

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



Weekly newsletter 21 February 2025



From Hilary:

Apologies for missing things this week, having succumbed to what seemed at first to be a cold but turned into something much more debilitating. I expect to be recovered for Sunday but am not up to much at present - many thanks to Brenda for patience with the timing of this material.

This Sunday 23rd February continues the count-down to Lent (2 before) - it used to be called Sexagesima (60 days before Easter) with a theme of God in Creation. The Gospel is of Jesus stilling the storm for his disciples on Lake Galilee; the other readings are from the earliest and latest books of the Bible (Genesis and Revelation), telling of the Creator's power - that Jesus had power over the natural order is a sign of his divine nature.

The full revision of Church Electoral Rolls is proceeding. In Gamlingay the roll is now closed for submissions as Valerie prepares the new roll which will be displayed for checking two weeks before the APCM which takes place on Sunday 16th March. There is still time to return forms for Everton where the roll closes later and will be displayed from March 23rd in time for the APCM on Sunday April 6th. Once the roll is closed it is too late to add new members before the APCM, but corrections can be made. In both cases the meetings follow the Sunday service that day and include refreshments.

Parish Share for 2025 - no discussions yet at PCC other than to understand the reason for the considerable increase.

The PCCs of both parishes will be considering a very significant rise in the parish share this year, well above the small percentage rise of the Deanery share allocation which is subdivided between the parishes. The increase is because parishes are being asked to cover the real cost of ministry and Gamlingay with the Hatleys and Everton parishes have a full-time priest at the moment. The only other village parishes that have this luxury are the Paxtons, where considerable efforts are being made to raise the necessary finances. There is likely to be considerable discussion on this topic at the Annual Meetings. Both parishes have paid the share this year, but with considerable effort, only just, and with some use of the very small reserves the parishes hold in their unrestricted funds.

For Children and Families

This week's material will probably be late but will be looking at Creation and Jesus' power over the storms of life.

LIVING HOPE



Lent Study - Reminder

Shrove Tuesday is on 4th March and Ash Wednesday on the 5th March. We shall be following the C of E 'Living Hope' course which has a wealth of material available in support. The write up says it 'offers us the opportunity to deepen our hope in God and be part of what God is doing to bring hope in the world'.

In these uncertain times it makes real sense to explore what Christian hope means. As St Paul says in his first letter to the Corinthian church, 'Faith Hope and Love, these three abide'.

Please let Hilary know if you are interested in following this material, and if so in what way.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup Lunch took place this last week, with apologies from Hilary who was unwell.

PCC Survey: Responses to this consultation are still being collected for collation next month. The PCC is supported by Samuel Pedlar in analysing the survey he helped to produce. All in the Benefice are welcome to contribute, the survey is available online or in Everton church, please ask if you do not have access.

Electoral Roll Revision: See full information on last page.

Churches Greensand Ridge Trail: Dorothy Jamieson (Bedfordshire and Cambs. local historian) is helping to work on a Churches Trail to go with the Greensand Ridge Walk, a spin-off from the History event which launched the community consultation now ongoing.

Rest in Peace: No further news has reached Hilary about arrangements for Alan Pattle, who was a true Everton character, now sadly missed.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch: The next one will be on Shrove Tuesday, 4th March

Thanks to Gamlingay PC for the improved path edges. The deeper gravel does make progress difficult for wheeled conveyances but looks so much better with the new metal edges. A possible solution for bonding the gravel has been suggested and is being looked into.

Rest in Peace

The funeral of Frederick Bosworth (known as Fred) takes place at St Mary's at noon on Ash Wednesday

NB: Gamlingay with Hatleys APCM will be held after the service on Sunday 16th March at 11am in the Church Hall. If you wish to be considered for the PCC, please let Hilary or Ann know, even if you cannot attend the meeting. *Jane Orchiston*

The Electoral Roll for Gamlingay and Hatley is now closed.

A list of names of all those on the Roll will be published on church noticeboards from 23rd February. Anyone wishing to check their entry on the full Roll may contact Valerie Miller.

Benefice Services and Church Events

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

Sunday 23rd February: 2 Before Lent (Sexagesimal)

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

Sunday and Festival services in March

Sunday 2nd March: Sunday next before Lent (Quinquagesima)

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

Wednesday 5th March Ash Wednesday

9.30am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with ashes
12 noon Funeral of Frederick Bosworth at St Mary's, Gamlingay
7.30pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St Mary's Everton with ashes (may be a said service)

Sunday 9th March: Lent 1

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

Sunday 16th March: Lent 2

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

Sunday 23rd March: Lent 3

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

Sunday 30th March: Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday

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

*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.*

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

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

NB: The basic information in the document below is relevant to both Parishes in the Benefice but please note that completed application forms should be returned as follows:

For Gamlingay and Hatley:

Now closed.

For Everton:

Return by 16th March to Everton Church or to Dick Edwards, Stone Lodge, Everton Road Sandy SG19 2DE, or scan, and email to: rje@stone-lodge.co.uk

Forms can also be obtained from and returned to Doreen Gurney at Manor Farm.

Electoral Roll Revision 2025

In every parish there must be a church Electoral Roll on which the names of lay (i.e. not clergy) persons are entered. In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, 2025 is a year in which an entirely new Electoral Roll must be prepared in advance of the Annual Church meeting in **every parish** in the Church of England.

Under the rules notice must be given in every church in the parish not less than two months before the Annual Meeting.

Whether or not a person has their name entered on the existing Electoral Roll, anyone wishing to be enrolled on the new Roll must complete a new application.

Under Church Representation Rules no one may be elected as a lay representative to a PCC or Deanery Synod, unless his or her name is on the Electoral Roll.

Under the Church Representation Rules, a lay person is entitled to have his or her name entered on the Roll, if the person – (a) is baptised, (b) is aged 16 or over, and (c) has made one of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

- The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.
- The second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.
- The third declaration is that the person is a member of good standing in a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months

The PCC of the parish of **Gamlingay with Hatley St George and East Hatley** has set the Annual Meeting for 16th March 2025.

The APCM at **Everton** has been set for 6th April 2025.

Forms may be obtained from the churches or from the named Electoral Roll officers – see above.

(NB: A pdf copy of the application form is attached to this Newsletter. It will need to be printed off, filled in and returned as a hard copy. Alternatively, it could be scanned and returned by email – see email addresses above.)