

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



Weekly newsletter 21 November 2025



From Hilary:

This Sunday, Christ the King, is the last one before Advent begins on 30th November. The Prayer Book collect for this last Sunday of the church year begins, "Stir up we beseech thee" and so it became Stir-up Sunday - a traditional day for everyone to have a stir of the Christmas pudding or cake mixture that would be prepared this day. I'm sure that many of those who make their own Christmas cakes will have done so already, but if anyone is willing to make one for me (I am very willing to pay!) I would love to hear from you. I can't see me doing one of my own.

Also, a heads up for Sunday next week, Advent Sunday. As it is a 5th Sunday we are all joining forces and meeting in Gamlingay this year, for a morning Eucharist at 10am with special music for Advent. Anyone who would like (or at least be willing!) to sing in a combined choir should contact Chris Miller. All welcome, some choir regulars will be missing this year.

And do make a note for yourself and help others to get the time and the venue right.

Deanery

Hilary represented the Benefice at the Deanery Synod, which was interesting though there were not many there, possibly partly due to so many of our Deanery parishes being in vacancy.

The main agenda item can be seen in the [attached minutes](#), as can the issue of the Deanery Share which was raised in Any Other Business and will be discussed with support of the Deanery Chair and Revd Canon Philip Howson who is working with the parishes in vacancy. Gamlingay PCC have decided on a written submission to the Deanery with figures attached. The absence of a Deanery treasurer has been a significant contributor to the problem.

As we wait for news on the appointment of a new Bishop of Ely.....

We praise and thank you, God of the journey, for all your gifts to us in the past.

We look to you as fellow traveller and faithful companion on the way ahead.

Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and guide the work of the CNC as they seek to discern who you are calling to be our new Bishop, that together we may serve you as generous and visible people of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray too for Bishop Dagma as she continues to lead our Diocese. We are told that it is unlikely that there will be a new Bishop in post, or maybe even an announcement, before Easter next year.

*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.*

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Community Soup and Social takes place this coming Tuesday.

The Church Clock has been left to run without the strike mechanism for a period to see if that is the reason for it stopping. It hasn't been adjusted, so it is making several minutes a day, and awaits return of the engineer.

Everton Heath Primary School children will be hearing about Advent and Christmas from Hilary on Wednesday 26th.

Christmas Coffee Morning takes place on the 29th.

NEWS FROM THE HATLEYS

St Denis Churchyard Task Group met on Saturday, and actions were agreed for the rest of the year including plans for next year's mowing and management.



Here are some pictures from **Remembrance Sunday** at **Hatley St. George** church with apologies that Hilary missed sending them in time for last week's newsletter.



NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch and **Memory Lane** with Band of Ukes in the Church Hall was a delightful and cheerful affair. The Ukele group joined our Simple Lunch so there were 24 attendees.

The churchyard working party was put off by the weather. If next Wednesday proves better and time allows, another effort will be made.

Christmas Fair and Grand Draw: Raffle tickets are being delivered around the village. There are still some more to be done – any help will be much appreciated.

Christmas Lights Switch-On is being planned for the village by new people. There will be a craft group provided by the organisers in the church porch on **Saturday 29th November**. Any offers of help with refreshments which the church might provide would be very welcome – speak to Hilary or Ann.

Gamlingay Village Primary School Key Stage 1 will be hearing about Advent and Christingle from Hilary on Thursday 27th in the afternoon.



Christmas Fair and Grand Draw

Saturday 6th December, 12 noon - 4pm



Just two more weeks now – can you help with any of the following?

- There are still some bundles of raffle tickets in church waiting for delivery to streets as marked. If you can help please take them and deliver with our grateful thanks.
 - Donations for the Grand Draw and food hamper
 - Help setting up and clearing away on the day of the Christmas Fair
 - Help with, and provision of, refreshments.
 - Donations for the Chocolate and Bottle Tombola
(there are jars in church waiting to be filled with anything that take your fancy!)

Please come on the day and bring your friends.



Once again we are asking our wonderful army of bakers to provide cakes etc., for the 6th December. Ideally, please bring your items to church on the Saturday morning so that we can get them displayed and priced.



CHRISTINGLE MAKING

Christingle making will take place on Tuesday, 23rd December at 3pm in church. Many hands make light work so please come and help if you can.

And one for the diary....

New Year Concert at St. Mary's Gamlingay - 4th January 2026

Benefice Services and Events

Midweek said Eucharist services take place at St Mary's in Gamlingay every Wednesday at 9.30am but watch for late cancellations especially during holiday seasons.

November

Sunday 23rd November - Trinity 15 - Christ the King (Sunday next before Advent)

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

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

Saturday 29th November -

10 am -12noon Everton Christmas Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

Sunday 30th November- Advent Sunday

10am Benefice Eucharist and Advent Carols at Gamlingay St Mary

December into January

Saturday 6th December

12 noon – 4pm Christmas Fair and Grand Draw at Gamlingay

Sunday 7th December - Advent 2

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

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

Sunday 14th December - Advent 3

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

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

Sunday 21st December - Advent 4

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with Healing time

11.15am Parish Carols at Everton St Mary

6.00pm Candlelit Carol Service at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

Monday 22nd December

7.00pm Carol Service at Hatley St George

Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

3.00pm Christingle Service at Everton

4.30pm Christingle service at Gamlingay preceded by Nativity Walk

11.30pm First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass) at Gamlingay St Mary

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

9.00am Christmas Service at Hatley St George

10.00am Christmas Morning Eucharist at Gamlingay

10.00am Christmas Morning Service (Eucharist) at Everton

Sunday 28th December - Christmas 1, Holy Innocents

10am Benefice Service at St Mary's Everton

Wednesday 31st December

9.30am Midweek Eucharist for New Year's Eve at Gamlingay

Sunday 4th January - Celebrating The Epiphany

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

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

Afternoon Charity Concert in St Mary's Gamlingay

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