

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



Weekly newsletter 30 January 2026



From Hilary:

This Sunday, a day early, we will be celebrating Candlemas (The Presentation of Christ in the Temple). The Epiphany season of celebrating and remembering light and revelation ends with the story of Jesus being taken to the temple as a baby and recognised by Simeon and Anna. At Gamlingay we will welcome the family and friends of Gabriella, Daisy and Ethan Sheppard who are to be baptised this day, so appropriate for baptisms, as we say to them (and remind ourselves of our calling to....) 'Shine as a light in the world, to the glory of God the Father.'

Bishop of Ely

Many readers will already have spotted the announcement of the appointment of Sarah Clark, currently Acting Bishop of Durham and Suffragan Bishop of Jarrow in the Diocese of Durham, as Bishop of Ely. The [announcement is attached in full](#); it ends with the encouragement to us all to pray for Bishop Sarah as she prepares to take up her post:

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, bless and guide Bishop Sarah by your Holy Spirit as she prepares for this calling, that with her we may serve you as generous and visible people of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Funding changes

Holly Robinsons at the Diocese has passed on the following, which is not great news. The new fund will take some time to be in place, and the closure of the LPWGS will significantly increase the cost of most church building projects, with VAT no longer being reclaimable.

On Thursday 22nd January, the Government made a major announcement on £1.5bn funding for arts and culture. It also clarified the future of its funding for places of worship.

*In short, **the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS, for VAT recovery) will permanently close at the end of March this year (2026) or when the budget for the year is spent, whichever is earlier.** It will be replaced by a new capital funding scheme for listed places of worship. This is called the Places of Worship Renewal Fund.*

Further Reminder - Lent begins on 18th February this year. Chris and Hilary are looking at the options for studying together. There will be a daytime face-to-face meeting - please make sure Hilary and Chris know if you are interested in this (two confirmed so far) so we can take into account what the participants can manage.

Flowery Burial Grounds

Molly Milner from 'Caring for God's Acre' charity has been in touch to encourage churches with churchyards of wildlife interest to put themselves on a new map which is being prepared. Everton and East Hatley churchyards were of particular interest, but the others may also be included.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social is this coming week (3rd February) again coinciding with Simple Lunch in Gamlingay.

PCC has agreed to have the APCM after Easter, a date will be confirmed at the PCC meeting on Wednesday.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

First Memory Lane of the year met this past Tuesday, somewhat depleted in numbers. Birthday cake was enjoyed

Simple Lunch takes place this coming Tuesday (3rd February).

Preparations for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting are underway. The Electoral Roll is being revised over the next couple of weeks, and church members are encouraged to check that they are on it. New names can be added until a fortnight before the APCM on March 8th – see further information below....

Gamlingay with Hatley St George and East Hatley Electoral Roll Revision

Notice is hereby given that the Church Electoral Roll for Gamlingay and the Hatleys will be revised by the Parochial Church Council beginning on Sunday 25th January and ending on Saturday 14th February.

This is not a full renewal so if you are on the electoral roll and wish to stay on you do not need to do anything.

However, if you wish to be added to the roll, please contact Valerie Miller by email vjm55@btinternet.com or in person. There are copies of the application form in church or Valerie will send you one.

If you are on the electoral roll and wish to be removed from the roll or if your contact details have changed please contact Valerie.

After 14th February the Roll will be closed for amendments until after the Annual Meeting on 8th March 2026.

Thank you

Valerie Miller Electoral Roll Officer

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

An official 'Thank You' has been received from the Royal British Legion (*see attachment*). As you will see, £186.06 was raised at St. Mary's Remembrance service and £1,863.45 from Gamlingay as a whole.



Thank you to everyone raising donations for St Mary the Virgin - Gamlingay with #easyfundraising!
Not joined yet? Sign up to Easy Fundraising and when you shop online with your favourite brands, they'll donate to us. It's free and your shopping won't cost you any extra - the brands you shop with will donate, not you! - **Sign up today:**

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Once you've joined you can select an option to show if the brand you are shopping supports easyfundraising every time you shop, which helps increase the amount of donations we receive.
 They also have a Facebook page with more information!

Thank you for your support!



QUIZ NIGHT WITH IAN PARKER

Friday, 13th February, 7.30pm - St Mary's Church Hall

Teams are invited to book in by emailing janeorch@hotmail.com
 Maximum of 6 to a team. £5 per head.

Bring your own drink. Some nibbles provided.

This event has proved very popular in the past, so please book in as soon as possible, before it gets advertised to the wider public.

There will be a raffle and a game of Heads and Tails.

Many thanks to Ian for agreeing to be Quiz Master again.

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@googlemail.com	

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

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.

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 + Baptisms

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

March

Sunday 1st March: Lent 2

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

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

Sunday 8th March: Lent 3

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay followed by APCM and lunch

4.00pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 15th March: (Lent 4) Mothering/Refreshment Sunday

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

11.15am Family Service (no Eucharist) at St. Mary's, Everton with posy distribution

Sunday 22nd March: Lent 5

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

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

Sunday 29th March: Palm Sunday (clocks forward) Holy Week Begins

9.30am Liturgy of the Palms at St. Mary's Everton

10.00am Liturgy of the Passion at St Mary's Gamlingay

Taize-style Compline services in each of the Benefice churches as follows

Monday 30th March: Gamlingay TBC

Tuesday 31st March: Hatley TBC

Wednesday 1st April: Everton TBC

2nd April Maundy Thursday, Maundy Service with washing of feet and stripping of altars

7.00pm St. Mary's. Gamlingay.

April 3rd Good Friday: Memorials of the Crucifixion in the churches of the Benefice - details TBC

April 4th Holy Saturday

7.00pm Service of light and Renewal of Baptism Vows with Easter vigil readings

April 5th Easter Sunday, Festival Eucharist/Communion in all three churches

8.00am Hatley St. George

9.30am St Mary's, Gamlingay,

11.15am 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.