

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

Parish Review

DECEMBER 1956

"OPERATION FIRM FAITH"

Our Bishop, in "The Diocesan Messenger" writes as follows:—

Throughout the Church of England we are embarking on what is known as "Operation Firm Faith." This title, which I feel is somewhat unfortunate, has been given by the Children's Council, the central body concerned with the religious teaching of our children on Sunday. Let us not be put off by the title but consider the purpose of the effort. What it is seeking to do is to bring before everybody the importance of the spiritual training of the children. At birth every child enters an ordinary family. At baptism the same child enters the greater family of the Church of God. That is what the words, "Received into the congregation of Christ's flock" mean. But if the child is to grow up, he or she must be given the opportunity of learning what the Faith is, and also how to fulfil his Christian duty.

Therefore every child who has been baptised in the Church of England is the concern of all the members. What often happens is that people regard the Church's work for children as either the Vicar's responsibility or that of a few well-disposed people who are prepared to teach in the Sunday School or run a Bible Class. In many parishes the average parishioner couldn't care less, and that is why—let us be quite frank—we lose so many of the children from the Church when they get to the adolescent age.

There is another factor which has to be borne in mind, and that is that so many parents, while they are prepared to send their children to Church and Sunday School, and even to allow them to be confirmed, shew little desire themselves to be worshipping members of the Church. It has been said that the average boy and girl see through their parents at the age of seven, and no self-respecting child is going to continue to attend Church and Sunday School when his parents make no effort to go to Church themselves. Unfortunately, it is a common feature of English life to-day that many parents are taking less and less responsibility for their children's welfare. They seem to imagine that now we have a Welfare State, their responsibility ceases. It is therefore important to stress the fact that every child is first a child of God, then the child of his parents, and thirdly the child of the State—in that order, and not in reverse.

"Operation Firm Faith" is a scheme to link home and parish, parent, child and congregation, into a unity. On the side of the Church we shall try to have more and more trained and efficient Sunday School teachers and Youth Leaders. On the side of the parents we shall ask for every possible co-operation and encouragement. But there is more than this. In every parish the P.C.C. are pledged as their primary task to do everything they can to further the Kingdom of God. The onus of the care and upbringing of the Church's children must rest firmly and squarely on the shoulders of the P.C.C.s co-operating with and supporting their parish priest. Therefore we shall start the programme in this Diocese with a series of Rallies, in which I myself or Bishop Stuart will address gatherings of Church Councillors. We hope that every Church Councillor will make a point of attending.

After Christmas we shall ask the parishes to discuss and plan and let me know how they propose to follow up this venture in terms of the local community.

What I hope will be the chief result of "Operation Firm Faith" is, that in every Church in the Diocese, the Sunday worship will be the worship of the whole family (father, mother and children) and that this will be accepted as the normal, natural and only Christian way

of doing things. To achieve this will require effort, prayer and the removal of prejudices, but I believe, knowing the Diocese of Worcester, that we shall accept the challenge and not fail.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Dec. 2nd. (Advent Sunday). Collections for the Church Overseas. Holders of Missionary Boxes are asked to bring them to Church on this day. Intercessions at all Services—8 a.m., 11 a.m., 6.45 p.m.—for the work of the Church Overseas.

Sunday Dec. 9th. Services as usual (N.B. "Family Service" at 11 a.m.).

Sunday Dec. 16th. Services as usual.

Sunday Dec. 23rd. 8 a.m. Holy Communion; 11 a.m. Matins (No 11.40 a.m. Celebration); 6.45 p.m. "A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols."

Christmas Eve. 11.30 p.m. First Communion of Christmas.

Christmas Day. 8 and 11 a.m. Holy Communion.

Sunday Dec. 30th. 8 a.m. Holy Communion; 11 a.m. Short Service followed by Sunday School Prize Giving; 6.45 p.m. Evensong.

Sunday Jan. 6th. (Feast of The Epiphany). Services as usual.

"A FAMILY SERVICE"

The suggestion was made at the Badsey P.C.C. Meeting that we should endeavour to make the 11 a.m. Service on the second Sunday in the month a truly "Family Service." The suggestion is an excellent one and very much in line with what our Bishop has written above. The Sunday School Scholars will attend. The question is "Will their parents come with them"? We hope so. Will all members of the congregation help to make it a "Family Service"? Again, we hope so. The Service will end not later than 11.45 a.m., so it should not interfere with the provision of "Sunday Dinner." Will you help us make a good start to this venture on Sunday Dec. 9th?

P.C.C. At the Meeting on Nov. 12th the Treasurer presented his financial statement. After a full discussion it was unanimously decided that the balance (£1,112 15s. 4d.) in the Fabric Fund should be allocated as follows:— Organ Fund £750, Vicarage Dilapidations Fund £112 15s. 4d., Fabric Fund £250. Other matters discussed included "Operation Firm Faith," The "Representation of The Laity" Measure (1956) and the Church Commissioners' Annual Report. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Miss M. E. Sladden wishing her a speedy and complete recovery. The Next Meeting was provisionally arranged for Monday Feb. 4th 1957.

M.U. At the Meeting on Oct. 23rd Mrs. Chapman gave the second of her talks on "Presenting The Mothers' Union." On November 13th there was a "Questioning The Vicar" Session. Both Meetings were well attended.

The "Bring and Buy" Stall on Oct. 23rd realised £4 7s. 6d. for the "People's Offering." This amount was made up to £6 out of Branch Funds and our gift was presented at the Service in the Cathedral by Mrs. Hobbs.

On Tuesday Dec. 11th, the Speaker will be Miss Kemp, who has succeeded Miss Holmes as Secretary to The Board of Women's Work. Arrangements will be made for the New Year Party.

Men's Fellowship. There were several apologies for absence on the occasion of the "Stump Speeches" on Oct. 23rd, but all present entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of things and a most interesting—and amusing—evening was spent.

Nearly forty Members were present on Nov. 13th when Mr. C. G. Green gave us another of his fascinating talks on the work of the C.I.D. and "closing time" came all too soon. Mr. N. H. Smith expressed our thanks to Mr. Green for a most enjoyable talk—"better than reading a thriller" was the verdict of one of our Members!

The next Meeting will be on Tuesday Dec. 11th when we shall welcome a return visit from Mr. W. A. Hancock. He will speak on his visit to Madeira.

Sunday School. Mrs. Turrill has kindly consented to present the Prizes at the 11 a.m. Service on Sunday Dec. 30th. I hope there will be a full attendance of Parents and of all interested in the vital work of the Sunday School.

The New Year Party will be held on Saturday Jan. 12th. We shall be grateful for the usual generous gifts—in cash or in kind.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Teachers for all they have done during the past twelve months.

I draw your attention to what our Bishop has to say on "Operation Firm Faith" and to the notice of the "Family Service" on Sunday Dec. 9th at 11 a.m.

The Collection on Sunday Nov. 25th was devoted to the Hungarian Relief Fund. W.B.C.

BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL

A full report of the opening of the Remembrance Hall on Sat. Nov. 17th appeared in the local newspapers and lack of space allows only a brief record of the event here. Commdr. Agnew, in declaring the Hall open, said it was "a happy day, a milestone in the history of the Village." Those of us who realise the numerous difficulties and setbacks with which the Committee has had to contend entirely agree with this statement. There are problems still to be faced, but for the moment we pass over these, and extend to the members of the Committee congratulations on what they have achieved and an expression of our gratitude to them. The answer to the oft-discussed question "Will the Hall pay its way"? depends not merely on what further efforts the Committee make, but on the extent to which Badsey people are prepared to give the Hall their support in order that it SHALL "pay its way." W.B.C.

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of two Stoneware vases, from Mr. Richard J. Parkhouse (Ankara), in memory of his wife, Norah Hume Parkhouse, who died at All Saints'-tide, 1951.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

	Server	Crucifer
Sunday Dec. 2nd.		
8 a.m.	H. Wheatley	_____
11 a.m.	E. Salter	G. Brooks
6.45 p.m.	R. Harvey	B. Caswell
Sunday Dec. 9th.		
8 a.m.	R. Harvey	_____
11 a.m.	R. Salter	P. Salter
6.45 p.m.	G. Brooks	E. Harker
Sunday Dec. 16th.		
8 a.m.	E. Harker	_____
6.45 p.m.	B. Caswell	H. Wheatley
Sunday Dec. 23rd.		
8 a.m.	N. Langstone	_____
11 a.m.	P. Salter	B. Caswell
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	R. Salter
Christmas Eve		
11.30 p.m.	E. Salter	R. Harvey

Sunday Dec. 30th.

8 a.m.	D. Barrand	_____
11 a.m.	H. Wheatley	E. Harker
6.45 p.m.	R. Salter	G. Brooks

ROTA OF SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday Dec. 2nd. 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 Dec. 9th. 8 a.m. Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m. Messrs. T. W. Hardiman and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. D. A. Jelfs, M. J. Barnard and A. W. Smith.

Sunday Dec. 16th. 8 a.m. Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday Dec. 23rd. 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.

Christmas Eve. 11.30 p.m. Churchwardens.

Christmas Day. 8 a.m. Mr. P. S. Tucker.

Sunday December 30th. 8 a.m. Mr. T. W. Hardiman; 11 a.m. Mr. J. Major and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. A. L. Byrd, D. A. Jelfs and G. H. Stewart.

Sunday Jan. 6th. As Sunday Dec. 2nd.

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

Oct. 21st (Evening) £6 8s. 10d.; Oct. 28th £8 15s. 0d.; Nov. 4th £10 18s. 4d.; Nov. 18th (Evening) £7 17s. 6d. **Total £33 19s. 8d.**

OTHER RECEIPTS

Earl Haig's Fund (Nov. 11th) £22 4s. 0d.

The recent House-to-House Collection in Badsey for the N.S.P.C.C. realised the sum of £15.5.0. My thanks to all who helped, especially the Collectors.

C. DICKINSON.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Oct. 21st. Susan Barbara Thomson; John Ronald Reeves; Jane Ann Benfield; Trudy Jane Grinnell.

Nov. 18th. Robert James Hemming; Karen Jane Woodcock; Jenny Taylor.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays Dec. 2nd, 9th. Services as usual.

Sunday Dec. 16th. 11 a.m. Matins; 11.40 a.m. Holy Communion; 5.30 p.m. Evensong.

Sunday Dec. 23rd. 5.30 p.m. Evensong and Carols.

Christmas Day. 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Hymns).

Sunday Dec. 30th. 5.30 p.m. Evensong.

Sunday Jan. 6th (Feast of The Epiphany). 9 a.m. Holy Communion; 5.30 p.m. Evensong.

N.B. Special Collections:—

Advent Sunday (Dec. 2nd). British and Foreign Bible Society.

Christmas Day. Church of England Children's Society.

Sunday School. The Prize Giving will be held in the Parish Room and Memorial Hall on Sunday Dec. 9th at 3 p.m. Mrs. Hancock has kindly promised to present the Prizes. Parents and friends of the Sunday School are warmly invited. Their presence would be a source of encouragement to the Teachers—Misses A. L. Cox, Hancock and M. Willis—to whose faithful service we owe so much. I hope they will also come to the Carol and Gift Service in the Memorial Hall on Sunday Dec. 23rd at 3 p.m.

The sum of £1 10s. 0d. has been contributed to the Hungarian Relief Fund.

Choir. The Organist and Members of the Choir are to be heartily congratulated on their rendering of the Anthem "What are these?" at Evensong on Remembrance Sunday. Carols will be sung at Evensong on Sunday Dec. 23rd.

Mothers' Union. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays Dec. 5th (Tea—Mrs. E. Roberts), Dec. 19th (Tea—Mrs. Hodges) and Jan. 2nd (Tea—Mrs. Walters).

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

Church Expenses (Oct. 21st, 28th, Nov. 4th, 18th) £12 4s. 6d.; Earl Haig's Fund (Nov. 11th) £6 18s. 0d.

PARISH REGISTERS

Marriage

Nov. 17th. Ronald Terrence Payne, and Denise Joy Daffurn.

We extend our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Payne.

At the time of writing excellent progress is being made with the repairs to the Sandys Monument. We are certain everyone will be pleased with the completed work.

Grateful thanks are due to those who worked so hard in cleaning the Church for the Wedding on Nov. 17th and for Services on Sunday Nov. 18th. It was a remarkable piece of work.

SOCIAL

The Members of the P.C.C. are organising a Social in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday Dec. 12th at 7 p.m. A cordial invitation is accorded to all. Do come and help to make it a "family gathering."

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Badsey W.I. Mrs. S. B. Carter presided at the November Meeting when nominations were handed in for the new Committee.

Mr. Keasey (Bidford-on-Avon) gave a most interesting talk, illustrated by splendid colour films, on his visits to Spain, Switzerland and America. He was warmly thanked by Mrs. Savory.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. C. Stewart and helpers.

The Competition for a Chicken was won by Mrs. P. Hall.

The Social Half-Hour was given over to a "Bring and Buy" Sale.

Mrs. Shelley continues to act as Sick Visitor.

DAPHNE BELL.

British Legion (Women's Section). Mrs. A. Syril presided at the Annual General Meeting on Oct. 24th. There was a very good attendance. The Chairman reported that the past year had been a successful one and that the membership had increased. The Secretary reported on the

year's work and the Treasurer's Statement shewed a balance in hand of £3 14s. 7d. in the No. 1 Account and of £18 9s. 4d. in the No. 2 Account. The following Officers were elected:— President, Mrs. Whitford; Chairman, Mrs. A. Syril; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. W. Keen; Secretary, Mrs. Hunt; Treasurer, Mrs. Tucker; Committee, Mesdames Brotherton, Cook, Littlewood, Brooks, Page, Lake, Cleaver, Hewlett and Miss Hartwell; Standard Bearer, Mrs. Littlewood; Wreath Bearer, Mrs. Edwards. Mrs. A. Syril reported on the County Conference at Worcester and congratulated the Standard Bearer on attaining third place in the County Competition.

Wickhamford W.I. At the Annual Meeting on Nov. 8th Mrs. Jenkins (V.C.O.) spoke on the W.I. House at Worcester and the work of the Executive Committee. She was thanked by Mrs. Collett.

Mrs. J. E. Parry was re-elected President and the following were elected to the Committee—Mesdames Arthurs, Byron, Collett, Cooke, Dean, R. Folkes, T. Shannon-Garvey, G. Halford, Hancock, Voelcker and Miss A. L. Cox. The Tellers were Mrs. Harvey and Miss N. Smith. The President expressed thanks to the Members of the Committee for their support during the past year and Mrs. D. Hampton, on behalf of the Members, thanked the President for all she had done to make the year a successful one.

Mrs. T. Shannon-Garvey presented the Secretary's Report and Mrs. R. Folkes the Financial Statement. The Sick Visitor (Mrs. R. Folkes) gave her report and Mrs. D. Hampton was appointed for the ensuing month. Mrs. Arthurs was the winner of the Monthly Parcel and Mrs. Geoffrey Hancock the winner of the "Christmas Log Competition" (judged by Mrs. Jenkins). Miss A. L. Cox and Mrs. Byron were in charge of the Bring and Buy Stall, Mrs. Dean and Miss B. Hancock organised the Social Half Hour and the Tea Hostesses were Mesdames Cooke, Pilkington, Sheaf and Voelcker.

G. M. HALFORD.

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BADSEY

THE THRIFTY PERSON FACES THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

IT PAYS TO JOIN THE CIRENCESTER BENEFIT SOCIETY

Open to Men, Women and Children (no medical examination under age 45 if in good health)
By joining this Society you can add to your Sick Pay and, at the same time, build up a cash sum for Retirement. There are now more than 450 Members in the Badsey Lodges.

Why not consult the Local Secretary:

W. M. JENNINGS, AUBURN VILLA, WILLERSEY ROAD (Telephone BADSEY 295)
who will be pleased to give full details.

Notice to Members: 1957 Annual Lodges: Men's Lodge, Saturday, January 12th, Wheatsheaf Inn, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Women's Lodge, Tuesday, January 8th, Auburn Villa, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monthly Lodges: second Wednesday in month, Wheatsheaf Inn, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.