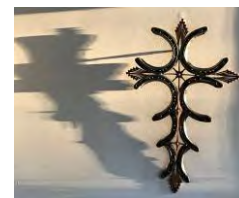


ST MARY'S GAMLINGAY, HATLEY  
ST GEORGE & ST MARY'S EVERTON



## Weekly newsletter 6 December 2024



*From Hilary:*

### **A recycling opportunity for electronic gadgets**

A new printer for parish use is now in place at the Rectory. If you have any relevant items (computers, laptops, smartphones, printers) for recycling I will be pleased to receive them to go with the ones being collected sometime next week (two defunct printers and a couple of tablets and old mobile phones). Twenty items would mean that the £50 collection fee would be waived, so in effect that's money to go to the churches. The firm collecting will 'clean up' anything they are given, so there is no worry about giving away personal material - they do this on site before removal.

**Advent continues, this Sunday, Advent 2** considering themes of Prophecy and Peace (or Joy depending on where you look for the sequence). **The Old Testament prophets**, and John the Baptist who is the last in that prophetic tradition, do not live in peaceful times or experience much obvious joy themselves, yet their message points beyond their time and personal experience to the Kingdom that the coming of Jesus is to establish, and for which we remember we are waiting in this Advent season.



### **Advent Wreath Prayer at lighting of second candle Week 2**

*People of God, be glad! Your God delights in you, giving you joy  
for sadness and turning the dark to light.*

*Be strong in hope, therefore, for your God comes to save.*

*You are God's children.*

*Lord, make us one in the love of Christ today and forever. Amen.*

### **A prayer for use at evening time, which mentions angels.**

#### **Perhaps one to use every evening this season?**

*Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;*

*may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,*

*and may your blessing be always upon us;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*



## Calling all Singers

The shared Traditional Carol Service at Gamlingay on 15th December, with the Baptists joining us at St Mary's, will have a singing group to which anyone interested is invited - you don't need to read music to join in. We shall be led by Mike Roberts, and meet on Monday 9th at 7.30pm, and again on Sunday 15th (day of the service) at 11am and (TBC) 4pm - all at St Mary's church.

*See posters attached for details of this service as well as for the Benefice Carol Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December.*

## Advent Study

The Jesse tree pictures and readings sequence continues this week with the prophets. There are many stories which could have been used in this sequence and the one telling of Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Baal and Queen Jezebel (1 Kings 80;20-40) leads us into this week's angel. As Elijah lies in the wilderness disheartened and exhausted after his efforts he is helped to restoration by an angel, given food and rest, and is enabled to journey on, to encounter God not in the storm or the fire, but in the 'sound of sheer silence' that follows.

**Monday 7.30-9pm** at the Rectory in Gamlingay this last week considered what we might expect to see in meeting an angel, and what sort of Beings angels are. Do they exist outside the human imagination? In considering Jacob's dream of the ladder or stairway between earth and heaven, we were led to wonder what Jacob himself would have seen that he recognised.

**This coming Monday (9th January)** we transfer to the church to join in with preparations for the shared Carol Service - anyone willing to join in a gathered singing group is invited to rehearse, you do not need to read music to join in.

**Wednesday 11th after the morning service at the Rectory** - a meeting can take place if there are takers. This last week it will have been much curtailed, with June Simpson's funeral at Everton taking precedence for Hilary.

## For Children and Families

Apologies that this last week's sheet didn't go out with the Newsletter as intended. Ivy made the Advent Calendar in church on Sunday in Gamlingay, the second candle will be lit this week, and there will be chocolate in window 2 of the Angel calendar.

# NEWS FROM EVERTON

**Christmas Coffee Morning** was a wonderful financial success as well as being a most enjoyable event, well done to all involved.

## Linda Bycroft writes:

*I am delighted to be able to let you know that we made £716.45 at our coffee morning on Saturday. This is an amazing amount of money which will go towards supporting the ongoing costs of our village Church. We could not have done it without the help and support of so many people who contributed in many different ways; by donating items for the various stalls, helping to run the stalls, setting them up and clearing up afterwards. Most important of all, people came and spent money on the stalls, bought raffle tickets, had several goes on the tombolas, guessed the weight of the Christmas cake and lingered over coffee and cake, catching up with friends and neighbours - waiting to see if they had won a raffle prize perhaps!*

**On behalf of Dorothy, Jane, Beverley and myself - Thank You!**

**June Simpson's funeral** on Wednesday, 4th December at 12 noon was followed by soup-and-social style refreshments at the Village Hall. Family only attended the cremation following. Donations in June's memory have been requested to go to the work of St Mary's church

# ***NEWS FROM HATLEYS***

**St Denis churchyard** volunteers meet this Sunday to tackle the north side elm hedge which is in need of serious attention. Thank you again to all who are facilitating this work. Prunings will stay on site in the form of a 'dead hedge' screening on the west side of the churchyard.

# ***NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY***

**The Last Simple Lunch of the year** took place on 3rd December, enjoyed by 14 people. Even though so early in Advent there was a bit of a Christmas theme. Thank you to the donors of the £49 given on this occasion.



**The Christmas Fair** is this Saturday 12 – 4.30pm, enjoy! Huge thanks in advance to the many helpers and supporters.

**Climate Action Group** looked back with satisfaction at what has been achieved this year, and forward to next year. There will be a re-application for scything course funding The Repair Cafe will become a regular event'

**Grand Draw:** Many thanks to all who helped deliver the raffle tickets to (hopefully!) every house in the village.



## **THIS WEEKEND!**

**Christmas Fair and Grand Draw**  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon – 4.30pm  
St. Mary's Church, Gamlingay.



**Please spread the word to your friends and family!**  
**Community Choir sing at 2pm and Alice Lucas dancers perform at 3.15pm.**

**NB:** Christingle making will take place on 23rd December at 3pm in Gamlingay church. Please come and help if you can -Many hands make light work!

## Services in the Benefice

Midweek said Eucharist services take place at St Mary's in Gamlingay every Wednesday at 9.30am unless otherwise advertised.

### Services for December

#### Sunday 8th December Advent 2

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

#### Sunday 15th December Advent 3

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing  
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton  
6pm Gamlingay Traditional Carol Service with GBC at St Mary's

#### Wednesday 18th December

7pm Carol Service at Hatley St George

#### Sunday 22nd December Advent 4

9.30am Benefice Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay  
11.15am Pop-Up nativity service at Hatley St George  
4pm Benefice Carol Service at St. Mary's, Everton

#### Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

3.30pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's, Everton  
4.30pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's, Gamlingay  
preceded by Nativity Walk from The Jannah (meet at 4pm)  
11.30pm First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass) Gamlingay St Mary

#### Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

**8.30am** Christmas Day said Eucharist TBC  
**10am** Christmas Day Family Eucharist Gamlingay St Mary  
**10am** Christmas Day lessons and carols Everton St Mary

#### Sunday 29th December Christmas 1

10am Benefice Eucharist at Gamlingay

*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.*

<b>Hilary Young</b> , Parish Priest	<a href="mailto:hilaryafyoung@gmail.com">hilaryafyoung@gmail.com</a>	650587
<b>Chris Miller</b> , LLM/Reader	<a href="mailto:cfm55@btinternet.com">cfm55@btinternet.com</a>	650779
<b>Ann Davis</b> , Churchwarden and Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	<a href="mailto:anngamlingay@aol.com">anngamlingay@aol.com</a>	07970 076972
<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>Jane Butcher</b> , Everton contact	<a href="mailto:Janebutcher59@gmail.com">Janebutcher59@gmail.com</a>	

**Please let Brenda Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Wednesday afternoon to [Brenda.elcome@gmail.com](mailto:Brenda.elcome@gmail.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.