

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



Weekly newsletter 29 March 2024



From Hilary:

Holy Week culminates in the great celebration of Easter that is central to our faith.

Special thanks to the musicians who contributed to the Taizé services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

I have been asked why there was no meal before the Maundy Thursday service this year - the answer is simply one of capacity - if there is capacity and interest we hope to resume next year.

There is no Easter without Good Friday, and our response to all the emotion of Holy Week must surely be one of wondering thankfulness. We may not be able to understand fully why and how, but the fact of death and resurrection is cause for joy and celebration indeed. But we can only do this most fully and really if we open ourselves to the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us towards understanding, in ways that are not dependent on (but also not contrary to) our intellect - great or small as that may be. Fortunately, we do not need to understand something in order to enjoy its benefits. Being clever is not required to 'get' Jesus, but neither is cleverness an automatic barrier. It is just that the true wisdom that knows and responds to God's love is different stuff from that capacity to learn and remember which is part of who we are as humans, and what we are called to live out to the best in the here and now, although that is not what ultimately matters in eternity. The wisdom of God brings joy, gladness and healing out of, and despite of, sorrow and pain, and that is the great gift we welcome this Easter and always.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed Alleluia!



Wishing all our readers a blessed and joyous Easter season.

(The picture is of wild species daffodils introduced to the spring flower area of Gamlingay churchyard).

NEWS FROM EVERTON

In preparation for the **APCM** for 2024 which takes place on 14th April following the morning service (note correction of date first published) the Electoral Roll closes after this Sunday. Here is a reminder that there will be a finger buffet lunch after the meeting on the 14th. Election papers will be available in church.

Community Volunteers' Soup and Social takes place this Easter week at Everton Village Hall, on Tuesday. **Another big THANK YOU** to the volunteers who have donated £30 towards Easter eggs for an Easter Egg hunt after church on Easter Day.

School and families - Everton Heath Primary School was inspected by Ofsted last week - it will be a while before the report is out. We wish all well during this Easter break as the report is awaited. There will be news next week about the Easter competitions Hilary has been asked to judge on Thursday. Hopefully some of the children will be able to help out with Easter gardens at church and join in with the egg hunt after the service.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

The Quiz Night last Friday was a great event, both socially and financially. A huge special 'THANK YOU' to Ian for his expert Quiz Master skills, and to everyone who worked hard supporting Jane in the organisation and presentation of the event.

Simple Lunch: There is no Simple Lunch this Tuesday, but Hilary will be contributing and present at Everton and can offer a lift if any Gamlingay resident would like to attend..

Memory Lane this last Tuesday welcomed Alan back after many weeks' absence, together with two new people as well as Derek who continues to be welcome following the loss of Bridget. The next one is on April 23rd.

Churchyard: The new cutting regime is being discussed with the Parish Council and their contractor this week. Volunteers have begun work on managing the paths and boundaries and ragwort has been removed from the meadow areas in preparation for hay making in the Summer.

May Weddings: We begin this Sunday to read Banns for two church weddings this year in the village and pray for the couples: Tom and Lily-Rose from Sandy and Maggie and Ollie now from London. Maggie and Lily Rose both have family connections in the village.

Fundraising News

Last Friday's very successful Quiz Night raised £592.00 for Church Funds. Many thanks to our brilliant Quiz Master – Ian Parker.

Our next event is the Coffee Morning with stalls on Saturday, 27th April, 10.30am to 12.30pm. Do put it in your diaries and come along to help us to make this an equally successful occasion.

SERVICE INFORMATION

Services for the rest of March

Good Friday 29th March

9.30am Good Friday reflections available in all three churches.
10am-12noon Good Friday Easter Gardens prepared in churches (to be decorated on Saturday)
12-2pm Good Friday Watch service at Everton followed by....
2pm Eucharist from reserve Sacrament at Everton.

Holy Saturday

11am Ashes interment at Everton
Churches decorated for Easter.
7.30pm Vigil Service and Service of Light at Gamlingay, with renewal of baptism vows and baptism of Willow Treverton-Black



Sunday 31st March: Easter Day

8am Easter Communion at Hatley St George
9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay, followed by Easter Egg Hunt.
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton, followed by Easter Egg Hunt.
11.30am Non-Eucharistic Easter service at Hatley St George TBC

Services for April

Sunday 7th April Easter 2 (First Sunday after Easter)

9.30am All Age Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 14th April: Easter 3 (Second Sunday after Easter)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton followed by APCM and lunch.

Sunday 21st April: Easter 4 (Third Sunday after Easter)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing
4pm Evensong at Everton

Sunday 28th April: Easter 5 (Fourth Sunday after Easter)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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

For fun and reflection – An Easter picture to print and colour in.....



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.