

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

Parish Review

FEBRUARY, 1955

(Extracts from a Sermon broadcast from Holy Trinity Church, York, by the Archbishop of York on Sunday, January 2nd, 1955).

"The scriptural character of the Church of England is one of its distinctive marks. It has been rightly called 'a Bible Christian Church,' on account of the full use it makes of the scriptures. It gives the Bible to its priests and bishops when they are ordained or consecrated, and they promise to be diligent both in the reading and study of the scriptures. They also promise they will teach nothing as necessary to salvation unless it can be proved and concluded from them.

"In every church a great Bible is found on the lectern set up in a prominent place, and the minister is directed to read the lessons from it 'in a distinct voice,' so that the people can hear him. Throughout our service the works of the scriptures appear and reappear in the epistle and gospel, in the psalms, in the lessons, in the prayers and versicles.

"Moreover, the Church of England encourages its members to read the Bible for themselves, and to make themselves familiar with its teaching. It is meant to be an open book for both clergy and laity. Our Church calls upon the laity to read and study the Bible, and to use it as a lantern to give light to their feet on their pilgrimage through life. . . . The Church of England speaks with authority and definiteness on the central truths of the Christian faith, and on the way of life which its members should follow. It is quite untrue to say that the Church is vague and undecided about what it expects its members to believe and to be.

"Its faith is written large for all to read in the creeds, in the Prayer Book and in the catechism. But, on secondary opinions and matters, the Church permits as much freedom as possible to its members. It avoids over-burdening them with a multiplicity of demands. . . . One of the characteristics of the Church of England is its appeal to sound learning. It is not afraid of new knowledge and discoveries. It examines and tests them, and if they are found to be true it is prepared to welcome them, for it holds that modern thought when true can be reconciled with the ancient creeds. Our Church believes that all truth comes from God, and therefore new discoveries may help towards a fuller understanding of the perfect truth in God. . . .

"For another reason we have cause to rejoice in the heritage of the Church of England. We should be profoundly thankful for the unique contribution which God has allowed it to make to the nation through the past centuries. I am not thinking so much of what has been done by archbishops and other ecclesiastics of note. What they have done is insignificant compared with the continued influence for good which has been asserted in century after century by countless unknown clergy and laity in their different parishes.

"It is impossible to exaggerate the influence which their teaching and example have had on our nation. In the worship of the parish church 'untold multitudes have learned of the love of God, have received comfort in

sorrow, help in temptation, light in darkness, inspiration and guidance. Through it, millions have had some vision of God and of His redeeming love in Christ, and have gained clearer realization of the hope of the life to come. . . .

"In parish after parish, the Church still continues its work of preaching the Word and administering the sacraments. It is providing clergy and churches for the housing estates and the new towns which are springing up in different directions. It is sending its clergy to preach the gospel in distant lands. It is adapting its organization and methods to meet needs and problems undreamt of by our forefathers.

"It is true that we are understaffed, and often hampered through lack of funds, but the work of the Church still goes on. While thanking God for past mercies, let us face the future with confidence and hope, believing that He who has guided and protected His Church in past centuries will continue to use it for His glory and for the good of our nation in the years to come."

The Rector of a well-known parish church has said of his congregation: "The young people and the older people are with us in abundance: the gap comes in the 35-45 age group." This may not be the experience of all, but I think it is sufficiently true to be a challenging thought. For the "middle generation," the fathers and mothers of growing families, occupy an important place in the community. They have gathered experience which gives them superiority over the young, while they retain energies and executive power which the old are losing. In their middle position, they may be tempted alike to criticise the leadership of their elders, and to deplore the failings of modern youth, while underestimating their own responsibilities. For is it not the stage when, having found our jobs and built our homes, we tend to grow complacent or to lose our ideals?

Of course, this middle generation grew up in an unfortunate time, spanned by two wars and the uneasy years in between. But it may be that our hopes of renewal lie with them. For the younger generation, as much to-day, I believe, as before, are born with zest and enterprise, and it is the fact that, if we are inclined to be critical of them, it is because we have given them a poor example. Our churches at least should take this question to heart. While our urgent work of religious education centres round children and youth, our real challenge should be to their parents and elders. It is not enough to want your children given a Christian upbringing, if your own example denies them the encouragement they will look for at home.

(The Bishop of Wakefield).

Badsey and Aldington Notes

CHURCH SERVICES. Services as usual during the month of February. **Ash Wednesday (Feb. 23rd) 10 a.m. Holy Communion; 4 p.m. Children's Service; 7 p.m. Lent Service.** (First of a Series of Addresses on "The Gospels"). **Sunday Feb. 27th—1st Sunday in Lent.** (At Evening the first of a course of Sermons on "God's Holy Will and Commandments.")

Mothers' Union. Meetings this month will be as follows: **Tuesday, Feb. 8th.** 2.30 p.m. Speaker Mr. W. A. Hancock (Evesham Dairies Ltd.). Subject "Our Milk

Supply." In view of the interest aroused by Mr. Hancock's talk to the Men's Fellowship in November last, it was thought that our Members would be equally interested and Mr. Hancock has most kindly promised to pay a return visit. Let us shew our appreciation by having a "full house"! **Tues. Feb. 22nd.** 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Davies (Regional Organiser) will speak on "The National Blood Transfusion Service." This is another most important subject and I hope that all who can possibly attend will do so.

It would be a great help if outstanding Subscriptions were paid this month, as the M.U. Journal Account has to be paid in advance.

Men's Fellowship. The Speaker on January 11th was Mr. Roger Savory, who gave us an account of his recent visit to the Bahrein oilfields and refinery. He took us through all the various complicated processes through which the crude oil passes. There was no doubt he had made the most of his time there, for the talk was packed full of facts which he presented in a plain straightforward way and shewed an absolute mastery of his subject. We all learnt a great deal and subjected him to a battery of questions, to all of which he was able to give satisfactory answers. He also gave us some idea of life on the island and shewed many photographs. It was a most enjoyable and instructive evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

It is very gratifying to have such a talk from one of our own young members and he is to be congratulated on the way he gave it.

C.A.B.

On Tuesday Feb. 8th, Mr. Stanton (Messrs. Booth and Bomford Ltd.) will speak on "Refrigeration." This should be a most interesting subject and we look forward to a full attendance of Members.

W.B.C.

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

Dec. 19th, £8 17s. 3d.; Dec. 26th, £6 9s. 3d.; Jan. 2nd, £6 8s. 8d.; Jan. 9th, £7 17s. 3d.; Jan. 16th (Evening), £6 2s. 9d. Total £35 15s. 2d.

OTHER RECEIPTS

Church of England Children's Society (Dec. 24th/25th), £8; **Freewill Offering Envelopes**—Church Expenses £2 2s. 11d., Church Overseas 12s. 1d.—**Total £2 15s. 0d.** (Nos. 4, 8, 10, 11, 16, 4s.; Nos. 7, 12, 5s.; No. 6, £1 5s. 0d.)

ROTA OF SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday, Feb. 6th.—8 a.m., Mr. G. H. Stewart; 11 a.m., Messrs. G. Jones and D. Peet; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. J. T. Batchelor, F. Cleaver and M. Brady.

Sunday, Feb. 13th.—8 a.m., Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m., Messrs. T. W. Hardiman and J. M. Chapman; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. M. Barnard, P. Case and D. A. Jelfs.

Sunday, Feb. 20th.—8 a.m., Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday, Feb. 27th.—8 a.m., Mr. J. Major; 11 a.m., Mr. P. H. Sparrow and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. C. Stewart, A. W. Sparrow and A. Worthington.

Sunday, Mar. 6th.—As Sunday Feb. 6th.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

	Server	Crucifer
Sunday Feb. 6th.		
8 a.m.	N. Langstone	_____
11 a.m.	E. Salter	H. Wheatley
6.45 p.m.	P. Hatcher	A. Sears
Sunday Feb. 13th.		
8 a.m.	D. Barrand	_____
11 a.m.	A. Sears	R. Hall
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	P. Hatcher
Sunday Feb. 20th.		
8 a.m.	P. Hatcher	_____
6.45 p.m.	D. Barrand	R. Hall
Sunday Feb. 27th.		
8 a.m.	D. Rouse	_____
11 a.m.	P. Hatcher	A. Sears
6.45 p.m.	R. Hall	H. Wheatley
Sunday Mar. 6th.		
8 a.m.	R. Hall	_____
11 a.m.	R. Salter	D. Barrand
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	P. Hatcher

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Dec. 26th.—Julie Vanessa Davies.

Jan. 16th.—Deserie Charlotte Stewart.

Burials

Jan. 13th.—Augusta Cobb, aged 79 years.

LOOKING BACK

Sun. Dec. 19th. A full Church for the Carol Service. We are grateful to the Choir and the Readers for a most helpful Service of Preparation.

Wed. Dec. 22nd. Our faithful band of decorators as usual did an excellent job. Miss Norah Smith again lent us her Christmas Crib but, owing to illness, was unable to install it in Church. Mr. Harvey kindly deputised for her.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. 204 people made their Communion—the number has hardly varied during the past five years. There were less at the Midnight Eucharist, but more at 8 a.m. on Christmas morning. The Services were most reverent and impressive.

Sunday Dec. 26th. The Church was full for Matins, followed by the Sunday School Prize-Giving. Many more parents came than in previous years and this greatly encouraged our Teachers. Is their work more appreciated than we sometimes think? We have very happy memories of Christmas 1954. Mention should be made of the work of the Choir, the Organist and the Handbell Ringers.

Tuesday Jan. 4th. The Mothers' Union and Sanctuary Guild Party coincided with the first snowfall of the winter. This, together with the prevalence of influenza, unfortunately affected the attendance, but those who braved the elements spent a very happy time. The Tea Committee again did splendidly and we are greatly indebted to them. Thanks are also due to Messrs. A. and R. Reed for help with the transport of tables.

During the course of the evening the Vicar expressed his deep appreciation of the work done by the Members of the Mothers' Union and the Sanctuary Guild during the past year.

Saturday Jan. 15th (Sunday School Party). Illness and wintry weather caused a goodly number of absentees, about 120 being present. The experiment of holding the Party in Badsey County Primary School was most successful. Heartly thanks are due to (1) parents and friends for generous gifts in money and in kind, especially the donors of milk, tomatoes, oranges, apples and potato crisps, (2) those who worked so hard in preparing the Tea, (3) Mr. Henry King for the much-appreciated Film Show, and (4) Mr. Harvey for help in many ways.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES. Services as usual during the month of February. **Ash Wednesday (Feb. 23rd) Holy Communion at 9 a.m.**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This Meeting will be held in the Parish Room on Wednesday, February 16th, at 7.15 p.m. It will be preceded at 7 p.m. by the Vestry Meeting for the nomination and election of Churchwardens. All members of the Electoral Roll should regard it as a duty to attend. Reports on the work of the Parochial Church Council during the past year and of the condition of the Fabric and Ornaments of the Church will be presented, in addition to the annual Financial Statement. The Parochial Church Council for the ensuing year will be elected, and representatives to the Ruridecanal Conference appointed.

P.C.C. At the January Meeting it was reported that the final receipts of the Christmas Sale were £103 12s. 4d. It was decided to contribute £50 to the Bishop's Appeal for the new Housing Areas and to allocate the balance to the Fabric Fund.

The draft Annual Accounts were presented. The General Fund shewed Receipts of £162 8s. 3d. (Church Collections £114 15s. 9d.; Church Box £27 12s. 6d.; Gift Day—part proceeds—£20) and Payments £176 14s. 3d., the balance in hand being reduced from £35 4s. 11d. to £20 18s. 11d.

A statement regarding the Fabric Fund will be made when the accounts for the repairs to the Roof have been finally settled. Satisfaction was expressed that this work had now been completed.

Mothers' Union. Teas this month will be provided by Mrs. Phillips (Feb. 2nd), Mrs. Woodedd (Feb. 9th), Mrs. Sturt (Feb. 16th) and Mrs. Walters (Feb. 23rd).

Choir. At the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on Jan. 5th deep appreciation was expressed of the work of the Organist and Choir during the past year.

Sunday School. In a letter to the Vicar, the Treasurer of the Universities Mission to Central Africa acknow-

ledges very gratefully the help accorded by Teachers and Scholars to the work of the Leper Hospital at Lulindi. The sum of £3 17s. 6d. was sent to U.M.C.A. Headquarters.

Church Collections. Church Expenses (Dec. 19th, 26th, Jan. 2nd, 9th, 16th), **£12 2s. 11d.**; **Church of England Children's Society** (Dec. 25th), **£7 12s. 3d.**

Christmas. The Church, with its decorations and illuminated Christmas Tree, presented a striking appearance, and we are indebted to all those who were responsible. There were 64 communicants on Christmas morning.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Badsey Remembrance Hall Committee. The sum of £30 18s. 9d. was collected during the three nights' Carol Singing round Badsey and Aldington. The Singing was enjoyed by the Carollers—we hope by the Listeners also! To non-members of the Committee who took part we extend very sincere thanks.

H. L. Hatcher.

Badsey W.I. At the New Year Party on Jan. 12th over 80 Members and Guests partook of an excellent meal, prepared by Members of the Committee. Following the meal, Mrs. S. B. Carter (President) thanked all helpers, and thanked also Miss N. Smith, Messrs. Harvey and Peet for acting as Tellers at the Annual Meeting. We were sorry that, owing to illness, Miss Smith was unable to be with us at the Party. We were then entertained by Miss Salisbury and her group of girls and their sketches, songs and dances were thoroughly enjoyed. Coffee and Mince Pies were served by the Members of the Committee and Mrs. Haines. Next came the Bran Tub and this caused much excitement. The evening concluded with Dancing, for which Mrs. A. Reed played. In this the two Male Guests were very much in demand! It was unanimously agreed that it had been a most successful function.

Daphne Bell.

British Red Cross Society (Badsey Detachment). It is hoped to arrange a Course of Lectures on "Infant and Child Welfare." Will anyone interested please get in touch with me?

Six Members took duty at Evesham Hospital on December 29th and 30th in order to release Sisters and Nurses for Christmas Parties.

I. M. Brady.

Wickhamford W.I. In spite of the bad weather there was a good attendance at the annual New Year Party. After the visitors had been welcomed, Mrs. H. Collett, conductor of the Choir, sang two ballads. These were followed by the Choir singing a collection of songs, accompanied by Mr. Peet. A short sketch was then performed by Mr. Partridge and his players from Harvington. After refreshments a second sketch was presented, and a number of the players sang solos and duets. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. E. Cooke. The evening concluded with games and community singing, during which ice-cream was served. The monthly parcel was won by Mrs. A. Daffurn.

D. Daffurn.