

NOVEMBER 1958

## THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear People,

Many find November a sad month. The last leaves fall, the days shorten, and fog is never far away. It is a season when our attention is drawn to the transitoriness of earthly life. Appropriately it contains two days when we remember our dead, All Souls' Day and Remembrance Sunday.

But it is certainly not a time to be gloomy. For the Christian, the thought of death can never be morbid, because our faith always couples with it the hope of resurrection. The catacombs of Rome show the great importance attached by the early Church to rites connected with death. But there was nothing lugubrious about them. For one thing, the chief feature of these funerary rites was the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the family service in which living and departed are at one. The paintings in the catacombs, and the prayers and other inscriptions which survive, show that death was regarded by these early Christians as a triumphant release to a larger life with Christ, who as the ever youthful Shephard leads His redeemed to the green pastures of Paradise. St. Cyprian, in the 3rd century, says that Christians wear white at funerals, not black as the heathen do. "Welcome, Sister Death!" said St. Francis of Assisi, when his time of departure came.

About fifty years ago it was still a controversial question in England as to whether prayers should be offered for the dead. Two world wars, with resulting bereavement on a large scale, have brought a change of attitude. I shall preach on this important subject at Evensong on November 2nd.

Confirmation classes for boys and girls will have started by the end of October. The classes for adults will be on Monday evenings at 7-30 p.m., in the Parish Room at Badsey Vicarage, beginning on November 3rd. I shall be glad to hear of any other unconfirmed adults from either parish who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,  
PETER BRABY.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### NOVEMBER

- 1st, Saturday. **All Saints' Day.** 6-30 & 10 a.m. H.C.
- 2nd, **Trinity XXII.** Commemoration of All Souls. (Names for remembrance to be given to the Vicar in writing not later than Friday, October 31st).
- Services as usual for 1st Sunday. 11 a.m. Family Service.
- 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, Weds. 10 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 9th, **Trinity XXIII, Remembrance Sunday.** 8 a.m. H.C. 10-50 a.m. Service of Remembrance (parade and congregation to be in their places by 10-45). 6-45 Evensong. Collections for Earl Haig's Fund.

16th, **Trinity XXIV.** St. Hugh, Bp., 1200. As usual for 3rd Sunday.

23rd, **Sunday next before Advent.** As usual for 4th Sunday.

30th, **Advent I.** As usual for 5th Sunday. (See note on Missionary boxes).

Dec. 2nd, Tuesday. **St. Andrew, Apostle** (transferred from November 30th). 6-30 & 10 a.m. Holy Communion.

**Missionary Boxes.** At St. Andrew's tide we pray for the Church Overseas. Will all box holders bring their boxes to church on Advent Sunday, November 30th, or return them before that date to Miss N. E. Smith, our parochial overseas secretary. At Evensong we shall offer the gifts for the extension of Christ's Kingdom, and the collection will be for our Overseas Fund.

### Collections.

Sept. 21st, £7-0-9; 28th (Harvest) £24-10-0; Oct. 5th, £5-4-2; 12th, £9-12-3; 19th, £9-13-6.

### Birthday Half-crowns

Mrs. E. Jones, Mr. B. Jones, (L.E.D.), Mrs. M. A. Hart, A. T. Hart (in memoriam), Mr. S. Gresty.

### Wedding Anniversaries (5/-)

G.A.J. & C.H.J., Rev. P. & Mrs. Braby.

### Parish Registers

#### Holy Baptism

Oct. 19th. Adrian Paul Willett, Donald Francis Curtis, Stephen Arthur Brooks, Lynda Gay Jenkins.

### Confirmation (adults)

Oct. 9th, at Christ Church, Malvern, by the Bishop of Worcester: Alan Jeffrey Morton, Marjorie Morton, Robert Charles Salter, Doreen Florence June Harman.

### Burials. R.I.P.

Sept. 20th. William Woodward, aged 71.  
Oct. 4th. Sarah Phillips, aged 73.  
Oct. 11th. Percy James Butler, aged 80.

Our warmest sympathy is extended to the relatives of these departed parishioners, and also to those of the late Rev. E. F. Waddy, Vicar of the Littletons. He is remembered at Badsey for much kind and neighbourly assistance during the illness of the Rev. W. B. Chapman last year.

William Woodward was for some years a sidesman at St. James's Church and a member of the P.C.C. He was a very active worker for the church and presented several gifts of his own craftsmanship.

Mrs. Sarah Phillips, of Bowers Hill, a Shropshire woman by birth, who had lived as a widow for many years, was very much beloved by many in Badsey and Wickhamford. She was a very faithful churchwoman, and a keen member of the Wickhamford branch of the Mothers' Union.

Your prayers are asked for the sick. At the time of writing, Mrs. Jack Dore is seriously ill with coronary thrombosis. Mrs. Deighton is in Worcester Royal Infirmary. Mr. Bob Gregory has gone to Newtown Sanatorium for 2 or 3 months treatment. Mrs. F. E. Haines is to go into hospital for an operation. Mrs. Hobbs is having treatment at Droitwich. Mr. William Hall has returned home, where Mrs. Hall is now able to care for him again, but he is still seriously ill. Others ill at home are Mrs. Powell and Mr. A. Harwood. We are glad to welcome home from hospital Mr. R. Crane, Miss Edith Jones, Peter Lord, Valerie Sheward.

**Harvest Thanksgiving.** It has been a bad year for farmers, but market gardeners have much to give thanks for, and this was shown in the fine gifts of fruit and vegetables. Collections at church were also very good, amounting to £24-10-0. The church was decorated very tastefully (tastily might also describe it) by our faithful band of ladies. Many thanks also to those who helped to clear up, and prepare and take some 30 baskets or bunches of flowers to the sick of the parish, and to Mr. E. E. Smith, who conveyed the remainder to Evesham General Hospital, from which a grateful letter was received.

The Harvest Home Party in the Memorial Hall was an innovation which by its success seems worth repeating in future years.

**Sanctuary Guild.** After many years' hard labour (voluntary!), three of our most splendid workers in the Sanctuary Guild have now retired, as they feel their places should be taken by younger women. Fortunate indeed is the church which can number among its workers such devoted people as Mrs. W. H. Reed, Mrs. R. C. Sparrow and Mrs. Turrill, to whom we express our warm thanks for all they have done. May we appeal for volunteers to take their places in the 5th Sunday Group?

Many thanks to the noble volunteers who carried out the annual "spring" cleaning on October 16th and 17th. Another time we could do with some more men. On the Thursday evening six of us (Messrs. Austen and Geoffrey Jones, R. Hartwell, T. Sparrow, E. Mitchell and the Vicar) did what we could with the cobwebs in the rafters and beating of kneelers and mats, and next day the following ladies cleared up the mess and finished off (the building, not the men): Mesdames A. W. Ballard, A. Bell, Betteridge, Braby, A. G. Crisp, F. Edwards, C. Haines, R. Hartwell, Harvey, G. A. Jones, A. Reed, A. W. Sparrow, C. Stewart, Miss Greening. Unlimited hot water was supplied by Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Marshall of the Post Office. Considering that the last complete cleaning was in May 1950, there was surprisingly little dirt, and this may be attributed to the thoroughness with which the Sanctuary Guild do their work week by week.

**The Choir.** An admission service was held at Evensong on Sunday, October 19th, when Brian Hay and Anthony Silvester became members of the choir. All the boys have now been given copies of the Choristers' Pocket Book, issued by the Royal School of Church Music, to which we are affiliated.

**Sunday School.** The teachers were much helped by a visit from Miss J. Harcombe, Diocesan Adviser on Sunday School work, who spoke to them at their monthly meeting, and who will give a demonstration lesson in the Infant Department on October 26th. More teachers are needed to come forward for training. The next preparation class is on Tuesday, 4th November, in the Parish Room at 7-30 p.m.

**P.C.C.** Next meeting Monday, 1st December at 7 p.m.

**Mothers' Union.** The programme for the month is as follows:—

- Nov. 5th. Corporate Communion 10 a.m.
- „ 11th. "Oberammergau". Speaker: Mrs. Fraser.
- „ 25th. "M.U. Overseas Work".  
Speaker: Mrs. Vincent.

Many thanks to all who collected and contributed to the People's Offering for Moral Welfare Work. The amount will be published next month.  
E.G.B.

**Men's Fellowship.** Always keep free the 2nd Tuesday of the month, and bring a friend. At the November meeting on Tuesday the 11th at 7 p.m., Mr. C. Tutton will speak to us on "Railway Welfare".

## WICKHAMFORD NOTES

### A LETTER FROM THE VICAR

My dear People,

I want to tell you how thankful I am for the wonderful way in which God has answered our prayers for the Gift Day. There has been a truly sacrificial response from God's people in Wickhamford to the appeal to show their love for their church. Altogether over £71 has been received, through many offerings, large and small (some from children). This does not include the collections at the Harvest Festival, which amounted to £8-10-0. It was a privilege on Gift Day to accept the offerings at the sanctuary and to invoke God's blessing on His kneeling servants.

The Harvest services were a memorable experience. There were 42 communicants at 9 a.m., and the church was packed for Evensong. The choir were up to their usual standard in the singing of the anthem, "Ye shall dwell in the land". I wish there were attendances more like this on other Sundays, to worship our Creator and give Him thanks and pray for forgiveness and grace.

The decoration of the church was really beautiful. Several baskets of gifts were taken to sick parishioners, and the remainder sold by auction for church funds at the Harvest Social. This brought in another £15-15-0. Thus altogether nearly £100 has been contributed this Harvest tide for the maintenance of the church and its services.

Our corporate fellowship was strengthened by the Harvest Supper and Social, to which nearly 70 people came. It was good to see so many of the younger generation. The ladies who did the catering maintained the usual high Wickhamford standard.

It was a truly wonderful week. Thanks be to God.

Your sincere friend and Vicar.

PETER BRABY.

### Church Services

#### NOVEMBER

2nd, **Trinity XXII.** In Octave of All Saints. Commemoration of All Souls. (Names for remembrance to be given to the Vicar in writing not later than Friday, October 31st).  
9 a.m. Holy Communion, 5-30 Evensong.

9th, **Trinity XXIII, Remembrance Sunday.** 6-30 p.m.  
Service of Remembrance. Collection for Earl Haig's Fund.

16th, 23rd, 30th (**Advent Sunday**). Services as usual.

**Mother's Union.** The speaker on November 5th will be Mrs. Fraser on "Canada". Tea will be served by Mrs. Roberts.

The speaker on November 19th will be Mrs. Hills on the subject "Mattins and Evensong". Tea will be served by Mrs. Sturt.  
E.G.B.

**Parish Registers**  
**Holy Baptism**

Oct. 12th. Clive Lawson Southern.

**Holy Matrimony**

Oct 11th. Robert Charles Salter, of Badsey, and Doreen Florence June Harman, of Wickhamford.

Your prayers are asked for the sick, especially Mrs. Miriel Andrews of Willersey, sister of Mr. Frank Field, who is seriously ill. Mr. W. A. Johnson has been much missed at church during his recent illness, and we hope soon to see him back again. Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Spragg's mother, is ill with shingles. We welcome three children back from hospital: Christopher Sutton, Clive Roberts, Timothy Harrison.

There is to be a **Jumble Sale** in aid of church funds at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, December 3rd.

**Sunday School.** In spite of pouring rain, the attendance of parents and children at the children's Harvest Festival Gift Service was remarkably good.

Children brought many useful gifts of fruit, flowers, eggs and vegetables. In the course of his interesting talk to them, the Vicar pointed out how dependent all the peoples of the world are upon each other for their daily bread, and chiefly so upon God. He also made mention of the generous way

in which the Sunday School supports missionary work by their box "Tembo". When opened in August it contained £4-10-0, their contributions since January. A.L.C.

**Women's Institute.** Miss Russon gave a demonstration on Sweetmaking, at the October meeting. Members brought their favourite dishes for tasting and recipes were copied out.

The response to the appeal for presents for the patients at Powick was very good. A plant stall was held in aid of Institute funds. J.C.L.

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**Why not consult the Local Secretary?**

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