

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



Weekly newsletter 10 April 2026



From Hilary:

Well done and thank you for all of the worship offered this Easter (my last before retirement - something I have tried hard not to think about too much!). It is always a privilege but has felt particularly so this year. Thank you to everyone who shared worship with me - musicians, flower arrangers, cleaners, all who helped set up and put away for services, and of course congregation members.

The churches were beautifully decorated. Thank you to everyone who gave their time, skill and materials. Pictures have been published online, do share with Brenda if you have anything you would like to be shown in the newsletter.

This year Easter has been sadly memorable for those who were not well enough to be at the services. If this applies to you, you were missed - our love and prayers were and still are with you.



Maundy Thursday

The occasion offered the joy of sharing some special food with a small group (all female, as it happens) recalling that the Last Supper was a Jewish special feast for remembering. The parallels of rescue/salvation are there; Jesus, who was a Jew (no accident here!) takes the existing celebration and grafts in something new yet linked, giving of himself. It was lovely to experience a feast before remembering, in worship, what followed. Thank you to everyone who helped make things work - Jane for setting up the hall, everyone at the meal for being there and for helping to serve and clear up. Thanks also to Chris and the choir for the preparation and the music that resulted and to those who came and those who shared in the symbolism of washing feet and stripping the church in Gamlingay. In past years it has felt important to strip altars in the other churches as well, but this year it just wasn't possible.

Good Friday

I do not know if anyone used the meditation set out with the cross in Everton; events prevented an intended similar arrangement for Hatley. Thank you to Jonathan for putting the cross in Everton church.

The musical reflection generously shared by Ann Davis' sister Bernice is still available, I'm not sure anyone would have been able to access it on the day.

Well done and thank you to Chris who shared the 3 hours of worship in Gamlingay where Andrew's organ music was so special.

Donations for Gaza Hospital amounted to £40 in church. Any further contributions can be given in to church collections, suitably marked to indicate for what they are intended. Individuals can also still donate online (including Gift Aid) via <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585#!/DonationDetails>

Holy Saturday at Ely Cathedral (our mother church) was a wonderful occasion when Keith Miller and his daughter Ivy were confirmed. The service is still available online (YouTube) on this link

https://www.youtube.com/live/-EtuxT9yRMM?si=g2vR0_sCTTipsdT

It was a joy to share the occasion with them, though it was a long evening with a late night. Keith and particularly Ivy did very well to be in church the following morning to share Easter communion!

Easter Day

A different service took place in each of the three Benefice churches on Easter morning. Hatley was a said service using the Book of Common Prayer with 7 participants, one a child to whom apologies! (Maybe the egg hunt made up somewhat for the old language service.)

Gamlingay's All Age Communion was a joyous affair and the Everton service likewise, both with young members present. At Everton we especially missed Les, Dorothy and Doreen, who were prevented from being where they would have expected to be on the day. Worship was shared, though, by over four times the usual Sunday congregation.

Looking forward to May and June

Plans are under discussion for a walk for Rogation-tide between the parish churches. Expressions of interest are requested for what might work for those who would like to take part. One option is for something on either Sunday 10th or Sunday 17th May to fit in with services on those days. Another is for Saturday 16th, or even a weekday.



NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch took place this last Tuesday with a record turnout of 23 people including two children. Donations of £40.10 were received, and all the food went!

Churchyard weeding of paths took place on Wednesday afternoon - you can certainly see where we've been! Thank you and well done to Eileen and Ann who were joined by Hilary.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH GAMLINGAY

'DISCOVERY DAY'

Saturday 9th May - Morning: 10am or Afternoon: 2.30pm

How much do you know about Gamlingay's beautiful, ancient Parish Church?

Thanks, in large part, to Philip Gorton's extensive research and recording during his years with us, we are able to share some fascinating insights into the construction, past use, adaptations and idiosyncrasies of the building. Both groups will be led by David Elcome who has become very knowledgeable about the building itself, and Valerie Miller who will talk about the various service-related items to be found inside.

COME AND JOIN A GUIDED TOUR – you may be surprised about what you discover!

Even some of our regular church attenders may be unaware of all its hidden secrets.

Afterwards, enjoy tea/coffee and home-made cakes, in the church or outside if the weather allows.

Inclusive cost: £10 per head payable in advance.

Each group will be limited to 12 participants and places must be pre-booked either by email: brenda.elcome@ymail.com or by phone: 01767 650489.

HOW ARE YOUR EMERGENCY FIRST AID SKILLS?

Would you be able to administer CPR if necessary?

Do you know where to find and how to use a de-fibrillator?

Could you help someone who was choking?

On **Monday, 20th April** the **Guild of St. Mary** will be welcoming a team from St. John's Ambulance who will be coming to talk to us and offer some basic training in emergency first aid. These are vital skills which we should all have some familiarity – we are inviting anyone who would like to join us to come to the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Those who are physically able to take part in the training are encouraged to wear trousers as some kneeling on the floor will be necessary. For those unable to do this there will be much value in observing and learning the techniques.

It would be helpful (though not essential) to know how many participants to expect. If you are thinking of coming, please speak to Valerie or Brenda at church or email: liz@liz-huckle.co.uk

As always, our fee for visitors at Guild meetings will be £5 which includes refreshments.

ALL WELCOME

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Soup and Social takes place this next Tuesday as usual.

'**Brunch and Brew**' is on offer at the Village Hall (this) Saturday 11th, 11am - 1pm, a community initiative, free but donations welcome.

Further Reminder of APCM on Sunday 19th April (next) following the morning service, and that this Sunday (12th) will be Evensong.

The **revision of the Electoral Roll** is underway; applications are being processed and the Roll will be displayed and closed this Sunday.

RIP Raymond Knell whose ashes are to be interred at St Mary's on Tuesday 14th.

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

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**)

Tuesday 14th April

3pm Interment of Ashes, Raymond Knell – Everton.

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 Days 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

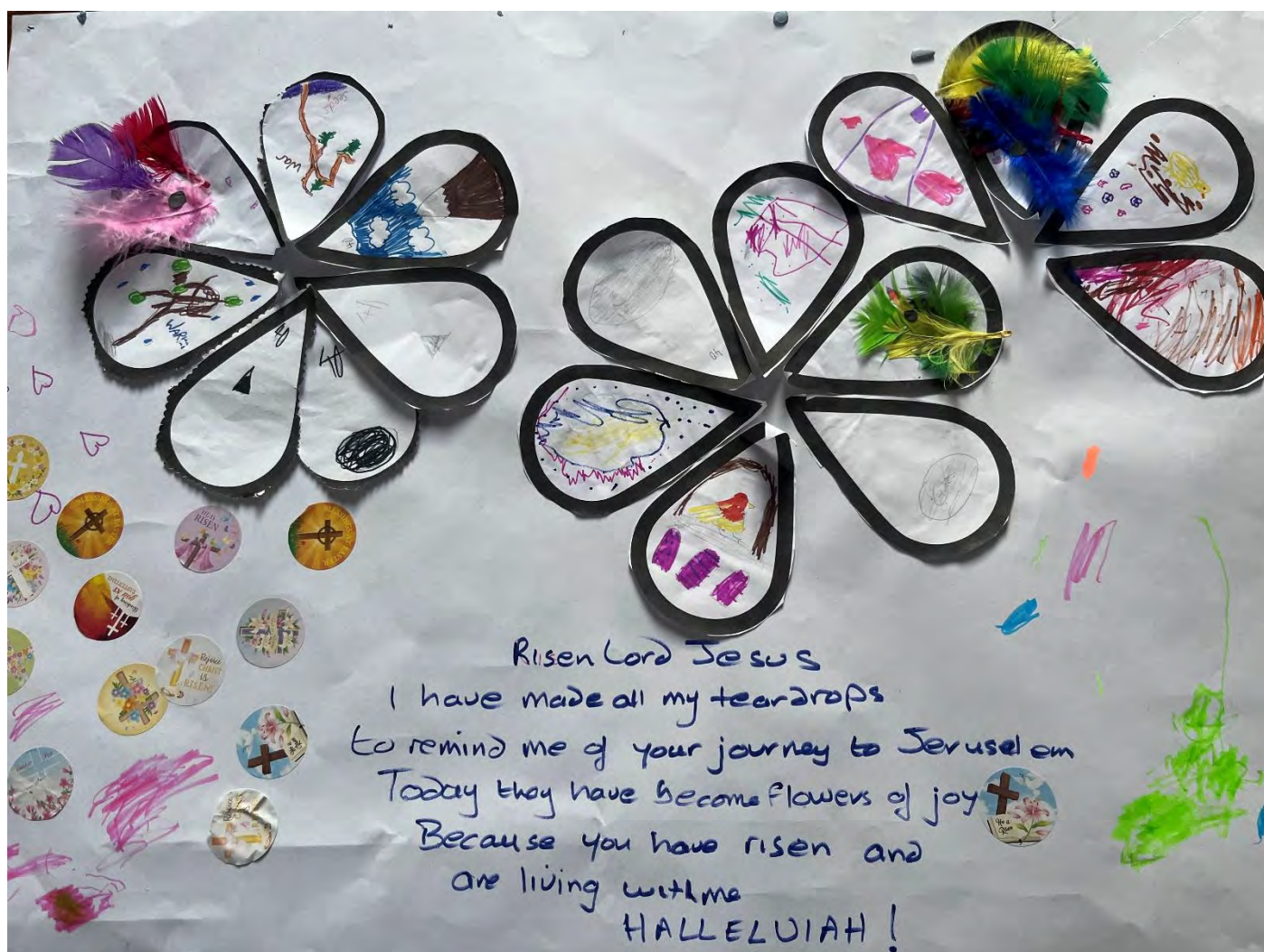
9.30am Benefice Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

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

EASTER SUNDAY CHILDREN'S WORK



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

*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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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.