

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

July, 1959

Price 4/- per annum

Vicar : Rev. P. BRABY, M.A.

Tel. Badsey 343

## CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BADSEY.

### SUNDAY SERVICES :

8 a.m.—Holy Communion (also after Evensong on the Fourth Sunday)

11 a.m.—Sung Eucharist (Second Sunday and Festivals)

Matins (First, Fourth and Fifth Sundays)

6-45 p.m.—Evensong

Holy Baptism—Third Sunday, 3 p.m. (Parents must see the Vicar personally at least seven days before).

WEEKDAY SERVICES. According to Notice.

Churchwardens : ... Mr. G. A. Jones. Tel. Badsey 333

Mr. G. H. Stewart. Tel. Badsey 219

Secretary P.C.C. : ... Mr. H. L. Hatcher.

Treasurer P.C.C. : ... Mr. M. H. Harvey. Tel. Badsey 325

Clerk : ... Mr. E. Mitchell, 68 Synehurst.

Deputy Churchwarden : Mr. G. A. King. Tel. Badsey 301

## CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD.

### SUNDAY SERVICES :

9 a.m.—First Sunday : Holy Communion (9-15 a.m. Festivals)

11 a.m.—Matins (Third Sunday)

11-40 a.m.—Holy Communion (Third Sunday)

5-30 p.m.—Evensong

WEEKDAY SERVICES. According to notice.

Churchwardens : ... Mr. E. Cooke. Tel. Badsey 237

Mr. J. E. Parry. Tel. Badsey 244

Secretary P.C.C. : ... Mrs. E. Cooke.

Treasurer P.C.C. : ... Mrs. T. H. Collett.

Clerk : ... Mr. C. H. Willis, 3 Sandys Avenue.

## THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear People,

A suggestion was made at Wickhamford P.C.C. recently that members of the congregation should be allowed to submit favourite hymns for inclusion in the services. During this second half of the Christian year, I shall be pleased to accede to this request, for both churches. I cannot however guarantee to include a hymn on any particular Sunday. I select the hymns a month in advance, and on a systematic basis. But I promise you that your hymn will be included as soon as possible, unless we have only just had it!

I have an idea that many people picture their vicar, when he has to choose the hymns, jotting down a few numbers at random, like taking lottery tickets out of a hat. I can assure you it is not like that at all. It needs quite careful thought, and to select the hymns for two churches for one month usually takes three or four hours of my time.

Perhaps you would be interested to know some of the things that have to be considered. Here they are:—

(1) There must be a fair proportion in each service of the old favourites and the not so familiar. On the one hand there is the man who said "If you want to know why I've stopped coming to church, Rector, it's because whenever I've been you've had the same hymns time after time". "Hardly surprising, George", was the reply, "since the only time you used to come was the harvest festival". On the other hand there is the lady who said, "Why do we have so many new hymns? You have to keep thinking all the time what you are singing". Thinking is not a bad exercise, and for that reason alone it is good to sing sometimes an unfamiliar hymn. The most popular hymns are not always the most edifying or enlightening. Besides, variety is the spice of life. You would soon complain if you were served with an unchanging diet of one person's favourite hymns—the Vicar's for instance.

(2) Choice is limited to some extent by the particular hymnal in use. The laws of copyright make it inevitable that no one hymn book can contain all the finest hymns. Also our own book (the old A. & M. unrevised) was last re-edited in 1916. Many hymns which have become popular through broadcasting cannot be sung by us in church. Within these limits one tries to provide variety throughout the year, without too much repetition. I try not to put down the same hymn more than twice in six months. If it was sung last in the evening, next time it must be in the morning, and vice versa.

(3) At least one hymn in each service is chosen in relation to the Collect or Lessons (or Epistle or Gospel) for the day. There may also be other special factors, such as a collection for overseas missions.

(4) There must be a due proportion between 'corporate' and 'subjective' hymns. A subjective hymn is one which dwells on the relationship between God and the individual soul, and with the effect of divine action on the inward emotions and conflicts of the individual. It generally uses the first person singular throughout. A corporate hymn is concerned with God's objective acts of Creation, Redemption and Sanctification for the whole human race, and with the operation of divine grace in the Church rather than in the individual. Compare 'Jesu, Lover of my soul' with 'Praise to the holiest in the height'. To have too many corporate hymns makes the worship seem unreal to the individual and unconcerned with his daily needs and aspirations. On the other hand, to have too many subjective hymns makes the worship sentimental and mawkish. Unfortunately our predominantly 19th century hymn-books contain an overwhelming proportion of the subjective type. They rarely express present-day modes of thought and feeling.

(5) Another classification of hymns has also to be taken into account. There are Hymns of Praise, (e.g. 'Holy, Holy, Holy'), Hymns of Aspiration (e.g. 'O for a closer walk with God'), Hymns of Supplication (e.g. 'Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us'), and Hymns of Dedication (e.g. 'Soldiers of Christ, arise'). Each of these elements should have its due place in every service.

(6) Hymns differ a good deal in length and in metre. Care has to be taken that not too many hymns in one service are long ones or have eight-line verses.

Add to all this the fact that with two churches I do not want to sing the same hymns twice over the same morning or evening.

So you see, choosing the hymns is like doing a rather complicated puzzle. I know only one mental exercise more difficult, and that is working out a school time-table. But I am not offering the job to anyone else. And I don't mind receiving complaints as to how it is done. In fact, I most heartily sympathise. I was once a layman myself.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### JULY

1st, Wednesday. 10-0. Holy Communion.

5th. **Trinity VI.** As usual for 1st Sun. 11-0. Family Service.

8th, Wednesday. 10-0. Holy Communion.

10th, Friday. 9-15. H.C. (Evesham R.D. Chapter).

12th. **Trinity VII.** As usual for 2nd Sun.

15th, Wed. St. Swithun, Bp. 10-0. H.C.

19th. **Trinity VIII.** 8-0. H.C. 3-0. Holy Baptism. 6-45. Evensong (short), followed by H.C.

22nd, Wed. **St. Mary Magdalene**, 10-0. H.C.  
25th, Sat. **ST. JAMES THE GREAT, APOSTLE AND MARTYR. PATRONAL FESTIVAL**. 6-30. H.C.  
26th. **Trinity IX. PATRONAL FESTIVAL**. 8-0. and 11-45. H.C. 10-0. Children's Service. 11-0 Mattins. 6-45. Evensong and Sermon.  
29th, Wed. 10-0. Holy Communion

### **PATRONAL FESTIVAL & BADSEY FLOWER SHOW**

Please note the special services, and the alterations in the usual arrangements for the last two Sundays of the month. The Flower Show is on St. James's Day itself this year. Members of the Committee, helpers and exhibitors are cordially invited to Evensong in the Parish Church on Sunday, July 26th.

**P.C.C. Meeting.** Tuesday, 7th July, 8 p.m. Parish Room.

### **Servers for July**

July 5th, 8-0. C. Harwood; 11-0. P. Bott; 6-45 C Freeman.  
12th, 8-0. R. Harvey; 11-0. B. Caswell, Crucifer R. Taylor; 6-45. T. Hatcher. 19th, 8-0 C. Freeman; 6-45. D. Barrand 26th, 8-0. P. Bott; 11-0. C. Harwood; 6-45. B. Caswell.

### **War Memorial Flowers**

July 5th, Mrs. N. E. Cook; 12th, Mrs. G. Knight; 19th Mrs. Ingram; 26th, Mrs. G. H. Stewart.

### **Communicants**

Week beginning May 17th, (Whitsun) 158; 24th, 77; 31st 65; June 7th, 40; 14th, 83.

### **Collections**

May 24th, Ordination Candidates (Trinity Sunday Appeal) £13-13-9; 31st, £9-9-2; June 7th, £4-11-6; 14th, £9-19-2.

### **Birthday Half-crowns**

Anon., Miss Agg, Mrs. M. A. Hart, Miss Ella Jones (84th)

### **Burials. R.I.P.**

May 27th—Albert Edmund Harwood, aged 56.  
June 9th (at Bretforton)—Sarah Louisa Johns, aged 87.

Albert Harwood was a good man who will be greatly missed in Badsey, but he has suffered so much that we may be thankful for his release from this life, in the tender mercy of God. He was most patient and uncomplaining in his painful illness.

Sarah Louisa Johns was recognised by all who knew her as something of a saint. She had undergone much sorrow in earlier days which had left the mark of the Cross strongly imprinted on her character. As a very active woman the infirmities of old age, culminating in complete helplessness were not easy to bear, but the strength of God was made perfect in her weakness. The loveliness of a Christ-centred inner life shone ever brighter as the mortal body grew weaker.

**Parish Jottings.** The Rev. W. B. Chapman's recovery is cause for great thankfulness to Almighty God from us all.

Best wishes to Miss Ella Jones for her 84th birthday. Congratulations to Miss Patsy Stewart on being chosen as Evensong's Carnival Queen. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Russell Murray (Miss Hazel Stewart), who were married at Shirley, Surrey, on 6th June. Harry Wheatley is just completing his first year at Redlands Training College, Bristol. He is President of the college branch of the Student Christian Movement, and has been outstanding in the sporting life of his college.

We have been glad to welcome back from hospital recently Mrs. Moran, Mrs. A. N. Harrison, Mr. Arthur, Mrs. E. Sadler, Mr. Bill Keen. The latter has been lying on his back most

patiently for months after an accident in fog during the winter. Mr. John Hartwell is recovering in hospital after an operation. Freddie Taylor, one of our Sunday School pupils, has been ill for some weeks in Worcester Royal Infirmary, Mr. Cyril Sladden has returned to hospital for a further minor operation to his eye. We pray for these as well as for the many chronic invalids.

**New Hassocks and Books.** 100 new hassocks with Latex foam filling have been bought to replace some of the old ones. 40 of these have been given by the Mothers' Union, and the remainder have been bought in equal shares from P.C.C. funds and the Vicar's fund made up from offerings at weddings, churchings, Communion of the sick, etc. The hassocks have rings by which they may be hung on hooks which are shortly to be fixed. You are asked to replace your hassock on the hook after a service. We are very grateful to Mrs. Bertram Jones for the care with which she has repaired many of the old hassocks still in use.

Replacements of prayer books and books for the choir have also been made by the P.C.C. Several copies have been obtained of the Parish Psalter for private purchase by members of the congregation. They cost 6/6 each. By having your own copy you are able to follow the pointing of the psalms and join in singing them with the choir.

**Choir Outing.** The choir will go to Weston-super-Mare for the day on Sat., July 11th. Members of the congregation who would like to contribute towards the treat may hand their donations to the Vicar or Churchwardens, or place them in the bowl on the church table on one of the preceding Sundays.

**The Bell Ringers.** A peal of 5040 Little Bob Major was rung on 30th May, in 2 hours 59 minutes, in honour of the 80th birthday of Mr. G. A. King, former Ringing Master and Churchwarden.

On the 4th July the South Worcestershire Change Ringing Association will be holding their quarterly service and meeting at Badsey. The service will be in church at 4-30 p.m. and will be conducted by the Vicar.

**British Empire Cancer Research Campaign.** The annual Appeal will be held in Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford the week ending July 10th. As in past years, your very generous help is solicited and will be most gratefully appreciated. I.M.B.

**Young Communicants Guild.** This is proving a popular evening, and all confirmed members of the Church under 18 are welcome at the Parish Room on Wednesday evenings, 1st and 22nd July, at 7-30 p.m.

**Sixty Plus Club.** Meetings Wednesdays, 8th and 22nd July, Remembrance Hall, 2-30 p.m.

**Mothers' Union.** Programme for the month:—Wed. 1st July, Corporate Communion 10 a.m. Tuesday July 14th Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. During the past month some of the members have been busy doing special jobs for the parish. We offer our sincere thanks to the following ladies:—Mesdames Betteridge, Crisp and Perkins for mending choir cassocks and surplices. Mesdames A. Bell, G. Grove, A. Jones A. W. Sparrow, C. Stewart and G. H. Stewart for cleaning out the Parish Room so thoroughly. It was hard work but what an improvement it has made. E.G.B.

**Gift Day, Saturday, 3rd October.** This needs careful spiritual preparation. Commend it to God in your prayers, from now on. Here is a prayer you can use :—

O Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son that we may live through Him; Fill the hearts of thy faithful people with the fire of thy love, and prosper the work of our hands upon us to the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**WICKHAMFORD NOTES**  
**Church Services**

**Sundays, July 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th** (Trinity VI, VII, VII, IX).  
Services as usual.

**P.C.C. Meeting.** Wednesday, 29th July, Memorial Hall, 8 p.m.

**Mothers' Union.** The Branch meeting will be on Wednesday, 1st July at 2-30 p.m., when we shall continue reading our book. Tea will be served by Mrs. Roberts. E.G.B.

**Welcome Home.** It is a great pleasure to have Mr. D. Peet back, and looking so much better. At the same time, we are all most grateful to Mr. T. H. Knight for resuming his old place at the organ during Mr. Peet's absence. Mrs. Poulter too is back from hospital, and has already been at church. We rejoice with Mr. and Mrs. Moore in now having their baby daughter Rebecca with them at home.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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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.