

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



Weekly newsletter 16 January 2026



From Hilary:

This Sunday is the second after Epiphany and continues the Epiphany journey through continuing revelations about who Jesus is. As last week, the reflections are around Jesus' ministry as an adult.

This is also the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All Christians are on the same journey, shared with the rest of humanity, on the way home to God. In St John's Gospel (4: 1-6) Jesus speaks of a prepared place and assures his disciples that they know the way. When we feel disorientated and doubtful of the way forward, we have Jesus' assertion that his is 'The Way, the Truth and the Life'. May we travel in his footsteps, drawing closer to one another as we draw closer to God in Jesus Christ.



Deanery Synod Decision

There was a special meeting of the Deanery Synod this last week to discuss the financial crisis for the Deanery which has fallen particularly heavily on our Benefice. After serious attempts to work out what is going on and how contributions to the share have been calculated, the Synod agreed (though not unanimously) to pay the full outstanding collective share of the Deanery by the end of the month. This will seriously deplete the Deanery Hardship Fund but will make the rebate, offered by the Diocese for full payment, available to the Deanery parishes next year. There will, however, be serious questions to be considered and agreed on how the Deanery share will be allocated in this coming year.

Deanery Treasurer Wanted

The crisis this year with Deanery finances has much to do with the absence of a Deanery Treasurer. If anyone knows of someone with financial understanding (ideally a retired accountant?) who is conversant with Church of England ways of working and who might be willing to take on this role, please let Hilary or Ann know and discussions can be instigated.

Lent begins in a few weeks' time. If you have ideas for what to study, or a view on meeting up please contact Hilary as options are being prepared. There will be some form of meeting each week during Lent so please indicate your interest to Hilary, including when might work for you.

PLEASE NOTE

Next week's newsletter will not be circulated until late on Friday or early Saturday morning.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social will take place this week.

The Clock visit by engineers has had to be postponed due to ill health but is still expected to take place in the near future. Meanwhile the clock remains silent and not keeping time.

Church Heating: The church was bitterly cold this last Sunday despite the heating being on. While the weather is cold, please wrap up warmly when attending church. This last Sunday's service was shortened for the sake of everyone's health, but worship will still be offered where possible.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

The first Memory Lane meeting of the year is on **27th January** with the session theme and activities still under discussion - maybe an afternoon of games.

Simple Lunch is this week on the 20th. As last time, it coincides with the Soup and Social in Everton.

Churchyard work is still awaiting better weather.

The PCC met this last week and will now be preparing for the APCM on Sunday 8th March.

NEWS FROM THE HATLEYS

Badgers have been busy in St Denis' churchyard, digging for worms. Their resulting holes have been partially filled by Peter Mann, but the ground remains uneven. Please take care if you visit the churchyard.

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

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.

January

Sunday 18th January- Epiphany 2, Start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

Sunday 25th January - Epiphany 3

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

February

Sunday 1st February Epiphany 4 Celebrating the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

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

Sunday 8th February 2 before Lent

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

Sunday 15th February Sunday next before Lent

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

Wednesday 18th Ash Wednesday

9.30am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
7.00pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 22nd First Sunday of Lent

9.30am 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.*

The Big Blunham Book Sale

Will be held on Saturday 28th February 2026. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ,

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories.

Homemade soup, homemade cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund. For further details please ring Sue and Peter Holden 01767 640572