

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



## Weekly newsletter 24 November 2023



### *From Hilary:*

Those who have died in this last year and before were remembered in services this last Sunday. The very few who were able to attend the extra service in Gamlingay appreciated this reflective time and remembered many on behalf of others as well as themselves.

This Sunday is the last before Advent, celebrating Christ the King. Our prayers and best wishes are with Lucy for recovery as back pain is preventing her from conducting the services as planned.

**Advent** begins next week. With it being so short, and there being so much illness among 'regulars,' we are not running a series of house meetings as in previous years. However, please let Hilary know if you want to be part of some study together as a single gathering at the Rectory - two possible groups, daytime and evening during Advent would be possible, probably in the second week of Advent.

The Real Advent Calendar has some daily material for younger ones, and the Jesse Tree sequence of readings will be available for all ages. There are still some **Real Advent Calendars** available, and they will be in church this Sunday.

### **Christmas Day Lunch**

Discussions are underway for a repeat of the lunch provided on Christmas Day at the Ecohub by members of the churches in Gamlingay - some lessons have been learned after the lovely first 'go' last year. Please let Hilary know if you can help in any way, and/or would like to attend. Last year we took lunches out to housebound people, please let us know if this might be helpful. There will be more details on what's on offer and what's needed in the way of help after next week.

## ***NEWS FROM EVERTON***

The **Church Christmas Coffee Morning** is next **Saturday 2nd December**. Do come along and enjoy what's on offer - stalls, refreshments and social time.

This week there is a **Soup Lunch** organised by Everton community volunteers - **Tuesday 12 noon to 2.00 pm.**

The next one (December 12th) is a 'special for Christmas' and needs to be booked.

# NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

**Simple Lunch** this last week was appreciated by ten of us. The next one is **5th December** and will be the last before Christmas, so a bit more than simple food is planned. Do come along if you are available - there's no charge as such but donations are welcome for the work of St Mary's church. It would be helpful to let Hilary or Jane O know if you are hoping to attend.

There won't be a Simple Lunch in the first week of January (2nd) but all being well there will be one on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Memory Lane this week, 28th November** is a Christmas-themed Tea Dance, welcoming back our friends who facilitated the last one.

**December 19th** is the last one of 2023 with carols and other Christmas-themed activities.

## Light Switch-On

This is being organised for next Saturday December 2nd in Gamlingay. This is a village event, do come along and start the season with carols, treats and the Christmas lights switch-on.



## Gamlingay CHRISTMAS EVENTS



### GRAND DRAW

Tickets are being delivered to every household in the village. They will also be on sale at the Christmas Fair, when the draw will take place at the end of the event.

### CHRISTMAS FAIR *(See attached poster attached)*

Saturday, 9th December 12 noon to 5pm with dancing from Miss Alice's School of Dance at 3pm and Gamlingay Community Choir at 4pm. Various stalls, crafts and the usual refreshments including mulled wine and hot soup at lunch time. Santa will be visiting too!

Any group, who would like to advertise with a decorated Christmas tree, would be very welcome to display them at this event.

### **YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY REQUESTED!**

- *Volunteers to man stalls on the day.*
- *Able-bodied folk to help ferry equipment between the hall and the church on the Friday afternoon and/or the Saturday morning and especially clearing up at 5pm.*
- *Donations of bottles and filled jars for the Tombola. (To Ros and Alec please)*
- *Suitable items to pack into the food hamper (2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the raffle)*
- *Bric-a-Brac items (either leave in the porch at 61 Fairfield or bring to church on a Sunday)*
- *Cakes for the refreshments – please let Brenda or Valerie know if you are able to provide.*

For further information or to volunteer, please email [stmarysxmas@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysxmas@outlook.com).

### Recent Quiz Night

Many thanks to Ian Parker for his brilliant performance as Quiz Master. If you want to see more of Ian, try the Gamlingay Players pantomime, "Red Riding Hood" – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> December at the Eco-Hub.

A total of £370.00 was raised for church funds. Many thanks to all who came to this fun evening!

## **THE ENSEMBLE OF FRIENDS – CHRISTMAS CONCERT** (*see poster attached*)

**Directed by Dr Douglas Coombes, MBE**

Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm. Tickets £10 a head, accompanied children under 16 free, available from church or The Hub or by emailing [stmarysxmas@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysxmas@outlook.com).

Refreshments available.

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## **Service information and dates**

### **NOVEMBER SERVICES**

#### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November, Christ the King (last before Advent)**

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist Everton

#### **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

### **DECEMBER SERVICES AND EVENTS**

#### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

10am – 12 noon Everton Church Coffee Morning

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, Advent 1**

9.30am All Age Parish Eucharist, Gamlingay

11.15am Everton Parish Eucharist

4.00pm Advent Carol Service at Gamlingay

#### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

#### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

12 – 5pm Gamlingay Church Christmas Fair

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, Advent 2**

9.30am Gamlingay Parish Eucharist

11.15am Everton Parish Eucharist

3pm Ensemble of Friends Concert of Christmas Music, Gamlingay church.

#### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December, Advent 3**

9.30am Gamlingay Benefice Eucharist

4pm Everton Carol Service

6pm Gamlingay Carol Service

#### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

7.30pm Hatley Carol Service

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Advent December, Advent 4/Christmas Eve**

9.30am Gamlingay service for Advent 4 - Eucharist and Nativity

3pm Everton Christingle service (NB correction to Gazette)

4.30pm Gamlingay Christingle preceded by Walking Nativity

11.30pm First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass) - Gamlingay

#### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day**

9.30am Gamlingay Family-Friendly Eucharist

10am Everton carols and readings

11.30am Hatley St. George nativity or other family-friendly service TBC

#### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December**

?9.30am Midweek Eucharist TBC

#### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December (New Year's Eve)**

10am Benefice Service at Gamlingay

## *Maddie Marsh*

There is to be a Remembrance Service for Maddie Marsh held at St Mary's Church, Aspenden at 11am on Wednesday December 6th.

Louisa Marsh would like to know how many would like to be there for catering purposes.

Either let me (rstarksfield@compuserve.com) know or contact Louisa direct on [loumarsh@me.com](mailto:loumarsh@me.com)  
*Roderick Starksfield*

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:

<b>Hilary Young</b> , Parish Priest	<a href="mailto:hilaryafyoung@gmail.com">hilaryafyoung@gmail.com</a>	650587
<b>Lucy McKeown</b> , Retired Assistant Priest	<a href="mailto:lucy@mckeown.garden">lucy@mckeown.garden</a>	304487
<b>Chris Miller</b> , LLM/Reader	<a href="mailto:cfm55@btinternet.com">cfm55@btinternet.com</a>	650779
<b>Nick Ingles</b> , Gamlingay/Hatley Treasurer	<a href="mailto:nickingles@me.com">nickingles@me.com</a>	07868 144830
<b>Richard Astell</b> , Everton Treasurer	<a href="mailto:richard@astell.co.uk">richard@astell.co.uk</a>	
<b>Valerie Miller</b> , Pastoral	<a href="mailto:vjm55@btinternet.com">vjm55@btinternet.com</a>	650779
<b>Sandra Macrow</b> , LLM Children and Families' minister	<a href="mailto:sandramacrow@btinternet.com">sandramacrow@btinternet.com</a>	07958 710703
<b>Ann Davis</b> , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	<a href="mailto:anngamlingay@aol.com">anngamlingay@aol.com</a>	
<b>Alec Hissett</b>	<a href="mailto:alechissett@hotmail.com">alechissett@hotmail.com</a>	650052
<b>Jane Butcher</b> , Everton contact	<a href="mailto:Janebutcher59@googlemail.com">Janebutcher59@googlemail.com</a>	

*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 Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Tuesday evening to  
[Brenda.elcome@ymail.com](mailto:Brenda.elcome@ymail.com)