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



Weekly newsletter 18 August 2023







From Hilary:

Thank you to those who have helped during my, and then Norman's, bout of Covid. Norman was in hospital with the infection but not because of it (adjustment to heart medications was needed) and is now home after quite a performance with the discharge process due to shortage of doctors.

Covid remains a nasty virus for many, rather like 'flu it is hugely variable. In my case I've felt worse this time than last. I am certainly not feeling fully well over a week after starting with symptoms, although now not testing positive for the infection. This is the first time Norman has had it at all. It has made a frustrating hole in plans, for churchyard work particularly, but as ever we do what we can and are not stopped from that by what we can't do.

I expect to be in church on Sunday this week, with grateful thanks to Lucy for last week's service. Lucy will be taking a morning service each month in both churches; it was fortuitous that this month's plan coincided with my being unwell.

Wholeness and Healing

There is a great deal of need for healing among us - thanks be to God we are built to heal, if not to remain young forever. It is not easy to accept. Much love to people in both parishes who continue to live with on-going health issues, their own or those of someone with whom they are connected.

Just to clarify, in response to a comment on the call for people to help with healing ministry in church: to pray with those who wish during special healing services is not about 'having a gift of healing'. The calling is to pray for, and with, others. It doesn't require special holiness or super-gifting, but rather a willingness to be a channel of God's healing love for those who seek it. We do not have to know what is happening in order to pray for and with someone - all we have to do is to ask God and then get out of the way while God deals with people as they need and will allow.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

The Everton Community Group coffee morning on the first Saturday in August was a good event, although rain and holidays meant a lower turnout of 'customers' than usual - at one point there were more helpers than consumers! However, things picked up and a good time was had by all.

Almost everyone in the church congregation has health issues for themselves, their loved ones or both. Prayers will continue for all for wholeness of body mind and spirit.

I got myself into trouble by asking for help to rake the grass that's been cut in Everton churchyard, but please do get in touch if you are able to help with this essential work needed to preserve the quality of the wildflower areas. Hilary.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

The Climate Action Group to which Hilary belongs met last Wednesday on Zoom - Hilary was therefore able to attend, if not on top form. There are plans for linking up the mowing activities across the community next year. Also, a 'heads up' for 15th October when there will be a 'Sustainable Food Festival' at the Baptist Church.

Memory Lane group meets on Tuesday 22nd August, 2-4pm at the EcoHub Kingspan room (at the back) with a talk and demonstrations of bygone artefacts.

The following week on Tuesday (29th) a Memory Lane Simple Lunch is planned, location TBC but possibly the Church Hall - though see below.

A big Thank You to Julie and her colleagues at Volac for the generous donation for improvements to the Church Hall decor - watch out for invitations to join a working party to put the money to the use for which it was given.

Churchyards Work will be taking place this week and next mowing the churchyards and also in preparation for the visit of the inspectors to see if we have reached the Bronze level for wildlife conservation.

Service information and dates

August Services

Sunday 20th August, Trinity 11

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Sunday 27th August, Trinity 12

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

September Services (as far as is planned at this time and submitted to the Gazette)

At this time, it is not possible to say what services will take place in Hatley, but it is hoped at least one during September.

Sunday 3rd September, Trinity 13

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Sunday 10th September, Trinity 14

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

Sunday 17th September, Trinity 15

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay

4.00pm. Evensong at Everton

Sunday 24th September, Trinity 16

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton

The Guild of St. Mary

The next Guild meeting is Monday 21st August, 7:30pm in the Church Hall. We are welcoming Rebecca Neal who is the Communities and Education Officer for the Wildlife Trust for this area. She will give us a presentation on the Wildlife Trust - what it does, why it is important alongside information on our local reserves.

This is an open meeting for all - visitors welcome. Usual charges apply - £3 per member, £5 per visitor which includes tea, coffee, biscuits and a raffle ticket.



Don't forget we are still collecting for the shoe box appeal. If you need more information, please contact Eileen.

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

Hilary Young, Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Lucy McKeown, Retired Assistant Priest	lucy@mckeown.garden	304487
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
Ann Davis, Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	anngamlingay@aol.com	
Alec Hissett	alechissett@hotmail.com	650052
Jane Butcher, Everton contact	Janebutcher59@googlemail.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.

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

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.