Gamlingay Church Hall followed by....

APCM for Gamlingay and the Hatleys also at the Church Hall

**Sunday 6th March**, first Sunday in Lent

**8.30am** BCP communion at Hatley St George

**10.30am** Benefice Communion at Everton

**6.00pm** Evensong at Clare College Chapel (booking required)

## 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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Please let Brenda have any articles or pictures for the newsletter  
by Tuesday evening each week to [Brenda.elcome@ymail.com](mailto:Brenda.elcome@ymail.com)