

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

Parish Review

OCTOBER 1956

"I came not to send peace, but a sword"

—St. Matthew 10. 34

If you want a comfortable and pleasing existence don't try to be a Christian. Christ did not come to send peace, but a sword. There is no use in our trying to live as though it makes only a superficial difference whether we call ourselves Christians or not. If you serve Christ He will be content with nothing less than the whole of you. His Service means taking up the Cross, i.e. being hard where others are easy going, being regarded by some as unintelligent, by others as bigoted, by others as uncharitable—for Christ's lordship is intolerant. We are His sworn men and owe Him "life and limb and earthly worship," and service against all other lords; we cannot reduce that to mere commonplace morals or respectable citizenship. Whatever Christianity is or is not, it is not commonplace or respectable. It is not to pleasant days, well-fashioned lives and sheltered peace that Christ summons us, but to tears and the splendour of sacrifice, to the height and depth of lives lived in warfare, a world of wonder and of joy, but also of anguish and agony.

Let us then, as Christ's servants, have no delusive dreams. Life will not be easier, but harder, infinitely harder, if we are to be His soldiers against sin, the world and the devil.

J. N. FIGGIS

However we look at the prospects of the Church, probability, rational calculation, commonsense are all ranged on the cynic's side. People talk of the Church being in danger—the Church is always in danger. The betting is always in favour of the devil. But it was not human chance, but God's grace that gave to the Early Church its victory over the most imposing civilisation and strongest government the world has known. It is only as we throw ourselves on God that we shall conquer, for "of ourselves we have no power to help ourselves." With that aid, victory is not merely likely, but certain.

J. N. FIGGIS

One of the greatest of our processional hymns *Onward, Christian Soldiers* was actually written for a Sunday School Festival.

The author of that great hymn was the Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould who, from 1864 to 1866, was a curate at Horbury near Wakefield, and a very well-loved priest. Now between Horbury Bridge and the town of Horbury lies a long, steep hill and, perhaps not surprisingly, the footsteps of the children tended to drag as they climbed the long slope—often on a hot, tiring afternoon.

So the curate decided to write a Processional Hymn to be sung on the march to remedy this, and at Whitsun, 1865, the Horbury scholars, led by a brass band, marched to the town singing "*Onward, Christian Soldiers, Marching as to war; With the Cross of Jesus going on before.*" The original tune was a melody by Haydn, but the famous tune we know so well was composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan.

"All through our spiritual life we may be perpetually in contact as it were, with the means of receiving what is good and never receive it because we are not *expecting* it. We have not expected peace of mind from our worship, we have not expected a sense of security against evil; that is why we have not found it; but it is our fault. And certainly, most of us have not expected to find fellowship from worship. We have known something of the grace of Jesus Christ, perhaps even of the love of God: but of the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, of the sense of being linked to one another because all are dominated by that one power, most of us have found nothing because we have not expected it."

From "Citizenship of Heaven"—a lecture by William Temple.

In Louisiana there had been a long drought. A Negro clergyman decided to hold a meeting in church in order to pray for rain, and the whole congregation crowded in. The clergyman stepped forward and looked silently and disapprovingly at his congregation. After some time he broke out: "The lack of faith in this congregation is a sin and a shame. I fear for your souls. Here we have come together to pray for rain and not a single one of you has had enough faith to bring an umbrella!"

AN UP-TO-DATE NURSERY RHYME

(Reprinted from the Church Army Gazette)

Ten little Churchmen went to Church when fine,
But it started raining, and then there were nine.
Nine little Churchmen stayed up very late;
One overslept himself, and then there were eight.
Eight little Churchmen on the road to Heaven;
One joined a Rambling Club, and then there were seven.
Seven little Churchmen heard of Sunday "flicks;"
One thought he'd like to go, and then there were six.
Six little Churchmen kept the place alive;
One bought a television, and then there were five.
Five little Churchmen seemed loyal to the core;
The Vicar upset one of them, and then there were four.
Four little Churchmen argued heatedly over ceremonial,
and then there were three.
Three little Churchmen sang the service through;
Got a hymn they didn't know, and then there were two.
Two little Churchmen disputed who should run
The next Parochial concert, and then there was one.
One faithful Churchman, knowing what to do,
Got a friend to come to Church, and then there were two.
Two sincere Churchmen each brought in one more;
So their number doubled, and then there were four.
Four sturdy Churchmen simply couldn't wait.
Till they found four others, and then there were eight.
Eight eager Churchmen searching round for souls,
Praying, working, witnessing, drew others in by shoals.
Shoals and shoals at every service cramming every pew.
O God, supply this grace and zeal in my own Parish too.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday, Oct. 7th. Services as usual.

Sunday, Oct. 14th. Services as usual.

Sunday, Oct. 21st. 8 a.m., Holy Communion; 6.45 p.m., "A Nine Lesson Service on The Creed"

Sunday, Oct. 28th. Services as usual.

Thursday, Nov. 1st (All Saints). 10 a.m., Holy Communion.

Sunday, Nov. 4th (Octave of All Saints). 8 a.m., Holy Communion; 11 a.m., Sung Eucharist; 6.45 p.m., Evensong.

N.B. The names of the faithful departed to be commemorated should be given to the Vicar not later than Sunday, Oct. 28th.

Sunday, Nov. 11th (Remembrance Sunday). Services as in previous years. (Collections for Earl Haig's Fund—Poppy Day Appeal).

P.C.C. At the Meeting on Sept. 3rd it was unanimously agreed (1) to pay the Diocesan Quota (£122) in full again this year (2) to close the Churchyard path on the Thursday nearest to St. James's Day (July 25th) in the future. On the completion of routine business, an exhaustive and valuable discussion took place on the three subjects suggested for discussion by the Bishop, i.e. "Children, Confirmation Candidates and Communicants."

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 12th, at 7 p.m.

Men's Fellowship. All Members are urged to attend the Meeting in the Parish Room on Tuesday, October 9th, at 7 p.m. to discuss the future of the Fellowship. Will they also try to bring a friend with them to this most important Meeting?

W.B.C.

Mothers' Union. As stated last month, Meetings re-start on Tuesday, October 9th, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Chapman will introduce the 1956-57 Syllabus entitled "Presenting The Mothers' Union," following which the arrangements for future Meetings will be discussed. Let us have a full attendance and a lively discussion!

Corporate Communion, All Saints' Day (Thursday, November 1st) at 10 a.m.

Choir. We were all very sorry to hear of Mr. R. Pethard's cycling accident and wish him a speedy and complete recovery. He has been a Chorister for over sixty years and has rendered yeoman service.

Robert Hall has followed Patrick Hatcher's example and has entered the Police College at Hendon. We are very sorry to lose his faithful service as Chorister, Server and Bell-ringer, but wish him every success and shall hope to see him from time to time.

CONFIRMATION

The Rite of Confirmation will be administered in Badsey Church on April 7th next year.

In order to prevent misunderstanding, I wish to repeat what I have said on previous occasions, i.e. that all those who wish to be presented for Confirmation must attend Church regularly during the six months prior to the Confirmation.

The date of the start of Confirmation Classes will be announced later. Those who wish to join the Classes are asked to be present at Evensong on Sunday, October 14th, when I shall speak on this most important matter. It is much to be hoped that their parents will accompany them.

I draw your attention to the following note from "St. George's (Coventry) Review":—

There is no part of the Church's work which stands out more plainly than what is called the care and nurture of the young. The Church takes the infant into its arms at Baptism, it teaches him his first lessons in the Christian faith, it prepares and presents him for Confirmation and brings him to the altar where he takes his place at the Lord's Table. It sounds excellent in theory, but nothing causes us more anxiety and disappointment in practice. Today very large numbers of the children born in this country are not brought to be baptized: of those who are christened in Church far too many never come to a Sunday School or join in Christian worship: of those who do attend Sunday School a very large number sever all connection with the Church as soon as they leave School: again a proportion of those who are confirmed pass into the ranks of lapsed communicants.

W.B.C.

SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday Oct. 7th. 8 a.m. Mr. G. H. Stewart; 11 a.m. Messrs. D. Peet and G. A. O. Jones; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. J. T. Batchelor, N. Cleaver and M. Brady.

Sunday Oct. 14th. 8 a.m. Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m. Mr. T. W. Hardiman and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. D. A. Jelfs, M. J. Barnard and A. W. Smith.

Sunday Oct. 21st. 8 a.m. Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday Oct. 28th. 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 R. J. Taylor.

Sunday Nov. 4th. As Sunday Oct. 7th.

WAR MEMORIAL

The following are kindly responsible for the Flowers: Oct. 7th, Mrs. P. H. Sparrow; Oct. 14th, Mrs. Bonehill; Oct. 21st, Mrs. P. Hall; Oct. 28th, Mrs. Cook; Nov. 4th, Mrs. A. Reed.

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

Aug. 19th, £7 11s. 7d.; Aug. 26th, £7 18s. 3d. Sept. 2nd, £8 16s. 2d.; Sept. 9th, £6 9s. 6d. **Total £30 15s. 6d.**

Other Receipts

Church Overseas (Sept. 16th, Evening) £6 7s. 6d.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

	Server	Crucifer
Sunday Oct 7th.		
8 a.m.	B. Caswell	
11 a.m.	R. Salter	R. Harvey
6.45 p.m.	E. Harker	A. Sears
Sunday Oct. 14th.		
8 a.m.	R. Harvey	
11 a.m.	G. Brooks	H. Wheatley
6.45 p.m.	A. Sears	B. Caswell
Sunday Oct. 21st.		
8 a.m.	A. Sears	
6.45 p.m.	B. Caswell	G. Brooks
Sunday Oct. 28th.		
8 a.m.	H. Wheatley	
11 a.m.	A. Sears	B. Caswell
6.45 p.m.	R. Harvey	E. Harker
Sunday Nov. 4th.		
8 a.m.	E. Harker	
11 a.m.	E. Salter	A. Sears
6.45 p.m.	G. Brooks	H. Wheatley

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Oct. 7th (Harvest Thanksgiving). 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Hymns); 5.30 p.m. Evensong.

Sundays Oct. 14th, 21st, 28th. Services as usual.

Sunday Nov. 4th (Octave of All Saints). 9 a.m. Holy Communion; 5.30 p.m. Evensong.

N.B. The names of the faithful departed to be commemorated should be given to the Vicar not later than Sunday Oct. 28th.

Sunday Nov. 11th (Remembrance Sunday). 6.30 p.m. (instead of 5.30 p.m.) Evensong. Collection for Earl Haig's Fund—Poppy Day Appeal.

P.C.C. The date of the next Meeting will be announced later.

New Burial Ground. The date of Consecration will be announced later.

Mothers' Union. Meetings re-start on Wed., Oct. 3rd. It is hoped that there will be a full attendance of Members, in order that plans for the future can be discussed.

Confirmation. Please refer to Badsey and Aldington Notes.

Collections for Church Expenses (Aug. 19th to Sept. 9th incl.) **£9 6s. 3d.**

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Badsey W.I. At the September Meeting Mrs. S. B. Carter expressed regret at the death of Mrs. F. E. Knight, one of the Founder-Members, and the Members paid a silent tribute. Two of the younger Members—Misses Audrey Stewart and Gretta Cole—then took over the control of the Meeting. A most interesting programme included a film of America shown by Dr. P. F. M. Paul (N.C.B.), who had visited that country in 1953, solos by Mrs. Colleen O'Leary (contralto), Mrs. Rita Hlott (soprano),

Miss Gwenette Turner (soprano), and concerted items by Misses Rowlatt Cook, Doreen and Pat Smith. The accompanists were Mrs. R. Whitehead and Mr. D. T. Peet. The artistes and organisers were thanked by Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Major. Excellent refreshments contributed to a most enjoyable evening.

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

The Archbishop of York told many good stories in his book, *The Claims of the Church of England*. Paying tribute to the long and faithful service of many churchwardens, he writes: "It is hard to exaggerate the value of the work which has been done by many of them. Some of them know every stone of the church... Year after year, in all weathers, they have been regular in attendance at its worship... Incumbents and assistant curates come and go, but the churchwardens remain. 'I have seen six vicars,' said one of these wardens to a new vicar, 'and I hope very much to see a seventh.'"

Dean Hole tells the story of the days when the Wild West really was wild. A parson had made up his mind to hold services in a mining camp where no services had ever been held before. He accordingly borrowed a dance hall for the first meeting, rounded up everybody in the vicinity and, to his surprise, found that at the appointed time the place was filled to capacity. When thinking of the collection he was undecided what to do. Eventually he approached the most notorious tough in the camp and asked him to act as sidesman. Very much honoured by being selected, the gentleman arose when the collection was announced, took his five-gallon hat and started on his round of the congregation. The first man he visited dropped in a quarter-dollar. The collector stopped and stared for a moment. Then, putting his hand round to his hip, he drew his six-shooter and cocked it, "Young man," he said, "take that back. This 'ere's a dollar show." There was an excellent collection.

Threepenny Bit Speaks

I am a threepenny bit,
I am not on speaking terms with the butcher,
I am not large enough to purchase a box of chocolates.
I am too small to buy a ticket for the cinema,
I am hardly fit for a tip,
But believe me when I go to Church on Sunday I am
SOME MONEY.