

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

April, 1961.

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 at 11-40 a.m. 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.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD.

SUNDAY SERVICES :

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

11 a.m.—Family Service (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,

No space this month for more than the briefest of Easter greetings. Three words convey all that one Christian needs to say to his brethren—three words pregnant with meaning for all believers: CHRIST IS RISEN. Three things the Risen Christ shares with His friends: His Life, His Peace, His Joy.

Here are some items this month to do with spring, resurrection, and new beginnings.

Saturday, April 8th, Spring Fair and opening of Market Bookstall. Two big Evesham Deanery efforts on the same morning! Better than asking you to give up two different Saturdays? On this morning the Church is really going to show the flag in our market town. It is up to each one of us to rally round and demonstrate that the Church not only exists, but cares.

The Spring Fair opens in the Walker Hall at 10 a.m. It is our annual fair for Evesham Deanery Moral Welfare Association. Our Moral Welfare Worker is doing in our name one of the chief works that Our Lord committed to His Church. You can help with your gifts, your money, and your encouragement by being present at the Fair. Our Deanery is challenged to raise £300 this year. Badsey and Wickhamford are running a cake stall. Gifts of cakes will be very welcome, and should be brought on Friday, 7th, to the Vicarage or Mrs. H. L. Hatcher or Mrs. E. Sturt (Wickhamford).

At 11-30 the same morning, the Bishop of Worcester will open the Church Bookstall on the forecourt of the Walker Hall, in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress and, we hope, a large gathering (TV cameras and all). After the opening day, the stall will be staffed on successive Saturdays by different parishes in turn. Badsey are responsible for May 13th and Aug. 19th; Wickhamford for June 10th. Lists for volunteers for the teams are in the church porches. It is going to be tremendous fun.

Tuesday, April 25th., (St. Mark's Day). The Confirmation. Badsey Church, 7-30 p.m. In the early days of the Church, initiation into the Christian fellowship took place in one big service of Baptism, Confirmation and first Communion—not in three separate stages as is usual today. This year we shall see something much nearer to New Testament and primitive practice, for there will first be an adult Baptism, followed by Confirmation of all the candidates by the Bishop. After the service, a reception will be given by both P.C.C.'s. to the Bishop, the candidates and their parents and friends in Badsey School. Last time we had to restrict the accommodation in the church, but this year there are fewer candidates, and the transept is now

open, so I hope all of you will try to be present on this great occasion. May there also be many to welcome the candidates into the communicant fellowship, when they make their first Communion (Badsey, April 30th, 8-0; Wickhamford, May 7th, 9-0).

Alive or Dead? Several parishioners have expressed concern at a practice, which has only begun in recent months, of placing **artificial flowers** on graves in both Badsey and Wickhamford **churchyards**. I deeply share this concern, and in the interests of all I would request people to discontinue this practice, even in winter (evergreens and berries are perfectly suitable when flowers are too expensive). The whole purpose of having flowers and plants on graves is to symbolise the Christian belief in the resurrection: life through death. I am sure people will not wish to put artificial flowers there once they realise this point.

Christ is risen! Easter joy to you all.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

APRIL

- 2 **EASTER DAY.** 7 & 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10-0 Children's Service. 11-0 Sung Eucharist & Sermon. 6-45 Evensong & Sermon.
- 5 Wed. 10-0 Holy Communion.
- 9 **Easter I.** (Low Sunday). As usual for 2nd Sun.
- 10—15 No Weekday Services. Internal repairs to church.
- 16 **Easter II.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.
- 19 Wed. St. Alphege, Abp. & M. 10-0 H.C.
- 23 **Easter III. S. George, M.** As usual for 4th Sun.
- 25 Tues. St. Mark, Evangelist. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. **ADULT BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION** by the Bishop of Worcester.
- 26 Wed. No H.C.
- 30 **Easter IV.** As usual for 5th Sun. 8-0 1st Communion of newly confirmed.

MAY

- 1 SS. Philip & James, Apostles 6-30 a.m. H.C.
- Meeting to arrange Summer Fete,** Tuesday, April 18th, 8 p.m., Parish Room. Volunteers and helpers please come. The Fete is to be on June 24th.

Church & Churchyard. During the week beginning April 9th, a firm of timber preservative specialists will be spraying some of the woodwork in the church which has been attacked by woodworm. There will be no weekday services during that week. The annual 'spring' cleaning is postponed till autumn. Volunteers will however be called for to give the church a good cleaning at the end of that week.

May we really have a big team of men to work at tidying up the churchyard on **Saturday afternoon, April 15th?** Please bring tools, and try to come as early in the afternoon as possible.

Servers for April. 2nd, 7-0 T. Hatcher ; 8-0 B. Caswell ; 11-0 D. Barrand (Server), H. Wheatley (Crucifer) ; 6-45 P. Bott. 9th, 8-0 R. Harvey ; 11-0 P. Bott (Server), M. Betteridge (Crucifer) ; 6-45 C. Harwood. 16th, 8-0 C. Freeman ; 6-45 D. Barrand. 23rd, 8-0 C. Harwood ; 11-0 M. Betteridge ; 6-45 H. Wheatley. 30th, 8-0 M. Betteridge ; 11-0 P. Bott ; 6-45 H. Wheatley.

Holy Baptism

Mar. 19th—Marilyn Jean Bennett ; Stephen Douglas Jelfs ; Jayne Portman.

Holy Matrimony

Feb. 25th—Alan Frederick Knight, of Badsey, and Brenda Green, of Bolton, Lancs.

Burials. R.I.P.

Mar. 18th—Leslie George Pinkney, aged 48.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mrs. Pinkney and her young sons in this unexpected loss.

The Sick. At the time of writing, Mrs. Harvey seems to be making reasonable progress after her serious operation. Nothing seems to shake her serene and sunny composure, God bless her. Mr. Harry Stewart seems to be getting steadily better. Mr. F. Cobb wishes to give thanks for his recovery and for the many prayers and kind messages. We pray for Mrs. E. Cole, Mrs. C. Keen, Mrs. P. Marshall, Mr. W. Dunkley of Aldington, Mr. Morcombe, Mrs. G. Hughes, as well as others still in hospital and mentioned last month.

Annual Church Meeting, February 21st.

Before the election of Churchwardens, the Vicar announced the sad news that Mr. G. H. Stewart had gone into hospital the previous evening. They would all pray for his complete recovery. The Vicar expressed his appreciation of both Churchwardens. Mr. G. A. Jones and Mr. G. H. Stewart were then re-elected as Vicar's and People's Wardens.

Mr. G. A. Jones suggested that a Deputy Warden should be elected, and proposed Mr. F. G. Jones who was duly elected to that office. The Vicar said he warmly approved the people's choice.

In the A.P.C.M. Mr. H. L. Hatcher gave the report of the P.C.C. for 1960. The revised Electoral Roll stood at 356. Outstanding events of the year had been the Good Friday act of united witness, the installation of the new organ, and the visit of the Dean of Christ Church for the Patronal Festival. Mr. M. H. Harvey presented the audited accounts for 1960. A very good proportion of the parochial income had been given to causes outside the parish, which was a healthy sign, but the purchase of the new organ had left us with very little in reserve, and big calls would have to be made on our funds for repairs to the fabric. The Vicar, in the absence of Mr. A. M. C. Lewis, reported a good balance this year in the Parish Review account, which enabled us now to insert the Diocesan Messenger in the magazines. Mr. G. A. Jones reported on the Fabric. The architect's report, after an inspection last autumn, advised certain essential repairs, including the treatment of much of the timber against attacks of beetle. Most of this work was now being put in hand, though some had to be postponed owing to lack of money.

The Vicar, in his report, after expressing appreciation of the loyal support of the P.C.C. and church workers, said that communicants had dropped to 2656 from the record figure in 1959 of 3133. He could not be happy about the spiritual health of the parish until there was a steady increase in the number of communicants. With a few exceptions, most of the churchgoers seemed content with a non-sacramental religion which was not the Christianity of the Gospel. With regard to Christian Stewardship, the whole question would now have to be squarely faced as to whether Badsey should have a planned giving campaign.

Elections took place as follows :—

Ruridecenal Conference : Mr. P. S. Tucker, Mesdames A. W. Ballard, F. H. Betteridge, A. Reed.

P.C.C. : Messrs A. G. Crisp, R. Hartwell, M. Harvey, H. Hatcher, D. Jelfs, C. Jones, F. Jones, A. Lewis, T. Sparrow, R. Taylor, H. Wheatley, Mesdames A. Bell, P. Braby, Misses J. Sladden, N. Smith.

Sidesmen : Mr. J. F. Ives was added to the list. **Hon. Auditor :** Mr. H. L. Knight. At a meeting of the P.C.C. immediately afterwards, officers were elected as follows :—**Hon. Sec. :** Mr. H. L. Hatcher. **Hon. Treas. :** Mr. M. H. Harvey. **Vice-Chairman :** Mr. G. A. Jones.

Communicants. Week beginning Feb. 19th, 30 ; 26th, 48 ; March 5th, 26 ; 12th, 56.

Collections. Gen. Fund : Feb. 19th, £9-8-6 ; 26th, £10-8-5 ; March 5th, £8-8-11 ; 12th, £9-3-11 ; 19th, £10-3-3.

Fabric Fund : Feb. 22nd, £1-8-9 ; March 1st, £1-17-10 ; 8th, £1-11-2 ; 15th, £1-12-5.

Birthday Half-crowns ; Mrs. Betteridge, Mr. C. A. Bin-
yon, Memory of Mrs. A. Brailsford, Memories of E.D., Mr.
E. R. Taylor, Norbert Tucker, Christopher Tucker.

Mothers' Union. The only branch meeting this month will be on Tuesday, 11th April, at 7-15 p.m.

Corporate Communion will be on Wednesday, 5th April at 10-0, and also on Sunday, 30th April at 8 a.m. (It was decided at our annual meeting to do this every 5th Sunday).
E.G.B.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services.

APRIL

2 **EASTER DAY. 9-15 Holy Communion** (with hymns).
3-0 Children's Service. 5-30 Evensong & Sermon.

Suns., April 9, 16, 23, 30 (**Easter I, II, III, IV**). As usual for 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays.

25 **S. Mark, Evangelist. CONFIRMATION** in Badsey Church, 7-30 p.m. (See Vicar's Letter).

P.C.C. Meeting. Wed., April 26th, 7-30 p.m.

Mothers' Union. The branch will meet on Wednesday, 19th April, at 2-30 p.m. Tea will be served by Mrs. Walters.
E.G.B.

The Sick. We are thankful that Mr. E. Sturt has had a successful operation and is now home. Miss Gillian Poulter has made a good recovery. Mr. W. Johnson has been ill again, and Mrs. K. Knight is in hospital.

Women's Institute.

At the March meeting, Mrs. Hannay gave an instructive and enjoyable talk on knitting. She was thanked by Mrs. Harty. Mrs. Voelcker judged the competition for articles costing not more than half a crown, which was won by Mrs. D. Southern and Mrs. Litterick. The Social Half-Hour was run by Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Harty. Winner : Mrs. K. Harman.

Monthly Parcel : Mrs. Daffurn. Sick Visitor : Mrs. Daffurn. Tea hostesses : Mrs. Byron, Mrs. Folkes, Mrs. Bent, Mrs. Boston.

Annual Church Meeting, February 8th.

Proceedings began with the annual Vestry, at which the previous churchwardens, after being thanked by the Vicar, were re-elected: Mr. Edmund Cooke as Vicar's Warden, and Mr. J. E. Parry as People's Warden.

In the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which followed, Mrs. E. Cooke presented the revised Electoral Roll, which now stood at 144, and the report of the Parochial Church Council for 1960. Outstanding events in the year had been the visit of the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, in July, and the successful Gift Day in October, when £78 had been received by the Vicar in church for church funds. Mrs. T. H. Collett presented the audited accounts for 1960, showing balances of £107 in the General Fund and £425 in the Fabric Fund. With regard to the latter Mr. E. Cooke, in his report on the fabric, showed that considerable expenditure would be needed this year as a result of an architect's survey and report made last summer. This showed that, among other things, much of the flooring of the nave would have to be replaced owing to wet rot, and steps taken to prevent its recurrence.

The Vicar, in his report, after acknowledging the help and support of the P.C.C. and church workers, said that he could not call 1960 a very good year. Communicants were down from the record figure of 763 in 1959 to 613 in 1960. The figure for Christmas communicants (36) was an "all time low". Church attendance, except for a small nucleus of loyal regulars, was spasmodic and quite unpredictable: a special occasion, like the patronal festival or the visit of a distinguished preacher, might draw only a handful, while the following

Sunday—an ordinary one—might see the church full. Although there were certain hopeful signs, like the record gift day or the increased attendance at the monthly family service, the poor turn out at this annual church meeting was itself a symptom of general apathy. Perhaps in his third year priest and people had come to take each other too much for granted.

Elections took place as follows:—

Ruridecennial Conference. Mrs. L. E. Poulter, Miss A. L. Cox, Miss M. Willis.

P.C.C. Messrs. W. A. Johnson, D. T. Peet, J. Poulter, C. H. Willis, Mesdames T. H. Collett, C. Cox, G. Halford, G. Hancock, J. E. Parry.

Sidesmen: Messrs. R. Harman, J. Newbury, J. Poulter, E. Sturt, C. Willis. **Hon. Auditor:** Mr. W. Tullett.

At a meeting of the P.C.C. immediately afterwards, the following officers were elected:—

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. E. Cooke. **Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs. T. H. Collett. **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. T. Peet.

Phones: (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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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? 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.