

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

Parish Review

SEPTEMBER, 1957

Extracts from "Te Deum of the Commonplace," by John Oxenham

For all things beautiful and good and true,
For visions of the Worker in the work,
For hearts that apprehend Thee everywhere,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For all the wonders of this wondrous world—
The breaking east—the rosy flush—the dawn—
The matchless pageant of the evening skies,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For all wherein we feel Thy great heart near,
For sweet laborious days and pure deep nights,
For work to do, and strength to do Thy work,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For every tint of every tiniest flower,
For every daisy smiling to the sun,
For every bird that builds in joyous hope,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For all Thy ministries of morning mist,
For whispering wind and purifying storm,
For the reft clouds that show the tender blue,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For kinship, sonship, friendship, brotherhood,
For touch of Thee in house and home and friend,
For all that childhood teaches us of Thee,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For that supremest token of Thy love—
Thyself made manifest in human flesh—
For that great life beneath the Syrian sky,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For sorrows bearing fruit in nobler life,
For every loss that works a greater gain,
For all this strange sweet paradox of life,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For friends above; for friends still left below,
For great hearts toiling in the outer dark,
For friendly hands stretched out in time of need,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For hearts at rest through confidence in Thee,
For hope victorious through past hopes fulfilled,
For every wide-flung window of the soul,
We thank Thee, Lord.

In one of the great Continental art galleries there is a famous painting which represents Luther preaching in a vast and crowded cathedral. The peculiarity of the painting is that, although the Reformer is in the pulpit, manifestly in process of delivering his discourse, the eyes of the people are not directed towards him at all. They are focused elsewhere. And, as you approach the canvas closely, you suddenly perceive the reason for this. Among the shadows in one of the corners of the stately building stands an ethereal Figure—

the Figure of the everlasting Christ—and it is on Him that the gaze of the people is fastened. That is a picture of preaching at its best—the minister in the pulpit, but the eyes of the multitude fixed on Jesus. (ANON.)

There is a story of a man who prayed earnestly one morning for grace to overcome his besetting sin of impatience. A little later he missed a train by half a minute and spent an hour stamping up and down the platform in furious vexation. Five minutes before the next train came in he realised suddenly that there had been the answer to his prayer. He had been given an hour to practise the virtue of patience; he had missed the opportunity and wasted the hour. There are many stories of men who have similarly missed trains which have been wrecked, and who ascribe their escape to Providence. If they are combining the thought of God as the celestial chess player with their thought of God as pre-eminently concerned in their enjoyment of earthly life at the expense of others, there is not much to be said for their point of view. But if they are humbly acknowledging a call to further service on earth before they pass beyond, they are rightly interpreting their escape. In all probability all the events which led up to all these men missing their various trains could be adequately accounted for in terms of the interaction of natural law, human freedom and divine grace. But at every point within the interaction God sees what are its possibilities for good, and the man who shares His enlightenment and His power and gives himself to make that good come true, has found the meaning of that moment and his special "Providence." The gates of the future are open.

(LEONARD HODGSON)

The great need of the Church today is patience. Frequently it is rendered ineffective by the undisciplined and ineffective zeal of men who recommend new methods, new organisation, new theology, new forms of revival, and they would rather trust to the results of some striking and spectacular protest against evil than in patient well-doing. But it is ill work treating the Church as if it were a modern business to be conducted on the principle of special efforts and quick results, seeking to shape men's conduct while it shirks the task of transforming their lives. That is not the way in which the Kingdom and the patience of Christ accomplish His purpose. The Church in loyalty to its mission must in patience offer its witness and grace to the world, not without eagerness but without haste, not without care but without the half-doubt which leads it to mistrust its own Gospel. As we regard the special needs of our national life and international relations, we cannot doubt the supreme need of patience. It is true that we need the leadership of men with vision, energy and resource, but they must also be men of long views, patient men, able to teach their fellows how to endure in times of deferred hope. (ANON.)

At times the appeal of some preacher of the Gospel reaches the ears of multitudes, and many hearts are stirred. We thank God, but must remember this. Supposing there have been one hundred thousand genuine conversions at such a mission, greater things are happening through the unexciting, unadvertised work of our parishes. Through the weekly worship, through the teaching of children, through the work of confirmation classes and such organisations as the Mothers' Union and many youth organisations, not one hundred thousand but many millions in each generation are being taught the Christian faith and are finding grace to live Christian lives. (THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN)

"This is to be ignorant — to know very much without knowing Christ:
If thou know Christ, 'tis enough, though thou be ignorant of very much."

(Ancient couplet attributed to St. BERNARD)

When as a child I laughed and wept, time crept.
When as a youth I dreamed and talked, time walked.
When I became a full grown man, time ran.
And later as I older grew, time flew.
Soon I shall find while travelling on, time gone.
Will Christ have saved my soul by then? Amen.
(From the old clock in Chester Cathedral)

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays, Sept. 1st, 8th, 15th: Services as usual.

Sunday, Sept. 22nd — **HARVEST THANKSGIVING AND GIFT DAY:—**

8 a.m. Holy Communion

11 a.m. Holy Communion (Sung)

6.45 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: The Ven. The Arch-deacon of Worcester

Sunday, Sept. 29th (St. Michael and All Angels): Services as usual

P.C.C. Next Meeting, Monday, Sept. 16th, in the Parish Room at 7 p.m.

Mothers' Union. Will Members please note that Meetings re-start on Tuesday, October 8th. The following have already kindly promised to speak: Mr. C. H. Grindle (Oct. 8th); Mrs. Lane (Oct. 22nd — "Guide Dogs for the Blind"); Mrs. Wilkinson (Nov. 12th — "A Holiday in Bavaria"); Mrs. Eeuwens (Nov. 26th — "The work of The Marriage Guidance Council").

Men's Fellowship. Meetings re-start Tuesday, Oct. 8th. Look out for further announcements!

Received with grateful thanks: Annual Donation to Church Funds from the Rev. John C. Sladden.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the relatives of the late Mr. A. C. Sparrow, who passed away on July 27th. He was greatly esteemed throughout our village.

We are deeply indebted to the following for their invaluable help as Organists during recent weeks: Messrs. D. T. Peet, Colin Dew, R. R. Savery and Victor Smith.

COLLECTIONS FOR GENERAL FUND

July 21st (Evening) £6 18s. 0d.; July 28th, £8 17s. 7d.; Aug. 4th, £9 14s. 0d.; Aug. 11th, £9. Total £34 9s. 7d.

WAR MEMORIAL

The following are kindly responsible for the Flowers: Sept. 1st, Mrs. G. W. Marshall; Sept. 8th, Mrs. C. Stewart; Sept. 15th, Mrs. A. W. Ballard; Sept. 22nd, Mrs. Brady; Sept. 29th, Mrs. Chapman; Oct. 6th, Mrs. P. H. Sparrow.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

July 28th. Sarah Anne Jones; Jennifer Lillian Pipcin; David John Wheatley.

Burials

July 25th. Ethel Florence Beal, aged 78 years.
July 30th. Alfred Cecil Sparrow, aged 81 years.

ROTA OF SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday, Sept. 1st. 8 a.m. Mr. A. M. C. Lewis; 11 a.m. Messrs. T. W. Hardiman, D. A. Jelfs and H. Reynolds; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. J. T. Batchelor, M. Brady and N. Cleaver.

Sunday, Sept. 8th. 8 a.m. Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m. Messrs. G. A. O. Jones and D. Peet; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. M. J. Barnard, D. A. Jelfs and A. W. Smith.

Sunday, Sept. 15th. 8 a.m. Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday, Sept. 22nd. 8 a.m. Messrs. J. Major and P. S. Tucker; 11 a.m. Mr. P. H. Sparrow and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m. Messrs. A. W. Sparrow, C. Stewart and R. J. Taylor.

Sunday, Sept. 29th. 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 A. W. Smith.

Sunday, Oct. 6th. — As Sunday, Sept. 1st.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

Sunday Sept. 1st	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	E. Harker	_____
11 a.m.	G. Brooks	R. Harvey
6.45 p.m.	P. Salter	H. Wheatley

Sunday, Sept. 8th	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	R. Harvey	_____
11 a.m.	B. Caswell	R. Salter
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	E. Harker

Sunday, Sept. 15th	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	D. Barrand	_____
6.45 p.m.	R. Salter	G. Brooks

Sunday, Sept. 22nd	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	B. Caswell	_____
11 a.m.	G. Brooks	H. Wheatley
6.45 p.m.	E. Harker	P. Salter

Sunday, Sept. 29th	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	H. Wheatley	_____
11 a.m.	E. Harker	R. Harvey
6.45 p.m.	P. Salter	B. Caswell

Sunday, Oct. 6th	Server	Crucifer
8 a.m.	N. Langstone	_____
11 a.m.	B. Caswell	E. Harker
6.45 p.m.	G. Brooks	R. Salter

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays, Sept. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd.—There will be no 9 a.m. Celebration on Sunday Sept. 1st, otherwise it is hoped to maintain all Services as usual. Due notice will be given of any further alterations.

Sunday, Sept. 29th (St. Michael and All Angels): **HARVEST THANKSGIVING AND GIFT DAY** :—

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Hymns)
5.30 p.m. Evensong.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism

Aug. 4th. Stephen Richard Sunley.

Sunday School. An account of the Annual Outing will appear in next month's issue.

The August issue had been published before the news of the death of Mr. Ernest Cox was received. A well-deserved tribute to him appeared in the "Evesham Journal." He bore his long illness with great courage and patience, and we extend our sincere sympathy to the members of his family.

FOR QUICK SERVICE SHOE REPAIRS — Come to

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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:— Monthly Lodges: Second Wednesday in month Wheatsheaf Inn 8 p.m. to 9 p.m