

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



## Weekly newsletter 1 April 2022



### *From Hilary...*

Thank you for prayers for Norman as he recovers from his second knee replacement operation which went ahead last Saturday. At the time of writing the operation itself has gone well, though with more pain than last time and his return home is delayed.



**Mothering Sunday** posies were distributed at both services and delivered to several recipients who could not attend and have since expressed their thanks. Our gratitude to Lindy for generous donations from her garden for Gamlingay, to Eileen, Anne and Sandra for working with Lindy to make up Gamlingay posies and to Jane and Sue for making up the Everton ones. The Gamlingay Hub service enabled us to welcome several worshippers who had not been able to join in person for some time, which was a great joy.



### Leading our Churches

Gamlingay PCC met to plan ahead for Gamlingay Parish last week and Everton met this week. Both parishes have identified ways to share responsibility for work among PCC members, especially when there are no Church Wardens. Conscious decisions have been made by both PCCs to share planning and decisions beyond the immediate membership. PCC members have taken lead responsibility for ensuring that decisions which have to be made by the PCC are negotiated in as timely and permission-giving a manner as possible. More on this to follow - the areas identified for work are:

- Worship, pastoral and teaching
- Communications and events
- Fabric of churches, churchyards and any other associated buildings.

Where Church Wardens would have been contacted in the past, Hilary and PCC secretaries are the links who will distribute as necessary.

**This week Passiontide begins** - liturgical colour goes from purple to red, as Lent focus turns towards Holy Week that begins the Sunday after this.

### Lent 2022

The study based on The Greatest Showman draws to a close this coming week (5) with the last group meetings on Thursday 2.30pm at Chris and Valerie's house (zoom on request), and (on the zoom link only) on Thursday evening. This week we will have looked at 'Never enough' - betrayal.

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

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

Do be in touch if you would like copy of the résumé of each session.

## Living Ely 2025

Bishop Stephen is visiting this Saturday at Little Paxton - April 2nd, 10-12 noon - and will be listening to where we have got to and speaking more about the process. Anyone is welcome to this meeting. Hilary and Sandra, as the Benefice links, will be going with Gerry Brunt who has also expressed interest. Let Hilary know if you can go and would like a lift.

There is a simple soup lunch available afterwards, rough numbers would be helpful.

The resulting Deanery report will be published when available. We have been assured that there is no plan to cut posts in our Deanery - we have 5 full time equivalents (two posts are half time). The planning is all about using existing resources well.

There has been a resounding silence from the church communities, in response to the areas of enquiry circulated a couple of weeks ago (with one notable exception in criticism of the whole process and much else in the local and wider CofE). All contributions will be acknowledged and taken into account. It would be nice to have some positive input as well, for there is much that is good. Suggestions for what could be improved, together with how that can be achieved with present or possible future resources, would be particularly welcome as we seek to discern God's provision in challenging times.



### Services for April

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Fifth of Lent, Passiontide begins**

8.30am BCP Communion at Hatley St George  
10.30am Benefice All Age Communion at Everton Church

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday - Holy Week Begins**

10am Liturgy of the Palms and procession (possibly with a real donkey!) Gamlingay  
11.15am Liturgy of the Passion with Holy Communion Everton Church

#### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Taize-style reflections**

7pm St Mary's Church Hall on Monday  
Hatley St George Church on Tuesday  
Everton Church on Wednesday

#### **Maundy Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm Maundy Thursday liturgy with washing of feet, communion and stripping of altars  
Vigil/Watches TBC

#### **Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Hatley St George and Everton churches open with worship material available  
12noon - 2pm 2 hours reflection with the option to 'come and go' leading into.....  
2pm Communion from reserved Sacrament at Everton Church

#### **Holy Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Churches decorated for Easter during the day  
7.30pm Service of Light, renewal of Baptismal Vows, new Easter candles - Everton

#### **Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> Easter Day**

8.am BCP Communion for Easter at Hatley St George  
9.30am Family Easter service at Gamlingay Eco-hub with baptism of Esme Dickerson  
11.15 am Benefice Easter Communion at Everton Church

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

##### **First after (Second of) Easter - change of previous published service**

10.30am Benefice Communion **at Everton Church**  
6pm Deanery service of Evensong and Farewell to Venerable Hugh McCurdy, retiring Archdeacon of Huntingdon at Little Paxton Deanery 'mother church'.



## *Easter Flowers*

Our main Benefice church-based service on Easter Day will be at Everton, as Gamlingay Church will not be open in time for Easter. There is an open invitation to anyone who would like to decorate church to join in with either Hatley or Everton arrangers - in Hatley please contact Penny Hewlett directly or via Hilary; in Everton please contact Jane Butcher. There will be Easter gardens at all three churches - Gamlingay's will be outside - contact Hilary or Sandra to be involved there or people as above for the other two churches.

In Gamlingay the Hub is our base for a family-based celebration including baptism of Esme Dickerson. We shall be decorating for Easter there too, but it will obviously all have to be moved afterwards. Gamlingay's Easter candle will be based there for the morning.

### **Provisional plans for May....**

#### **Sunday 1st May, 3rd Sunday of Easter** (First Sunday of the month)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Hatley St George (or Gamlingay church)  
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

#### **Sunday 8th May, 4th Sunday of Easter** (Second Sunday of the month)

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay Church (possibly first back in church)  
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

**Monday 9th May** - New PCC meetings.

#### **Sunday 15th May, 5th Sunday of Easter** (third Sunday of the month)

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay church  
11.15am Eucharist at Everton  
2.30 pm Possible Baptism at Gamlingay TBC

#### **Saturday 21st May**

**Celebration of Completion of the work on Gamlingay Church -  
Refreshments, prayers and displays with opportunity to meet and thank one another.  
12 noon onwards**

#### **22nd May, 6th Sunday of Easter** (fourth Sunday of the month)

10.00am Benefice Communion service at Gamlingay  
2.30pm Possible Baptism at Gamlingay TBC  
4pm Evensong at Everton

## 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 April.

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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)

