

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

May, 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, 35 Pitchers Hill.

THE VICAR'S LETTER.

My dear People,

Many thanks to you for your kind and generous Easter Offering.

During the first week of May, I shall be on my annual retreat.

This month the first half of the Christian year is rounded off with the great Festivals of Ascension, Whitsun and Trinity. In this country Ascension Day is not, as in most of Europe, a public holiday. That should not prevent Christians from coming together for worship on this great Feast, for we have services arranged early and late on that day, so that everyone should be able to get to at least one of them. Coming out early to Holy Communion is the best thing of all, for it was on that morning that the Lord Jesus gathered His disciples round Him on the Mount of Olives, handed on to them the work they were to do in His Name, gave them the promise that He would be with them always, and then vanished into the heavenly world where He is so close to us at all times, yet reigning in glory. Going to Holy Communion on Ascension Day morning always seems to me like answering an invitation from King Jesus to a specially reserved place on His Coronation Day. What an invitation indeed! Who is going to say 'No' to that one?

Just now I mentioned public holidays. Now that the old association of holiday with holy day has almost completely gone, a reform that many Christians would like to see is a re-arrangement of the public holidays so that they do not coincide with the major festivals of the Church. (I would retain Christmas as a public holiday, but make the three bank holidays in the summer the first Mondays in May, July and September. Thus the holidays would be at fixed dates each year, which would satisfy most people, and parish churches would not be depleted of the faithful at the greatest festivals.)

Look at Whitsun, for instance. The first Whit Sunday was the day when the Holy Spirit came to fill the Church with life and power, finding the disciples 'all with one accord in one place', i.e. at prayer together. Nowadays Whit Sunday is the one Sunday in the year when a parish priest can be certain that his people will not be all with one accord in one place. They will be scattered anywhere from Blackpool to Bruges. At the end of the day on Whit Sunday a priest should be feeling tired but exhilarated. I must confess that I usually feel utterly depressed on Whit Sunday evening. That is certainly not due to any physical fatigue from administering to large numbers of communicants. Any tiredness arising from that is always forgotten in the joy of having been allowed to be the means of bringing the Bread of Life to so many souls. The depression comes from seeing on this Day of days, the Birthday of the Church,

so little evidence that the Church exists. Perhaps the altars of churches at the holiday resorts are thronged on this day—I wouldn't know, but I rather doubt it. At any rate, if you are going to be away at Whitsun, do not fail to go to the local parish church. If you are going to be at home, be one of those who are 'all with one accord in one place' when the Day of Pentecost is fully come. As the old Whitsun hymn says, 'Let us not miss the accepted hour'. If one of the disciples stayed away on the first Whit Sunday, how bitterly disappointed he must have been when he heard from the others afterwards what had happened.

On Trinity Sunday, if we are, like St. John the Divine, 'in the Spirit on the Lord's day', we can peep through the door that is opened in heaven, and hear, as he did, the voice of God saying, 'Come up hither'. In our worship we are lifted up into the life of heaven as we join with angels and archangels in their chorus of 'Holy, holy, holy' to the glorious God who made us, redeemed us, and sanctifies us.

The Church Bookstall. The opening by the Bishop on April 8th was well attended, and a fairly brisk trade was done throughout the day. £17 was taken, though it was not a full day. At the Spring Fair for the Moral Welfare Association, held in the Walker Hall the same morning, the net proceeds were £113-15-1, a record amount for this event. Our cake stall (Badsey and Wickhamford) made £10-5-0. Many thanks to all who contributed and helped.

The Market Bookstall is a pioneering venture, as far as the Midlands are concerned, and we hope that other rural deaneries will take up the idea. It has got off to a good start, but it is now up to the individual parishes to keep it well staffed each Saturday, for it is certainly satisfying a need. See the respective Notes for Badsey and Wickhamford elsewhere in this issue for the dates our parishes are responsible. Taking part in it is really rather exciting.

Some people have been working very hard to bring the Bookstall into being, and in particular I should like to mention Mr. Tom Cox, who has produced the stall itself, so beautifully designed, made and fitted for the job. We are very fortunate in having so able and hard-working a person as Mr. Derek Barrand (so well-known to us in Badsey) as our stock-keeper. Invaluable work has also been done by the Rev. D. A. Smith and the Rev. Bernard Marshall, the latter having been in charge of publicity. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. R. Rayner, who has been secretary to the committee, not only for this, but for the many other ways in which he has helped me. We are very sorry to lose him from this district. Others too have worked hard on the committee, and above all we have had the unfailing support and guidance of the Rural Dean.

Diocesan Missionary Festival, June 3rd. Evesham Rural Deanery has been chosen for the honour of entertaining the whole Diocese this year for the Diocesan Missionary Festival, the second to be held. (The first was at Kidderminster last year). We must all in the parishes give strong support, and maintain the honour of our Deanery. The programme for Saturday, June 3rd is as follows:—

9-30 a.m. Corporate Communion at All Saints, Evesham for all church people in the Deanery.

10-0, onwards. Missionary Exhibition in the Walker Hall.

2-30 p.m. Choirs, congregations and clergy from the whole Diocese will assemble at the Smithfield Market, Evesham, for a great procession of witness through the town.

3-30 Festival Services in All Saints' and St. Lawrence's Churches. Preacher: Bishop Trapp (formerly of Zululand), General Secretary of the S.P.G.

4-45 Tea will be served in the Public Hall (2/- per person).

An illustrated brochure of the Festival will shortly be on sale.

Happy times to you all in Our Lord's service.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

MAY

- 1, Mon. SS. Philip & James, Apostles. 6-30 a.m. H.C.
- 3, Wed. No H.C.
- 7 Easter V (Rogation Sun.) As usual for 1st Sun.
- 10, Wed. No H.C.
- 11, Thurs. ASCENSION DAY. 6-30 & 10-0 Holy Communion. 8-0 p.m. Evensong (sung).
- 14 Sun. after Ascension. As usual for 2nd Sun.
- 16, Tues. 3-0 M.U. Diocesan Service, Worcester Cathedral.
- 17, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 21 WHITSUNDAY. 7-0 & 8-0 a.m. Holy Communion. 11-0 Sung Eucharist. 3-0 Holy Baptism. 6-45 Evensong & Sermon. (Collections for Sunday School Fund).
- 24, Wed. Ember Day. 10-0 H.C.
- 28 TRINITY SUNDAY. As usual for 4th Sun. (Collections for Ordination Candidates' Central Fund.)
- 31, Wed. 10-0 H.C.

Flowers for the Festivals. Gifts of flowers or money for decorating the church for Ascension Day and Whitsunday will be welcome. Helpers are asked to be at the church on Wednesday, 10th May, at 2-30 and on Friday, 19th May, at 2-30. Please note that flowers should not be brought after those times.

P.C.C. Meeting. Tuesday, 9th May, at 8-0 p.m., Parish Room.

Servers for May. 7th, 8-0 H. Wheatley; 11-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 C. Harwood. 11th, (Ascension Day) 6-30 a.m. M. Beteridge. 14th, 8-0 R. Harvey; 11-0 T. Hatcher (Server), H. Wheatley (Crucifer); 6-45 P. Bott. 21st, (Whitsunday) 7-0 A. Hartwell; 8-0 B. Caswell; 11-0 P. Bott (Server), M. Beteridge (Crucifer); 6-45 H. Wheatley. 28th, (Trinity Sun.) 8-0 C. Freeman; 11-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 D. Barrand.

War Memorial Flowers. May 7th, Mrs. T. Keen; 14th, Mrs. R. C. Sparrow; 21st, Mrs. Spencer; 28th, Mrs. C. Haines.

Mothers' Union. The Diocesan Service in Worcester Cathedral is on Tuesday, May 16th. Members who are going will meet the coach at the usual points, beginning at the Oak at 1-20 p.m.

The Branch meeting will be on Tuesday, May 23rd, in church at 7-15 p.m. for an admission service, and afterwards in the parish room.

No committee meeting this month.

E.G.B.

Church Bookstall. The first Saturday the Badsey team will be on duty in Evesham Market Square is May 13th, from 10-0 to 5-0. Please tell the Vicar if you are able to help, or add your name to the list in the church porch.

Church Cleaner. We are happy to announce that Miss A. Ankers has been appointed church cleaner, and has been working hard in that capacity for the last few weeks.

The Choir. New choristers admitted at Evensong on Sunday, March 26th, are Roger Hartwell, John Meadows, and Christopher Tucker.

We are glad to have an additional bass now in Mr. Roy Harman. That does not mean he has deserted Wickhamford Choir! He manages to have a foot in both camps.

Church Repairs. Woodworm & Dry Rot Control Ltd., have now treated the infested timbers in the transept and tower, and we hope the hungry little beetles have been effectively slaughtered. These necessary precautions and other essential repairs (some still to be undertaken) are putting a heavy burden on our parochial resources. Most of our capital reserves have been spent on installing the new organ last year. Now all parishes are being asked to step up their contributions to the common purse of the diocese threefold. It has therefore become quite clear to the P.C.C. that we cannot continue on the present financial basis. The P.C.C. have accepted this as a God-sent challenge to invite the co-operation of all Church members in a scheme of Christian Stewardship. At present a committee of the P.C.C. is at work on drawing up proposals for a plan which, God willing, is to be launched in the coming autumn. In the meantime something has to be done to keep the ship on an even keel in 1961. Accordingly there is to be the usual summer fete, in which the co-operation of all of you is invited. The date is Saturday, June 24th. One preparatory meeting has been held already, but offers of help of all kinds will be gladly received by the Vicar or Mrs. Braby.

Holy Baptism

April 16 Christine Lorraine Jennings; Veronica Ann Dore.

Holy Matrimony

April 3 Raymond Ronald Beauchamp and Patricia Evans.

Jottings. We are very proud that our Headmaster, Mr. M. H. Harvey, has the honour of being President of the Worcestershire Association of the National Union of Teachers this year, and that he will preside at the annual meeting to be held in Evesham on May 13th. It has been a sad disappointment that Mrs. Harvey's illness has come in his year of office. We are glad to say she is making steady progress and has now left hospital.

It is good to have Mr. Harry Stewart back with us, and looking so much better. We pray for the recovery of Mrs. Nora Cook, also of Mr. John Keen, who has just gone to Ronkswood Hospital, Mr. Alan Marshall, Mr. Edgar Smith, and Mrs. Arthur Keen, who have recently undergone operations.

Sixty Plus Club. The days of meetings are once again the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, in the Remembrance Hall.

Communicants. Week beginning March 19th, 73 ; 26th, 52 ; April 2nd, (Easter), 172 ; 9th, 38 ; 16th, 34.

Collections. March 19th, £10-3-3 ; 22nd & 25th (Fabric Fund) £1-18-11 ; 26th, £6-1-7 ; Holy Week (Missions), £6-2-2 ; April 2nd, (Easter Offering) £23-0-6 ; 9th, £8-1-10-7 ; 16th, £8-12-3.

Birthday Half-crowns. In Memoriam Arthur Leslie Byrd ; Mrs. M. A. Hart ; Miss Edith Jones.

Acknowledgement of Gifts to the Church. A Fair Linen cloth for the Altar and two linen cloths for the Credence Table ; the gift of the Mothers' Union.

A copy of the Library Edition of the New Testament (New English Bible) for the Lectern : the gift of Mrs. Hilda Byrd in memory of her husband Arthur Leslie Byrd, a former lesson reader and sidesman.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services.

MAY

- 7 **Easter V.** As usual for 1st Sunday. 9-0 a.m. 1st Communion of newly confirmed.
11, Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY.** 7-30 a.m. Holy Communion
14 **Sun. after Ascension.** As usual for 2nd Sun.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

THE FLOWER BASKET

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TELEFLOWER SERVICE



PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

21 **WHITSUNDAY.** 9-15 a.m. **Holy Communion (with hymns).** 5-30 Evensong & Sermon. (Collections for Sunday School Fund).

28 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** As usual for 4th Sunday. (Collections for Ordination Candidates' Central Fund).

Mothers' Union. Members who are going to the Diocesan Service on May 16th will meet the coach at the Sandys Arms at 1-30 p.m.

The Branch will meet on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 2-30 p.m., when tea will be served by Mrs. Haines. E.G.B.

Church Bookstall. The Saturday the Wickhamford team will be on duty in Evesham Market Square is June 10th, from 10-0 to 5-0. Please tell the Vicar if you are able to help, or add your name to the list in the church porch.

The Sick. Your prayers are asked for Mr. Harold Southern who is back in Avonside Hospital, also for Mr. Colley, Mrs. Dolphin and Mr. Johnson.

Women's Institute. Mrs. Williams presided at the April meeting, which was members' night. The visiting speakers were Mr. and Mrs. Warters, of Broadway, who showed a coloured film of their holiday at Oberammergau. They were thanked by Mrs. Cooke.

Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Warters judged the decorated egg competition, and declared Mrs. D. Southern the winner.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Collett, Miss Collett, Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. Boston and Mrs. Cox. Sick Visitor is Mrs. Halford.

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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.