

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



Weekly newsletter 25 April 2025



From Hilary:



Alleluia Christ is risen! We had three lovely Easter Day services in our three churches as the climax to a Holy Week full of valued shared worship, recalling the happenings of that fateful week over two thousand years ago, the truth of which resonates through time and eternity. Well done to all!

A huge THANK YOU to those who helped to enable the celebrations this year in each of our churches by supporting service preparation and delivery, including accompanying our music, making our churches suitable for the various acts of worship and the lovely decorating for Easter itself. Anne and her team in Gamlingay, Sue and the team in Everton and Penny and helpers in Hatley all did beautifully with flowers and more - special thanks to each person involved from me personally and on behalf of the whole church.

Also held in hearts and prayers are those who were not with us as they so often have been in the past, for various reasons, but particularly to do with ill health. May the risen Christ be with them, as with all of us, in this special season. We also remember with love and gratitude those who worship with us on another shore and in a greater life, with whom we have worshiped here in the past.

Easter continues for the six weeks up to Ascension, before celebrating the Church's birthday at Pentecost which ushers in the summer of 'ordinary time' celebrations.

Although this coming Sunday is sometimes referred to as 'low Sunday' as everyone, particularly clergy, takes a breath after the big and often exhausting build-up and Easter celebration, I am still 'on duty' (though taking things a bit more gently this week) as I am saving holiday for a little later in May.

Special thanks again to Tom at Seamers Funeral Directors for gifts of Easter eggs which were much enjoyed.

Rogation: Special thanks to Paul Hutchinson who has offered to cover not only the Sunday services but also the Rogation plans for the previous Saturday of the weekend in May when Norman and I hope to be away. Paul will lead prayers in the two churches (Gamlingay and Everton) on that day - times to be confirmed - and has also offered to accompany (and possibly pray with) any walkers on the three miles between the churches, for which time will be allowed. Advice on the route will be available, but walking is optional and at each individual's own risk. Arrangements are being discussed for tea at the pub in Everton and there will be lifts back available for anyone walking from Gamlingay. Let Hilary or any PCC member know if you are interested.

A walk is being organised the previous weekend in East Hatley. This one isn't church based, but Hilary hopes to make the walk and will offer prayers and Rogation reflections.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Thank you to Jonathan who started on the planned care for Everton churchyard this year by mowing the path margins ready for Easter. There will be more details on what else is to be done when interested people have been gathered in the next week or two. Do be in touch if you can help.

Soup and Social (reminder this is a community rather than church initiative) takes place this coming week on April 29th, arrangements as usual.

AND (*Repeat from last week in case missed*)

The new PCC (rather the same as the old one!) met, reappointed officers and planned activities for the future. A meeting is planned with Samuel Pedlar to review the survey results and map out the next actions.

Everton Parish Council has its AGM on 14th May, to which the church reports. The outcome of the survey and the next steps should be available by then. The PCC looks forward to working with the wider community in shared concern for the church building.

The Church Clock is to be revisited. Anyone wishing to join a team to look at the clock and learn how it works should contact Hilary to be informed of when Cumbria Clock Company will be visiting again.

Coffee Mornings: A huge THANK YOU to Dorothy, and most especially Linda, who are both stepping back from the leading role they have taken in organising church coffee mornings. These have been both great social events and a means of adding much-needed income to boost church funds. From 2012 to 2024 over £19K has been raised by the team - an excellent achievement of which they are rightly proud and for which they deserve our repeated thanks. The PCC has been gifted material to help the next organisers and is setting out to build a new team (which will include many of the previous team we suspect!). Do contact Hilary or Beverley in the first instance if you would like to offer help. Watch this space for more information.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Memory Lane: Met this last Tuesday, planting up containers, sharing refreshments and looking at the Ouisi cards finding connections. We also had a quick go with the indoor curling set, in preparation for a games session next time when we will run a curling tournament, alongside other games.

Simple Lunch: A church initiative with support from the Co-Op, is back to 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month and will next be held on 6th May.

Churchyard: Please get in touch if you are able to help in any way. The new paths will soon look weedy if not given a bit of 'stitch in time' maintenance, and we will be looking at a variety of other ongoing maintenance plans. The Spring mowing got missed due to wet weather, so things are looking much shaggier than would otherwise have been the case.

Parish Council Annual Meeting takes place at the EcoHub in the Kier Suite this Tuesday (29th) at 7.30pm.

THIS SATURDAY! Fundraising Coffee Morning:

Saturday, 26th April, 10.30am in Gamlingay Church Hall. Do come along and support this event and encourage others to do likewise. As well as delicious refreshments, there will be a few stalls and, of course, guaranteed good company!



NEXT UP – Fun Bingo Night on 16th May – further details to follow shortly.

THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, GAMLINGAY
2025 Annual General Meeting

Monday 28th April, 6pm
7B Honey Hill, Gamlingay.

All Welcome.

NEWS FROM HATLEY ST GEORGE

Monday 28th April sees an inspection visit for the Churchyards Conservation Award at East Hatley by Diane from the Diocese. Hilary and Nicola will meet Diane, with anyone else who is available and wishes to join, from the East Hatley churchyard task group.

NB: Please send material for next week's copy of the newsletter to Ian Parker by mid-day on Wednesday. iangparker@hotmail.com

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 27th April: 2nd Sunday of Easter (1 After)

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

Sunday 4th May Third of Easter

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

Sunday 11th May: Fourth of Easter

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

Sunday 18th May: Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with Healing time
4pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Saturday 24th May - Rogation prayers and walk time between Gamlingay and Everton churches more details to follow.

Sunday 25th May: Sixth Sunday after Easter – Rogationtide.

Welcoming Revd Paul Hutchinson to conduct services

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

Thursday 29th May: Ascension Day

The Parish celebration for Ascension Day joins the Evening Eucharist at Ely Cathedral.
Lifts available, please ask

Sunday 1st June: Sunday after Ascension

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

*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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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.