

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Thursday, May 26th (ASCENSION DAY), 7 a.m. and 10.15 a.m., Holy Communion; 7.30 p.m., Evensong. Collections for S.P.C.K.

Sunday, June 5th (WHITSUNDAY), 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., Holy Communion; 11 a.m., Holy Communion (with Hymns); 6.45 p.m., Evensong, Sermon, and Te Deum.

Saturday, June 18th. The Church Fete.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

The "Mothering Sunday" Service was again an outstanding event. The local newspaper described the Church as "filled to overflowing," and I do not think that this was an exaggeration. The singing of the Mothers' Union Members and the Sunday School was highly praised, and the Lessons were impressively read by Mrs. Sparrow and Brian Jennings. Altogether, it was an occasion to be remembered.

The attendances at the special Lent Services were very satisfactory, and it was encouraging to find that those who were faithful in this respect came forward most willingly to assist with the Services in Holy Week.

The Palm Sunday Services were also well attended and in Badsey and Wickhamford nearly 400 Palm Crosses were distributed.

The only disappointing attendance was at the Preparation Service on Maundy Thursday evening. Though this is certainly the most appropriate time for such a Service, it is, perhaps, questionable as to whether it is the most convenient for our people. This will need to be considered another year.

Good Friday was well observed by our people. Those who came to the "Watch at The Cross," were greatly helped by the Rector of Church Lench's addresses. The Recital of Passion Music was a fitting prelude to the Passion Play, and for this Recital we are much indebted to Mr. J. Gilbert Mills. The Passion Play received warm commendation, and brought home in a most moving manner the events of the first Good Friday. The rapt attention of the large congregation was a striking tribute to the effectiveness of a very reverent production, and we are most grateful to all who took part, including the soloists (Mrs. A. Reed and Mr. L. Bott) and Mrs. Marshall for her help at the organ. The unfortunate accident to Mr. George Crisp necessitated a search at the last moment for someone to play the part of Judas, and thanks are due to Mr. Edgar Mitchell for stepping into the breach. We all wish Mr. Crisp a speedy recovery—Badsey Church has no more faithful a servant than he.

Thanks to many gifts of flowers and the devoted labours of "the faithful few," the Church was very beautiful for Easter Day. We had splendid Services, and the number of Communicants (180) was a record. A word of praise should be given to the Choir for their work during past weeks.

I should like to express my grateful thanks to the members of the congregation for the generous Easter offering, and to several friends for individual kindnesses.

We offer our sympathy to the relatives of those whose deaths are recorded in this issue.

I draw your attention to the arrangements for Ascension Day, and plead for a worthy observance of this great Festival.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
W. B. CHAPMAN.

NOTES AND NOTICES

P.C.C. At the April meeting the Vicar announced that Miss M. E. Sladden had resigned the Secretaryship on the grounds of ill-health. Miss Sladden had held this office for over twenty-two years, and the Church was under a deep debt of gratitude to her for her devoted service. It was unanimously agreed to place on record an appreciation of Miss Sladden's work. Mr. J. Major was appointed Secretary, and Mr. C. A. Binyon was re-elected Lay Vice-Chairman and Treasurer. Next Meeting, Monday, May 9th, in the Parish Room at 8 p.m. The chief item on the Agenda is the Church Fete, and it is hoped all members will be present.

M.U. At the closing Meeting of the session, on April 6th, Mrs. Chapman presented to Miss M. E. Sladden a bouquet of tulips and daffodils, and to Miss E. Sladden a posy of spring flowers, in grateful recognition of their kindness in allowing Meetings to be held at Seward House. The Members have presented an Alb, as their annual gift to the Church.

Diocesan Festival at the Cathedral on Wednesday, June 1st. Names must be given to Mrs. Chapman not later than May 17th.

Corporate Communion—Ascension Day at 10.15 a.m.

SANCTUARY GUILD. On April 7th the members, together with some members of the Mothers' Union, met in the Parish Room, after the Lent Service, to celebrate the Vicar and Mrs. Chapman's Wedding Day. Several presentations were made, and refreshments were served by the 4th Sunday Group. A Committee was elected to make arrangements for the joint outing on Thursday, July 7th. The members have presented a fair linen cloth to the Church.

Next Meeting, Thursday, May 12th, in the Parish Room, following Service in Church at 7.30 p.m.

A LETTER FROM THE BISHOP TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED RECENTLY

My Dear Friends,

We are planning to hold a special Deanery Service in All Saints' Church, Evesham, on Sunday, May 15th at 3.15 p.m. for the purpose of re-affirming our Confirmation promises and of re-dedication of ourselves to God's service.

During recent years Bishop Lasbrey and I have had the joy of confirming some thousands of candidates. We would like those who have been confirmed either by us or by another Bishop to come to this service. We feel that it will prove to be the call of God to us all to review our Church life, and by God's help to go forward in a more courageous witness for Christ and his Gospel.

This invitation goes to all who have been confirmed and who seek renewal of spiritual life. It is specially sent, however, to those who have been confirmed in recent years.

I would ask for your prayers for these special Services, that they may lead us all into a deeper understanding of our Faith.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM WORCESTER.

PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

March 31st.—Graham Leslie Reeves (privately).
April 17th.—Wayne Joseph Plant.
„ 20th.—Brian John Baker.

MARRIAGE

April 2nd.—John Perkins and Sarah Alice Hiatt,
b-^oth of Badsey.

BURIALS

March 22nd.—Emily Wilkins, aged 79 years.
„ 31st.—Frances Ankers, aged 83 years.
April 4th.—Graham Leslie Reeves, aged 5 days.
„ 8th.—Phyllis Ellen Jelfs, aged 21 years.

SERVERS ON DUTY

Sunday, May 1st. 8 a.m.—D. Barrand.
Sunday, May 8th. 8 a.m.—L. Mitchell.
Sunday, May 15th. 8 a.m.—B. Jennings.
Sunday, May 22nd. 8 a.m.—D. Edwards.
Sunday, May 29th. 8 a.m.—J. Hatcher.
Sunday, June 5th. 7 a.m.—B. Blake.
8 a.m.—D. Knight.
11 a.m.—D. Barrand.

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

March 27th, £6 15s. 7d.; April 3rd, £2 5s. 4d.;
April 10th, £3 7s. 11d. Weekdays in Lent (March
24th to April 14th) £4 8s. 9d. Good Friday, £3
11s. 10d. Total £20 9s. 5d.

Other Receipts: Envelopes (March) Church Ex-
penses £2 11s. 3d., Church Overseas 10s. (No. 4,
6s. 6d.; No. 6, 12s.; No. 7, 4s.; No. 8, 4s.; No. 10,
4s.; No. 11, 4s. 3d.; No. 13, 4s.; No. 14, 8s.; No.
16, 2s.; No. 17, 7s.; No. 18, 5s. 6d.); Covenants,
£15; Churchyard Fund, £15 0s. 3d. (per Mrs. Crane
£12 10s. 3d.; Mrs. Hopkins 10s.; Mr. E. Ballard £1;
Mr. F. C. Sparrow £1); Church Box 8s. 2d.; Rent
of Church Land £1 15s.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Thursday, May 26th (ASCENSION DAY), 9 a.m.,
Holy Communion.

Sunday, June 5th (WHITSUNDAY), 9.30 a.m.,
Holy Communion (with Hymns); 2.30 p.m.,
Sunday School Service, 5.30 p.m., Evensong,
Sermon, and Te Deum. Collections for Sunday
School.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

The "Mothering Sunday" Service was a very
happy occasion. The unaccompanied singing of the
Mothers' Union members and the reading of the
Lessons by Mrs. Mason and Angela Smith added
greatly to the Service.

The special service for the Sunday School Scholars
and their parents on Palm Sunday was also most
successful, and encouraged the teachers in the belief
that next year something a little more ambitious
might be attempted. Those responsible for the
dramatisation of two of the incidents in the Story of
the Passion entered into their work with reverent
enthusiasm, and the experiment was fully justified.
The same may be said of the experiment of having
various readers in the "Hymn Service of the
Passion" on Good Friday evening. We are very
grateful to Messrs. Sturt, Parry, Newbury and Willis
for their help.

Our Church was, as always, beautifully decorated
for Easter Day and many tributes were paid to the
skilled work of the decorators. The Services were
full of joy and inspiration, and the members of the
Choir are to be heartily congratulated on their ren-
dering of the Anthem. After the Services many
members of the congregation expressed their appre-
ciation of the work done by a party of willing volun-
teers in covering the kneelers.

I want to express my deep gratitude to you all for
your wonderful kindness to me personally at Easter.
I appreciate it very deeply.

The Churchyard Gate is a noteworthy addition. It
is the work of Mr. T. H. Collett, from material sup-
plied by Mr. Lees-Milne. Mr. Caswell was kindly
responsible for the fixing of it. To all of these our
thanks are due.

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The death of Mrs. R. Pearce, after so short an illness, was a great shock to us all. We extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, the members of her family, and to Mr. and Mrs. W. Pearce. Representatives of the Mothers' Union (of which she was a faithful member), the P.C.C., the Choir, and general congregation attended the funeral on April 20th.

The following have been elected members of a Sub-Committee to deal with the question of the repairs to the Church—the Vicar, Mr. Lees-Milne, Mrs. E. Cooke, Messrs. Parry, Sturt, Willis, W. Pearce, Sheppard, and E. Cooke.

The Collections for Church Expenses from March 27th to April 15th inclusive amounted to £9 5s. 10d.

We are glad to welcome Mrs. Parry, Mrs. G. Halford, and Mrs. Arthurs as members of the Sanctuary Guild.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
W. B. CHAPMAN.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

BRITISH LEGION (WOMEN'S SECTION).

At the March meeting, held at the Bell Inn, Mrs. W. Keen presided over a good attendance of members. Mrs. Keen was appointed as delegate to the London Conference. Names were taken of members who wished to visit London for the Royal Tournament on Saturday, June 18th. Mrs. H. Sadler won

the competition. Following refreshments, the newly-formed "Legion Players" (Mrs. F. Edwards, Mrs. E. Mitchell, Mrs. E. Cleaver, Mrs. D. Haines, Mrs. J. Arnold, Mrs. J. Johnston, Mrs. J. Knight, Mrs. C. Haines, Mrs. H. Brotherton, Mrs. N. Cook and Mrs. C. Rouse) presented a very amusing sketch entitled "Peas and Queues." Songs were sung by Mrs. Ockwell, and Mrs. J. Knight rendered two amusing monologues. Mrs. M. Harvey and Mrs. M. K. Cleaver played selections on the Piano and Banjo-Mandolin. A very enjoyable evening concluded with community singing.
M. K. Cleaver.

BRITISH LEGION (MEN'S SECTION).

Since the last report we have had two or three Social Evenings, which have been very enjoyable though not well attended. We should like to see more younger members joining with the "old faithfuls." The Darts season is nearly over, and next winter we hope to enter a team in an inter-Branch Competition. We hope to arrange some Cricket Matches during the summer. The Annual Outing will take place on Saturday, June 18th when a visit to the Royal Tournament at Olympia has been arranged by the County Committee. The train will leave Littleton and Badsey Station at 10.40 a.m.

The Bromsgrove Guild have promised to have the 1939-1945 War Memorial Tablet finished by the end of August and it is hoped to have it dedicated at a Special Service early in September. Our thanks are due to Mr. Binyon for undertaking the work con-

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nected with the obtaining of a Faculty. The latest appeal for donations towards the cost of the Tablet has, alas! met with a poor response, and I do urge those who have not yet contributed to do so as quickly as possible. Donations should be sent to Mr. J. E. Knight or to myself.

We all wish our Treasurer (Mr. G. Crisp) a speedy recovery after his accident.

P. H. Sparrow.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the April meeting Mrs. S. B. Carter (President) was in the chair. Mrs. Savory gave a Report of the Group Meeting at Cleeve Prior. A Canning Club Committee was formed. Mrs. Carter was appointed delegate to the Annual General Meeting to be held in the Albert Hall in June. The President read letters of thanks from Mrs. Pratley for her gift received on her resignation as Treasurer, and from Mr. P. Sparrow for the donation of £2 2s. to the War Memorial Fund.

Lady Victoria Forester gave a talk on "Old People's Welfare." At the conclusion of her talk, she was asked to present the B. A. Sears Cup, won by Mrs. W. Sparrow junior, at the Bulb Show. Mrs. Chapman then thanked Lady Victoria for her excellent talk. The monthly parcel was won by Mrs.

Chapman. A bring and buy stall in aid of Women's Institute Funds realised £2 14s. Fifteen dozen eggs were collected and taken to Avonside Hospital to be given to the old folks. Potatoes were given out for a Competition, and a very happy evening concluded with the National Anthem.

N. E. Keen.

WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting of the Wickhamford Memorial Hall Committee held recently, there was a very small attendance. The Chairman thanked the members of the committee for their work for the past year.

The Balance Sheet was presented, and the Treasurer reported that the total sum now collected for the Hall was £1,740. It was agreed that the 1948 Horticultural Show was a huge success. A sum of £228 1s., with £77 8s. 6d. expenses, was realised. It was agreed to hold the 1949 Horticultural Show on the 20th August in the same surroundings.

The election of Committee was next on the agenda. In view of such a poor attendance, it was agreed that the same Committee, with only one or two alterations, should carry on for another year.

A. C. Welland.

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