

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



Weekly newsletter 2 May 2025



From Hilary:

Alleluia Christ is risen! Easter celebrations continue this week and for a number of weeks now until Ascension and Pentecost. The week before the Ascension is Rogationtide when we pray together for the well-being of our communities. Originally an agricultural season and prayer for the sowing of seed, it is a time to remember those who work to feed us, and where our food comes from as a sort of 'book end' to the production time that harvest festival marks at the other end of the year. Much as Harvest is still a seasonal celebration although much of what we give thanks for will have been 'gathered in' at other times, so Rogation celebrates and prays for what has really been done or will be done at other times. It is a good time to give thanks for the natural world of which we are more of a part than we sometimes remember, and upon which we depend in ways we do not connect with. We also give thanks and pray for the human sowing and harvest time.

Special thanks to Ian for laying out this Newsletter while Brenda is not able to do it this week.

Marking Rogation

Plans are progressing to make a prayer and social event around Rogation, on Saturday 24th May. There will be a short gathering service at Gamlingay church at 10.30am, and an ending service at 12.30pm at Everton church. People are invited to join these two prayer times, and if able to do so, make their way on foot via the Cinques and part of the Ridge Way from Gamlingay to Everton. The Thornton pub in Everton is serving until 3pm on that afternoon, and all are invited to gather there around 1pm after prayers at Everton church. Please sign up to indicate your intention to take part, particularly if attending for refreshments at the pub, where some rough idea of numbers will be very helpful.

Special thanks to Revd Paul Hutchinson from St Neots who will lead prayers and accompany walkers in Hilary's absence.

NEWS FROM HATLEY

Monday saw the inspection visit for the Churchyards Conservation Award at East Hatley by Diana from the Diocese. Hilary and Nicola met Diana along with Peter Mann and discussed plans for mowing as well as showing Diana the churchyard and information boards. Diana will report back on the outcome of her visit in due course - it is hoped that the level for a bronze award has been achieved.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social was another successful event, with slightly lower numbers both in attendance and in helpers. Well done and thank you everyone, especially Keith for his tomato plants.

The PCC meets next week on 7th May with Samuel Pedlar to review the survey results and map out the next actions.

Everton Parish Council has its AGM on 14th May, at which Hilary will report. The outcome of the survey and the next steps will be hot off the press.

Church Clock is to be revisited. Arrangements are being made for Cumbria Clock Company to visit, please let Hilary know if you are interested in meeting with them to learn how to adjust the clock to keep it going and on time.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch - a church initiative with support from the Co-Op, will be serving soup and simple accompaniment next Tuesday, 6th May. All welcome, nice to know attendees, but not required.

Churchyard - Please get in touch if you are able to help in any way. The new paths need a bit of 'stitch in time' maintenance - the one to the north side of church has already had that and is fine, the one to west and south of the church needs attention. There is a variety of other maintenance needed, most urgently the Spring mowing which got missed due to wet weather took place this week with longer grass and at the wrong time (as well as some wrong areas). Worst of all the cuttings have been left in place - help with the necessary raking off would be much appreciated! We can't put back the spring flowers that had not set seed, but hopefully the cowslips themselves will survive and we can replant daffodils that had their leaves removed before they had restocked the bulbs.

Parish Council Annual Meeting unfortunately coincided with PCC, so no church representation there as the PCC date was set before realising when the Council met. There will be a formal note to Council re the churchyard mowing.

PCC met and made arrangements to progress a number of actions including solar panels, the Quinquennial Inspection report and various services and events. Thinking through obligation for Safeguarding was on the agenda, with PCC members encouraging one another and the wider church on enabling hearing and supporting of the vulnerable (any of us at times!) in our church community.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Many thanks to all who supported the Coffee Morning last Saturday in any way. A total of £430.50 was raised for church funds!

Next up is Fun Bingo Night! Nominal prizes, see poster for details. Please share with your friends and other groups!



BENEFICE SERVICES AND CHURCH EVENTS

This 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

Next 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
4.00pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton
Saturday 24th May - Rogation prayers and walk time between Gamlingay and Everton churches
10.30 Gamlingay prayers in church, 12.30 Everton prayers in church

Sunday 25th May: Sixth Sunday of Easter - Rogation Tide

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

Parish celebration for Ascension Day joins 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

Wednesday Midweek Eucharists

9.30am A said service of Holy Communion will normally be celebrated at
St. Mary's, Gamlingay on Wednesdays in May

This newsletter is circulated by mail 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.

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

Contact details below show who to contact in each parish:

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