

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



Weekly newsletter 27 February 2026



From Hilary:

This Sunday, Lent 2, begins the second full week of Lent. As we enter the month of March there is real hope that Spring is underway, even though there is likely to be at least one more bout of cold weather if recent years are anything to go by. The themes of the readings this Sunday are around calling and response, the centrality of the person of Jesus, and his teaching about the Kingdom and its spiritual nature.



LENT STUDY

The Wednesday group meeting at the Rectory was led by Chris in this first full week of Draw Near study on the topic of 'sharing'. From the introductory few days given over to considering 'Worship', the course moved on to 'Prayer' - communication with God, which is of course a fundamental part of worship. Prayer consists as much of listening/receiving as of speaking and acting. In the Lent course six aspects of prayer are considered - adoration, confession, thanksgiving, lament, intercession and supplication. The ways in which these can be expressed are not particularly explored in this course but are worth reflecting on. Reading, writing, singing, playing music, speaking, movement/dance, silence, indeed almost any way of being human can be a form of prayer. The Lord's Prayer gave the group the opportunity to consider adoration - 'hallowed be thy name', and the psalmist's words gave lament. Thoughts on intercession included reflection on leading intercessions in church - it would be lovely to have more people join that rota in Gamlingay, and to have lay-led intercessions in Everton. The group recognised that no one style will suit everyone and shared in an expanded version of the Lord's Prayer which is worth pondering. *(See last page)*

This next week, 'Sharing the Scriptures' encourages participants to live in a story, to feast on a banquet, to rejoice in a treasure, and not just treat scripture as words to know. The prayer is as follows:

'O Lord, you have given us your word for a light to shine on our path. Grant us so to meditate on that word, and to follow its teaching, that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'

EASTER

The Holy Saturday celebration service originally planned for the parishes here will now be transferred to the Cathedral as candidates from our Benefice will be confirmed there.

There will be a service in each of the three Benefice churches on Easter morning. Holy Week services are still being discussed with musicians; Good Friday, in particular, is not settled yet.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social takes place this coming week.

The PCC is still looking for a date when those involved can meet. Business will include: a date for the APCM (which will be in April after Easter), preparation of the Annual Report, services, buildings project and various essential maintenance considerations.

NB Evensong this month is next week. The Mothering Sunday service the following week will be a non-Eucharistic family service in the morning.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch takes place on Tuesday 3rd March.

The PCC met and is finalising the APCM report for next weekend. Accounts are with the independent examiner.

APCM preparation:

The Electoral Roll is now closed until after the APCM on 8th March.

Forms are in church to nominate PCC and churchwardens. Please ensure that those who are willing to stand have been nominated and seconded and consider who might join the few who have accepted responsibility for being named decision-makers on behalf of the church. For this next year Ann has agreed to continue as Church Warden, if nominated and elected. It would be so good to have someone formally named to be with her, particularly for after Christmas. I know she has appreciated the support of the PCC.

APCM Sunday 8th March 'Bring-and-Share' Lunch

An opportunity to relax after the business of the meeting and enjoy each other's company over an informal lunch in the Church Hall. Just bring some food to add to the table and tuck into the selection on display. Tea and coffee will be available.

All welcome!

RIP

Susannah – Edward Nobes' daughter who died this week.

Funeral of Josephine (Jose) Chandler will take place at St Mary's on Monday 2nd March at 11am

Thoughts and prayers are with the families.

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.

March/Easter

Sunday 1st March: Lent 2

9.30am All-age Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay (Will use the usual Lent format)
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Monday 2nd March

2pm Funeral of Josephine (Jose) Chandler at St. Mary's Gamlingay.

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

7pm Taize-style Compline services to be held in each of the Benefice churches as follows:

Monday 30th March: Gamlingay)

Tuesday 31st March: Hatley) All TBC

Wednesday 1st April: Everton)

Thursday 2nd April: Maundy Thursday 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

8.00pm Easter Vigil with Baptism and Confirmation at Ely Cathedral

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.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

*Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain Bearer, Love-Maker,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:*

*May the hallowing of your name echo
Through the universe!
May the way of your justice be followed
By all the peoples of the world!
May your heavenly will be done
By all created beings!
May your commonwealth of peace and freedom
Sustain our hope and be manifest on earth.*

*With the bread that we need today, feed us.
In the hurts we experience from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.*

*For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
Now and forever. Amen.*

(Fr. Jim Cotter, Anglican Priest)

For more information on Jim Cotter (1942 - 2014) see turmblingages.co.nz

**For the illustrated sheets on transfiguration – being transformed by
the light of God's glory – use these links:**

[15th February](#)

[22nd February](#)

[1st March](#)