

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



Weekly newsletter 3 April 2026



From Hilary:

As Holy Week culminates in Easter celebrations it feels that Spring is really here, although we may well not have seen the last of the cold weather in these times when seasons seem to blur into one another more than they did in our memories. Blessings with those who have shared the Holy Week journey through worship this year. Christ is risen! (He is risen indeed) **Alleluia!**

Happy Easter!

LENT STUDY in Holy Week

The group meetings ended for this year with study during Holy Week, continuing with thoughts on sharing through humility, obedience, compassion, servanthood, courage and love. The meaning of humility and whether obedience is the same as submission were topics explored in discussion.

'Almighty God, as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son, help us to see and know your love for us, so that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen'

GOOD FRIDAY

Meditations for the day in Hatley and Everton will offer the opportunity, through the internet, to use music and pictures on the Way of the Cross, produced by Bernice, Ann Davis' sister, who has kindly allowed their use.

There will also be physical objects and written words to aid meditation on the crucifixion for those who want to spend time in the churches reflecting on the day.

The Benefice service in Gamlingay will consist of:

From 12noon to 2pm reflections on the last words of Jesus from the cross, leading into the final hour Good Friday liturgy from 2pm with communion from reserved sacrament.

DONATIONS FOR GAZA HOSPITAL

The PCC in Gamlingay was able to respond to the request from +Dagma to dedicate the Good Friday Offering to support the Diocese of Jerusalem's Gazan hospital (the Al Ahli Hospital), and to join together in prayer for our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

The Diocese of Jerusalem has for over 150 years played a pivotal cultural and political role in the region, providing a witness to the love of Christ through their parishes and institutions. Tragically the Christian presence is under threat in the region, when the presence of the Church, witnessing to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is needed more than ever to serve and pray for those communities experiencing a fragile ceasefire in Gaza and the increasing difficulties in the West Bank. The Diocese of Jerusalem - and the Church at large in the region - needs our prayer and support to enable it to continue amid such difficulties. These have only increased since the recent outbreak of war between the US, Israel and Iran.

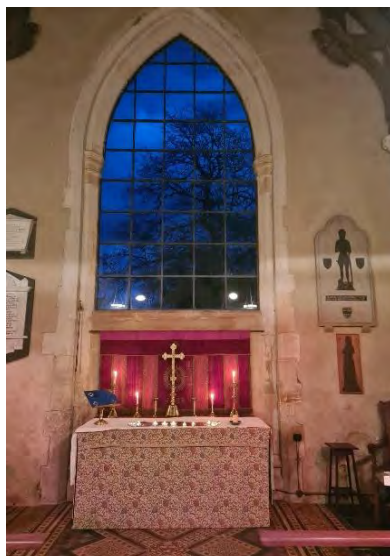
The Al Ahli hospital in Gaza is the only Christian hospital in Gaza. It fearlessly continues to serve all (Ahl) in Gaza, despite five bomb attacks during the war. At the ceasefire it was operating at more than double its normal capacity. Funds are needed for staff salaries, as well as medical supplies, generator fuel and, of course, repairs.

Any donations in Gamlingay church on Good Friday will go to this cause, Individuals can also make online donations (including Gift Aid) via <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585#!/DonationDetails>

Holy Saturday worship for our parishes will be at Ely Cathedral (our mother church) where Keith Miller and his daughter Ivy will be confirmed at the service. Our new Easter candles will be lit for the first time there, to be brought back to the parishes and into churches for the morning services on Easter Day. The Saturday service is available live at 8pm and in recording, both online (YouTube) on this link https://www.youtube.com/live/-EtuxT9yRMM?si=g2vR0_sCTTipsdT

Easter Day services take place in all three of the Benefice churches followed by Easter Egg hunts. Hatley will be a said service; Gamlingay will be an All Age Communion; Everton will use the white service booklets with Easter Day rubrics.

TAIZE SERVICE REFLECTIONS FROM THE 3 CHURCHES...



NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social took place this last Tuesday, the Tuesday of Holy Week, with 33 attendees and many helpers, despite the absence of one or two regulars.

A reminder that the APCM takes place on Sunday 19th April following the morning service, and that evensong will be the previous Sunday (12th).

The revision of the Electoral Roll is underway and applications are being processed. The Roll will be displayed and closed on the Sunday after Easter (the week before the APCM) after which time corrections only can be made, no new additions until after the APCM. Anyone on the roll will remain unless they wish to be removed (Contact Doreen Gurney).

The church clock continues to run, although it is losing about half a minute a day. Many thanks to Mike and Nigel who are monitoring and will seek to adjust it.

From Dorothy Oglesby:

The eight church cleaners have met for a very convivial annual evening meal at Vera Bircham's house. Many thanks to Vera who has been loyally arranging the rota for about 40yrs and thanks to all the cleaners for their willingness to continue this important contribution in support of the life of the church.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch will take place this coming Tuesday (the one after Easter - thank you to helpers who have responded to the request from attendees.

Thank You to the family of Alec Charles Deeble RIP for the donation to church following his funeral.

Churchyard plans are underway for scythe-mowing later in the Summer. Meanwhile, Wednesday afternoons will be offered as times to gather and do regular maintenance on paths and around the church walls.

Swift boxes have been put up on the south end of the Church Hall thanks to the two Marks, and Jane O who saw them in - we hope the boxes will be inhabited!

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

April/Easter

April 3rd Good Friday: Memorials of the Crucifixion in Everton and Hatley St. George

12-2pm Gamlingay St Mary guided reflections followed by.....
2.00pm Final hour Good Friday liturgy with communion from reserve sacrament

April 4th Holy Saturday (Churches decorated for Easter)

8 pm Easter Vigil with Baptism and Confirmation at Ely Cathedral
Service available to view on the internet live and recorded – see link above..

April 5th Easter Sunday, Festival Eucharist/Communion in all three churches with Easter Egg hunts.

8.00am Hatley St. George
9.30am St Mary's, Gamlingay,
11.15am St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 12th April: Easter 2 (first Sunday after Easter)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
4.00pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton **(NB a week earlier than usual, swap to allow APCM**

Sunday 19th April: Easter 3 (second Sunday after Easter)

9.30am Parish Eucharist with healing time at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15 Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton, followed by APCM at the Village Hall

NB: No Wednesday Eucharist on 22nd April.

Sunday 26th April: Easter 4 (third Sunday after Easter)

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

May

Sunday 3rd May: Easter 5

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

Sunday 10th May: Easter 6 (5th after Easter) Rogation Day Monday-Wednesday

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

Thursday 14th May: Ascension Day Service(s) TBC

Sunday 17th May: Easter 7 (Sunday after Ascension)

9.30am Parish Eucharist with healing time at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
4.00pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 24th May: Day of Pentecost - Whit Sunday

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

Sunday 31st May: Trinity Sunday - Festival services at all three churches

9.30am Benefice Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton
6.00pm Informal Evening Service of music for Trinity Sunday at Hatley.

There may be a Rogation event during the week and weekends May 9th-May 17th - to be confirmed

*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.*