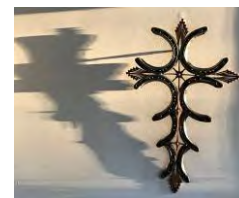


# ST MARY'S GAMLINGAY, HATLEY ST GEORGE & ST MARY'S EVERTON



## Weekly newsletter 13 September 2024



### **From Hilary**

Thank you to Revd. Rachel Blanchflower for Sunday's service, and to Brenda for late working to fit this in with material already provided, after Norman and I got back from Margate. Next week any contributions need to be in by Tuesday morning. (*See separate note below*)

The **Ride and Stride** events for Bedfordshire take place this coming weekend. Colouring sheets are being put on display in Gamlingay church this Friday and all three churches will be open for visitors on Saturday.

### **Harvest - Heads Up**

More details next time, but all our churches are facing financial challenges more than ever this year. In past years our wider communities and church families have responded generously to requests for help and we have made ends meet - JUST. This year, even if we spend our very small reserves, we shall be frighteningly near to the bone, so support is needed even more than ever.

Both parishes have had to suspend or reduce Share payments to remain solvent, so the back end of the year will be very important in deciding whether we end the year breaking even or falling short. With that in mind I am launching again the 'Harvest of Talents', offering the opportunity to do something extra that you know will make some money. If you need up to £10 to make your funding project work I (Hilary) have funds set aside to invest in the church family's efforts, just let me know.

### **Christmas heads up**

Even further ahead, and with other things in between, it may be helpful to let people know now that a new churches collaboration for Carol Services is planned this year. More details with times will be available in due course, but..... The traditional Lessons and Carols service for Gamlingay will be at St Mary's on Sunday 15th December, with participation for musicians and congregation from both the Anglican and Baptist churches (and anyone else who would like to join in!) while the Anglican Benefice Lessons and Carols will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd at Everton Church. Hatley Carol Service will be as has been customary over the last few years.

### **\* NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER**

For next week's copy, please can you let me have any items which need editing by Tuesday lunchtime. Anything which is sent later can be added in at the last minute so long as it doesn't need working on.

**NB:** The newsletter will not be circulated until Friday evening.

Brenda email: [brenda.elcome@ymail.com](mailto:brenda.elcome@ymail.com)

## ***NEWS FROM HATLEY ST GEORGE***

There is to be a Harvest service at Hatley St George at 11.30am on 6<sup>th</sup> October- contact Hilary or Penny to contribute to decorating or let us know you plan to attend, as we practice the art of the possible. There is a harvest meal at the Village Hall after the service, at 12 noon, being organised by Sarah and Amy. More details to follow.

## ***NEWS FROM EVERTON***

The next of the new season's **Soup and Social lunches** will take place on Tuesday 17th September, coinciding with Simple Lunches until the next time there are 5 Tuesdays in a month, which will be October.

**The PCC** will be meeting in the next couple of weeks. A reminder that the PCC represents the church in decision-making, and in the absence of Church Wardens, take responsibility for decisions that everyone has interest in. Rather than sitting back and waiting to dislike what's done, PCC members would love to hear from anyone with ideas for furthering our mission and ministry.

## ***NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY***

**Simple Lunch** on Tuesday 3rd was a bit thin in attendance this time, but welcomed some regulars and visitors at the Church Hall. The next one is this coming week.

**RIP** Gerry Brunt whose funeral is this coming week, 18th September at 11am. A reminder that there is a general invitation for mourners not to wear black, although it is understood that some will wish to, in which case please try to wear at least something colourful - purple is suggested as it was apparently Gerry's favourite colour. The family would like to know numbers both for church and afterwards, responses please via Hilary or on Face Book

**Village Show** next weekend - do visit church-connected contributions below

**CAG** (the Climate Action Group) come along and vote for your favoured actions, which include Green Gym (staying active for health and contributing to caring for the village environment).

**The hay bales made in Gamlingay churchyard** will be available to acquire for a donation after they have done duty at the CAG stand. Help with moving them to school would be much appreciated – has anyone got a trailer we can use?

**St Mary's Refreshments.** Donations of cakes/savouries and offers of time on the day are welcome for the refreshments which are again provided by St Mary's church. (*See separate item on page 3*)

**Harvest** The **Mini Music Marathon** will take place over the Harvest weekend (Oct 5/6th) as part of our **Harvest of Talents.**

Proceeds from the Harvest weekend, including the Mini Music Marathon, will be shared between the local work of St Mary's church and the Diocese of Niassa in Mozambique. However, it will be possible to donate for the church only to help meet the share shortfall, speak to Hilary or contact by email on how to do this.

### **GAMLINGAY ROTA DUTIES**

**General:** Please consider whether you might be able to help out with any of the Church Rota Duties on a regular basis. To see what these duties are please have a look at the Rota displayed on the noticeboard at the back of the church.

**Coffee:** On Sunday mornings we are in particular need of more volunteers to make and serve coffee after the service. Obviously, the more names we have on the Rota the fewer times each name comes up. This is not an arduous task, but you are asked to provide milk when it is your turn.



**Cleaning:** We are also desperately in need of more cleaners. The Rota lists two people each week to spend about an hour in church, usually on a Friday or Saturday, doing as much as they can to make sure the church is clean and tidy for the Sunday service. All necessary equipment and materials are provided. We welcome help with this from anyone who likes to support the church, whether a regular member of the congregation or not.



If you can help with any of the above, please contact Ros: [roshisett@hotmail.com](mailto:roshisett@hotmail.com)

## **GAMLINGAY VILLAGE SHOW** **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

St. Mary's will, once again, be providing and serving teas at the Village Show and help will be very welcome from all who can provide it.....



- We would be so grateful to hear from anyone who can help to move equipment and set up tables and chairs from 11 o'clock on the Saturday morning.
- Help will, similarly, be needed to clear up at the end and put everything away – **PLEASE!**
- There will be a rota for workers in the Tea Room during the afternoon. At least 3 people are needed at all times. A sign-up sheet will be displayed in church for names to be added.
- Donations of cakes, etc., can be brought to the room being set up at the school on Saturday morning. Alternatively, arrangements can be made to leave them with someone else or, if suitable, they could be donated in advance and frozen.  
**NB:** Cakes will also be needed for the Mini Music Marathon a couple of weeks later so any leftovers from the Village Show can similarly be frozen or you may even want to batch bake!

To offer help on the day or for further information, please email: [stmarysgamevents@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysgamevents@outlook.com)

### **Dates for the Diary**

**21<sup>st</sup> September**  
**5<sup>th</sup> October**  
**6<sup>th</sup> October**  
**8<sup>th</sup> November**  
**7<sup>th</sup> December**

**Refreshments at the Village Show**  
**Mini Music Marathon, 10am – 4pm.**  
**Mini Music Marathon, 12 noon to 4pm**  
**Quiz Night with Ian Parker**  
**Christmas Fair**

## ***MOLLY DANCING WITH THE GUILD OF ST MARY!***

If you don't know what Molly Dancing is and would like to find out, and maybe have a go, you would be very welcome at our Open Meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm in Gamlingay Church Hall. (Even if you do know what it is, you would also be most welcome!)

We will be in the hands of our speaker Alison Giles and are looking forward to what promises to be an informative and very entertaining evening.

As always, the fee for members is £3 and for visitors £5. This includes a drink, biscuit and a raffle ticket.

**We'd love to see you!**

## Services in the Benefice

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September: Trinity 16

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on wholeness and healing  
4.00pm Evensong at Everton

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September: Trinity 17

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay NB: No Baptism now.  
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September: Trinity 18 (5th Sunday) Michael and All Angels

10.00am Shared Benefice Eucharist at Everton –  
NB: NO service at Gamlingay.

## Services for October

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October: Trinity 19 Celebrating Harvest Festival

9.30am All Age Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay  
11.30am Harvest Celebration at St James, Hatley St George  
4.30pm Harvest Celebration at St. Mary's, Everton

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Trinity 20

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

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October: Trinity 21

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing  
4.00pm Evensong at Everton

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October: Last after Trinity, Dedication Festival

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

## Advance notices for November

### Sunday 3rd November Celebrating All Saints Day

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay  
11.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton  
6.00pm Commemoration Service (All Souls) at Gamlingay

Halloween light celebration (October 29<sup>th</sup>) is planned for St. Mary's Church in Gamlingay, possibly preceded by a Light Party at the Church Hall. Contact Hilary for more details and to offer help. This could be a family tea-time meal to be followed by the time in church. Timings would be arranged to suit participants.

### Sunday 10th November Remembrance Sunday

Traditional Remembrance Sunday celebrations in both parishes  
Gamlingay Civic celebration at the War Memorial followed by Service at GBC - Speaker Hilary  
Everton Ceremony at the War Memorial in the churchyard followed by church service  
Hatley St George memorial ceremony TBC in church at the war memorial.

*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.*

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