

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

February, 1960.

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).

WEEK-DAY 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 :

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

WEEK-DAY 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,

During January we have had the first four of our sermons on What a Christian Believes. These subjects raise many problems which cannot be adequately dealt with from the pulpit, and I hope you are storing up in your minds some of the posers which we can try to sort out together in the more informal discussions during Lent. I want in this letter to draw out some of the implications of these doctrines for practical Christian Stewardship of Time, Talents and Goods.

Firstly, we saw that Creeds do matter. Only people of strong convictions are cutting any ice in the world to-day. The Communist or Nationalist say to the Church: "We firmly believe in our principles, and we do get things done. What have you got to show for your beliefs, if you have any?" Well, let us remember that when the Apostles first preached the Gospel, what really did make people sit up and take notice was that the Church also demonstrated a new way of life. They held all things in common. None said that any of the things he possessed was his own. The way of life which follows from our Christian beliefs is genuine stewardship—the realisation that all that we have is not our own, but held in trust from God the Giver.

Secondly, we stated our belief in the Fatherhood of God. It is in family life that we learn the first principles of sacrifice and sharing, and using our possessions responsibly. In the story of the Prodigal Son, the Father withheld nothing from his sons. Even when the younger wanted to have his share to himself, to manage as he pleased, his father did not deny it to him. As soon as the boy lost all sense of stewardship, and regarded his share as a freehold possession to spend or squander as he liked, his real troubles began. So it is always when men forget that God is their Father.

Thirdly, we saw that God is Almighty, and governs the universe by law. We break His laws, both natural and moral, at our peril. Untold suffering results, for later generations as well as for ourselves. When we forget that the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, we exploit the soil and the riches of the earth, not to mention the power of the atom, in a selfish and irresponsible way, seeking only quick profits for ourselves. When we remember that God has put man on the earth, not only to have dominion over it, but to make it the instrument of God's glory, we are able to co-operate with Nature and to rejoice in God's bounty.

Fourthly, God the Creator made me and all the world for a purpose: to serve, glorify and enjoy Him for ever. He gave each one of us the most wonderful powers of body, mind and spirit. We cannot be happy unless we are doing what we were designed and made for. Otherwise we are like a beautifully made agricultural machine that is being used for the wrong process. So we have to dedicate all our powers to God, and as a practical earnest of that we lay aside one-tenth, or whatever we may decide, of time, talent and wealth to be wholly given to Him. That is Christian Stewardship.

Sermons for February, at Evensong, both churches:—

- Feb. 7th—"And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord"
" 14th—"Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary"
" 21st—"Suffered under Pontius Pilate"

May I remind you of the Deanery Quiet Afternoon at Harington on Saturday, 2nd April, conducted by the Bishop of Tewkesbury? Do keep that Saturday afternoon free, to draw aside with Jesus and listen to His Voice.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BABY.

The Parish Review.

Again circulation has increased and is now about 350, so that we are able to keep the price at 4/- a year. This is largely due to the kindness and efficiency of our printers, Messrs. John Knight & Sons, who have managed to keep their charges down very moderately, in spite of increasing costs in the industry generally. The Sign inset will now cost more. We need an even greater number of sales, not easy to achieve in a community like this where everybody is related to somebody else. There is so much of "I don't need to buy one: I see Mum's". Why not let Mum keep hers to herself? You need a copy in the house if you want to be sure of dates, and times of services.

We are grateful to our advertisers, and hope that readers will show it too by patronising their businesses. Our thanks are also due to Mr. A. C. Lewis, sales manager, to whom subscriptions should be paid, and to Mr. D. Jelfs, advertising manager. Last but not least, we should like to pay a tribute to our hard-working band of magazine distributors.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

FEBRUARY

2nd, Tues. Purification of Blessed Virgin Mary. 10-0. Holy Communion.

3rd, Wed. No H.C.

7th, Epiphany V. As usual for 1st Sun. 11-0. Family Service.

10th, Wed. 10-0. Holy Communion.

14th, Septuagesima. As usual for 2nd Sun.

17th, Wed. 10-0. Holy Communion.

21st, Sexagesima. As usual for 3rd Sun.

24th, Wed. St. Matthias, Apostle. 10-0. H.C.

28th, Quinquagesima. As usual for 4th Sun. H.C. 8-0. and after Evensong.

MARCH

2nd, ASH WEDNESDAY. 6-30. & 10-0. Holy Communion. 4 p.m. Children's Service. 7 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

P.C.C. Meeting. Tues., Feb. 2nd, 7-0. p.m., Parish Room.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING.

Tuesday, 16th February at 7 p.m. in the Parish Room

Last year we had a much better attendance, and this time I am hoping we shall see an absolutely full house. It really is the solemn duty of every adult church member to take part in the annual meeting of his church, if he can. It shows he really does care for his church, and is proud to belong to it.

The first business is the election of Churchwardens, in the Annual Vestry Meeting. After that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting receives the annual reports, elects representatives to the Parochial Church Council, the Diocesan and Ruridecanal Conferences, and chooses the Sidesmen. During the evening I shall make my report on the spiritual state of the parish, and I want to assess with you the value or otherwise of certain experiments we have made in the past year, and to plan the work of the year ahead. If anything revolutionary is decided on, and you are not there, don't complain afterwards that you were not consulted! R.B.

Mother's Union. The programme for the month is as follows:—

February 1st Committee Meeting, 2-30 p.m.
" 2nd Corporate Communion, 10-0 p.m.
" 9th Branch Annual Business Meeting, 2-30 p.m.
" 23rd Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Fenn, Editor of 'Home and Family' inset.

E.G.B.

Men's Fellowship. At our next meeting, Tuesday, 9th Feb., in the Parish Room at 7 p.m., we look forward to a talk from one of our own members, Mr. J. Nicholls, on 'Quarrying in the Cotswolds'.

Sixty Plus Club. In the 2nd week there will be no ordinary Wednesday meeting, as an outing has been arranged to the pantomime at Coventry on Thursday, 11th Feb. Club afternoon at Remembrance Hall, Wed., 24th Feb.

Young Communicants' Guild. Some of the members have taken over the weekly cleaning of the brass ornaments in the church. February meeting to be announced later.

Report on Senior Residents Party, Jan. 16th. Some 85 people came, about the same number as last year. Transport was provided by a number of kind volunteers. Once again a splendid meal was served by Mr. E. L. Mustoe and helpers. This year there was also a wide choice of drinks with the meal. Later the guests were entertained by Mr. Ron Clarke's Concert Party from Cheltenham. Auld Lang Syne and a cup o' kindness in the form of hot soup ended the proceedings.

As before, the party was provided by the generosity of village organisations and individual donors. Donations are gratefully acknowledged from the following: P.C.C., Friends' Mission, Cricket Club, Football Club, British Legion (Branch) British Legion (Women's Section), Flower Show Committee, Men's Fellowship, Mothers' Union, Women's Institute, R.A.O.B., Cubs, Sixty Plus Club, the Royal Oak, Mr. S. Brewer, Mrs. A. C. Sears, Mr. A. Stanley, Mrs. H. Wheatley, Senr., Mrs. E. L. Witts.

Parish Registers Holy Baptism

Jan. 17th—Julie Patricia Hodgkins, Judith Hardiman, Timothy John Owens.

Burials. R.I.P.

Dec. 18th—Florence Dora Marshall, aged 39.
Jan. 18th—George Archibald King, aged 80. (cremation at Cheltenham.)

Mr. Alfred Lowle, who died early on St. Stephen's Day, aged 87, was buried at Peopleton, his native village. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Miss Freda Lowle, who nursed both her parents with such devotion, Mr. Lowle was a devout communicant and a very charming old gentleman whom it was a pleasure to know.

A short memoir of Mr. George King, by one who worked with him in the service of the Church, is printed below. Mrs. King and all the family are assured of the very warmest sympathy of all in Badsev. He was a man who inspired affection, as was shown in the large congregation which came to his funeral in Badsey Church. Although many were there as representatives of the manifold activities in the life of George King, none would have said that he had come merely as an act of official duty. All wanted to pay tribute to a real friend and counsellor whose place, as the Rev. W. B. Chapman said in his beautiful address, will be sadly missed. Besides Mr. Chapman, the Rural Dean was present and read the lesson. In the afternoon the Ringers rang a muffled peal to the memory of one who had been such a keen ringer himself.

George Archibald King, R.I.P.

By the death of Mr. George King, the village has lost one whose passing will be mourned by all those whose privilege it was to have known him. His activities in public affairs, were only surpassed by the work he showered on the church in which he loved so well. As churchwarden for many years, he gave freely of his time and skill to help to bring our church to that perfection which was his aim in all things. Never a seeker after popularity, he would fight fearlessly for what he believed to be right. Though outspoken he was a gentle and kindly man who loved his Lord and fellow men. Of a truth it can be said of him that he was "A good and faithful servant". Though he will be so sadly missed, we may rejoice in the memory of one who was truly a Christian Gentleman.

G.A.J.

The Sick. Mrs. Braby, her mother and I are grateful for the many expressions of sympathy and good wishes for the recovery of Mr. P. J. Danks, who is seriously ill in Ronkswood Hospital. We greatly value your prayers. Mr. Gilbert (Tony) Bennett has been very ill in the Royal Infirmary with abscesses on the face, but we are thankful to say he is now making a steady recovery. Other invalids in hospital are Mr. Willett, Mrs. Pamela Barnard, Mrs. Lord (who has just been delivered of a daughter after a caesarean operation) Miss Hanks (91st birthday Feb. 6th). Mr. Albert Harris is ill with bronchitis. Harry Wheatley is back at College, but still on crutches. Doreen Collett, after an operation to her leg, is recuperating at home. Mrs. Webb, of Aldington, who had her 90th birthday last month, is still in Manchester. Mr. H. Field is much better, and now at home.

Servers for February

Feb. 7th, 8-0. B. Caswell; 11-0. M. Betteridge; 6-45. T. Hatcher. 14th, 8-0. R. Harvey; 11-0. C. Freeman (Server). C. Harwood (Crucifer); 6-45. D. Barrand. 21st, 8-0. T. Hatcher; 6-45. B. Caswell. 28th, 8-0. D. Barrand; 11-0. P. Bott; 6-45. C. Freeman.

Communicants

Week begining Dec. 13th, 60; 20th, (excl. Christmas) 31; Christmas Eve and Day, 166; 27th, 45; Jan. 3rd, 39; 10th, 46. Total Christmas communicants (incl. sick) 185.

Collections

Dec. 20th, £9-15-3; Christmas, (Refugees) £37-14-6; 27th, £9-15-0; Jan. 3rd, £7-18-3; Epiphany (Missions) 13-6; 10th, £8-2-8; 17th, £7-18-8.

The total sent to Inter-Church Aid for Refugees (including donations) was £38-14-6.

Birthday Half-crowns

Miss A. E. Crisp (89th); K.A.S., Mrs. Turrill.

Wedding Anniverseries 5/-. Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. B. Jones.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

My dear People of Wickhamford,

My letter at the beginning of the Magazine is always addressed to you as well as to the people of Badsey. This month I am writing a special letter to you as well as the general one. I am writing to ask you to make a really big thing of the Annual Church Meeting in the Memorial Hall, on Wednesday, 24th February, at 7-15 p.m.

My first year I was surprised to find the meeting attended only by members of the existing P.C.C. Rather a rum show, don't you think? It was certainly quite unworthy of Wickhamford. Last year we had a much better attendance. The Vicar and church officers came away afterwards feeling quite cheered and encouraged. This year I am sure it is going to be better still.

Our church attracts many visitors who come to see it as a venerable relic of past glories. To us it means much more than that. I know how many of you love your church, not as a museum, but as a power-station generating spiritual energy in the life of the community. The number of communicants is increasing year by year. I do want to see all this reflected in a lively interest in the affairs of our church, shown by an enthusiastic attendance at this annual gathering. Don't forget, Feb. 24th (St. Matthias' Day), 7-15 p.m.

If you are not yet on the Church Electoral Roll, and are baptised and 17 or over, you have still time, provided you take one of the forms from the church, fill it in, and return it to me or Mrs. Cooke not later than Feb. 3rd.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Church Services

Suns., Feb. 7th (Epiph. V.) 14th, (Septuagesima), 21st, (Sexagesima), 28th, (Quinquagesima). Services as usual.

March 2nd, Ash Wednesday. 7-30 a.m. Holy Communion.

P.C.C. Meeting. Wednesday, 10th February, Memorial Hall, 7-15 p.m.

Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meeting. Wed., 24th Feb., Memorial Hall, 7-15 p.m. (see letter above)

Mothers' Union. It was a great pleasure to have such a happy gathering of members with their families at the party, and I hope this will now be an annual event.

This month the speaker will be Mrs. Dunsby on Feb. 3rd, who will talk about her visit to Ireland with the Central Council. On Feb. 17th we shall have another Discussion Afternoon. Teas will be served by Mrs. Martin and Mrs. C. Sturt respectively. E.G.B.

The Sick. Mr. George Pitts has been seriously ill in Avonside Hospital, but is improving. He is in the same ward as Mr. Frank Halford and Mr. Jim Moisey. Mr. W. A. Johnson and Mr. J. W. Mason are both convalescent at home. Mrs. Ruth Daffurn has been laid up with a bad back.

Holy Baptism

Jan. 10th—Stephen Brotherton; Paul Trevor Heritage.

Christmas communicants (incl. sick): 48. Collection for C. of E. Children's Society: £7-8-3.

Birthday Half-crown

Paul Trevor Heritage.

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Why not consult the Local Secretary? Mrs. H. Jennings, "Auburn Villa" Willersey Road, Badsey.

Tel. 295

Notice to Members:—Monthly Lodges: Second Wednesday in month, "Auburn Villa" 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.