

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

January, 1962

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,

You will be receiving this number during the twelve-day festival of Christ's Nativity, and I wish you all a happy Christmas. Christmas will have meant very little to us unless the Birth of Christ takes place anew in our own lives. "You must be born again" was the startling thing Jesus said to a middle-aged enquirer who had come round for a cosy chat. I don't expect any of us enjoyed being born. No doubt it would have been nicer to stay in the warm, dark, comfy womb. But we had no choice in the matter. We had to come out into the light.

A new Birth means also a Death - an end to old ideas, easy ways, former habits. No one who has come to find the new-born King can be at ease in the old kingdom where Self has reigned.

The Wise Men reached their goal because they obeyed immediately the Divine impulse to follow the guiding Star.

"True love can brook no dull delay :

Though toils and dangers lie their way ;

And yet their homes, their friends, their all,  
They leave at once, at God's high call."

So too with the Shepherds : "Let us go even now unto Bethlehem . . . And they came with haste." Towards the end of this month we celebrate the Conversion of St. Paul. "Arise," he was told, "and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do," "Whereupon," as he told King Agrippa many years later, "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision."

Another thought comes from the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The old man Simeon had longed to see the promised Christ before he died. One day he felt an inward urge from God to go into the Temple to pray. He obeyed at once, and there was the Desire of all nations waiting for him. Suppose he had put off his visit to the Temple, just by a few minutes. Christ would have come, but Simeon would have missed his chance.

Looking back on your own life, do you not regret the many opportunities lost through not responding at once to some inward urge which you knew to be holy? Something that struck home once when you were hearing one of the lessons read in church, perhaps. You knew God was speaking to you. When you got home you let other voices crowd in, other interests, concerns and pleasures, and God was not allowed to resume His conversation with you. The thing to have done was to make a definite appointment for renewing the encounter : a resolution to set aside a particular time, preferably that very day.

"**Today**, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts". We just do not know what we have missed in the past through our sloth. If you are making New Year resolutions, ask yourself this. Is there something which God has been urging me to

do, but which I have put off? If I put it off any longer, can I be sure I shall have the urge again? Am I hanging back in some way from committing myself wholly to Christ, who has said to me (of all people!), "Follow Me"?

Those New Year resolutions must be decisions for today, not vague aspirations towards doing something in the course of the twelvemonth.

Mrs. Braby and the children join me in wishing you all a happy New Year. God bless you always.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, Jan. 18th to 25th. Join in this with your fellow-Christians of all denominations all over the world, in your personal prayers and in corporate worship.

**Sun., Jan. 28th.** That evening I have been invited to preach in the Cathedral. Evensong at both churches will be conducted by students from Worcester Ordination College. P.B.

### BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

#### JAN.

1 Mon. **Circumcision of Our Lord.** H.C. 7-0. (N.B. not 10-0 as in Dec. no.).

3 Wed. No H.C.

6 Sat. **EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.** H.C. 10-0.

7 **Epiphany I.** As usual for 1st Sun. 11-0 Family Service.

10 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

14 **Epiphany II.** As usual for 2nd Sun.

17 Wed. St. Antony, Abbot. 10-0 H.C.

21 **Epiphany III.** St. Agnes, V. & M. As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.

24 Wed. No H.C.

25 Thurs. **Conversion of St. Paul.** 10-0 H.C.

28 **Epiphany IV.** As usual for 4th Sun.

31 Wed. No H.C.

#### FEB.

2 Fri. **Presentation of Christ in the Temple.** 10-0 H.C.

**P.C.C. Meeting**, Tues., Jan. 2nd, Parish Room, 7-15 p.m.

**Church Electoral Roll.** This will be revised at the beginning of February by the P.C.C. in preparation for the Annual Church Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 20th (Make a note now to book this date). If you are not on the Electoral Roll and are a baptised member of the Church of England over 17, who lives in the parish or regularly attends services at St. James's Church, you should apply for inclusion on the Roll. You do this on one of the enrolment forms which you can get at the church or from the vicarage. The forms, when signed, should be returned to the Vicar or to Mr. H. L. Hatcher, Hon. Secretary, before February 4th.

**The Worldwide Church.** Once again there has been an increase in the giving for overseas work through the S.P.G. boxes. In five years this has now risen from £15-10-0 to £55-2-8. Collections in church during 1961 for overseas missions came to £32-9-9. The latter is not particularly good, but it must be remembered that it comprises only the offerings of those who happened to be in church on the Sundays when the collections were taken. If it should be a very wet Sunday, the missionary societies have to suffer for it. Under the new Church Membership Scheme the giving for overseas work is going to be much more evenly distributed between the parishioners, and a worthy proportion of income can be allocated deliberately by the parish for overseas missions, without dependence on factors quite irrelevant, such as the state of the weather on a certain Sunday.

1961 overseas funds have been allocated as follows:—

S.P.G. £55-2-8; C.M.S. £10-16-7; S.P.C.K. £10-16-7; B. & F.B.S. £10-16-7.

Church of England Children's Society boxes brought in £28-15-7 for the Society, also an increase on last year.

Congratulations to the box secretaries on their successful work: Miss Norah Smith for the S.P.G., Mrs. Bonehill for the Children's Society. They will gladly supply boxes for any homes which have not already got one. Miss Smith will also take orders for Overseas News (2/- a year), and for the Quarterly Intercession Paper.

**Senior Residents' Party.** On Saturday, Jan. 6th. in the Remembrance Hall, at 5-30 p.m. For all residents in Badsey, Aldington, Blackminster and Bowers Hill over 65. Wives or husbands under that age whose partner is over 65 are included in the invitation. Free transport will be provided if requested. Committee members will be calling with tickets, but if anyone inadvertently gets left out, will they please contact Mr. H. L. Hatcher, 53 Bretforton Road.

**Sunday School & St. James's Guild.** The annual party will be in the Remembrance Hall on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Parents and children will be notified of the times and other arrangements. The Vicar will be glad to have donations from parishioners towards the cost of the party. Cakes, sandwich fillings, trifles, made jellies (not packets), tinned fruit, etc., will be very acceptable gifts towards the tea, and should be brought to the Hall not later than 2-0 on that day.

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

- Jan. 1st. Committee Meeting, 2-30 p.m.
- „ 6th. Feast of the Epiphany. Corporate Communion 10 a.m.
- „ 9th. Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Taylor (Combertons). Subject: The fruit of the Spirit—self-control.
- „ 23rd. Branch Meeting, 7-15 p.m. Group Discussion. E.G.B.

**Men's Fellowship.** Keeness to hear Mr. R. W. Sidwell on the history of market gardening in these parts brought the highest attendance we have had for several months. As may be imagined, a good deal of interesting information on this subject was contributed, not only by the speaker, but by members in the discussion which followed. It was good to see not only some new faces, but others we had almost forgotten. These are very friendly gatherings, and we should like it to be known that the Fellowship is open to all men in Badsey and neighbourhood, whatever their religious denomination or party allegiance. The fact that the meetings are held in the Parish Room may have led some to suppose that they are only for Church members. This is far from being the case. The Men's Fellowship is a village organisation for men, which might be said to correspond to the W.I. for women. We have speakers and discussions on a great variety of subjects.

Our January meeting is on Tuesday, the 9th, and the speaker will be Mr. Bernard Webster, on "The Provincial Press". I am sure there is not a man in Badsey who has not some views on this subject. We start at 7-0 p.m.

### Victoriana

There must be a number of residents who possess treasures which have been handed down from the time of Queen Victoria. It is proposed to arrange in the spring an exhibition of some of these, in aid of the Red Cross, if sufficient support for the idea is forthcoming. Those interested and willing to help in providing articles for exhibit are asked to communicate with one of the following: Mrs. Brazier, The Laurels; Miss Sladden, Seward House; or Mrs. Brady, Bretforton Road, Badsey; and Mrs. Cook, Robin Cottage, Wickhamford. Small pieces of Victorian furniture; china; pictures; personal ornaments and bric-a-brac—anything typical of the period will be suitable. Photographs of local functions, buildings, personalities, would also be of interest and these might cover a longer period, up to the outbreak of the 1914 war.

### Burials. R.I.P.

- Dec. 2. Tracy Joy Lippett, aged 4 months.
- Dec. 8. Helen Hanks, aged 92.

The contrasting lengths of these two lives "makes you think", as people say, though perhaps there is nothing particularly strange about it except the coincidence of their being recorded together.

The very strongest sympathy is felt by all friends and well-wishers for Mr. and Mrs. Lippett in their sad loss after so many anxious weeks in which hopes were raised more than once that the baby would survive. Her future, however, in this hard and competitive world did not look very rosy, had her life been saved, for she would have been physically handicapped and would have suffered much. We can be glad for her that God in His loving mercy has taken her, still innocent, into the realm of light and joy, where there are no tears.

Miss Helen Hanks was our oldest parishioner, after the death of Mrs. Barnard earlier in the year. She was born and baptised in Badsey, in 1869. Though the family later left the village, Helen and her sister and brother returned to live here. She had been for some time in Avonside Hospital, having survived all the relatives of her own generation. For many years of her life she had been in service as a lady's maid, and there was a gentleness and old-fashioned courtesy in her manner which spoke to us of kindlier, more spacious times. Deeply religious, always thankful, and thoughtful for others, she was in her quiet way a shining influence on the few souls who had touch with her.

**Jottings.** This last month we have had to say goodbye to a couple who have rendered no little service in the life of our village, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Salter, who with the younger members of their family have given up their shop and moved to North Littleton to take charge of the Ivy Inn. We hope that they will find their new work and surroundings congenial. Fortunately they are not too far away to be visited by thirsty friends from Badsey.

Hearty congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. W. Griffin of Aldington, who celebrated in December their 62nd wedding anniversary and Mr. Griffin's 92nd birthday.

There has been much illness lately. Your prayers are specially asked for Mrs. Frank Roberts, Mr. Bert Cockerton, Mr. Frank Meadows, Senr., Mrs. John Ford, Mrs. Bill Smith, Mrs. Lucy Knight, who is in hospital after a bad fall, but very cheerful and resigned, Mr. Frank Reeves, Mr. John Keen, Mr. Gerald Norledge, Mr. Ronald Harker, Mrs. Ellen Perkins, Mr. H. G. Underhill. We hope and pray too that Mr. David Brazier and Mrs. Fred Perkins, now in hospital, will soon be restored to their homes and health. We are all so glad that Mr. Harry Stewart has returned from hospital so fit and well and that the pains in his back have now quite gone. We are also glad to welcome home from hospital Mrs. Hurman and Mrs. Baker.

**Servers for January.** 7th, 8-0 C. Harwood; 11-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 M. Betteridge, 14th, 8-0 R. Harvey; 11-0 P. Bott (Server), M. Betteridge (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Hartwell. 21st, 8-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 D. Barrand. 28th, 8-0 B. Caswell; 11-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 P. Bott.

**Communicants.** Week beginning Nov. 19th, 19; 26th, 39; Dec. 3rd, 26; 10th, 49.

**Collections.** Nov. 19th, £8-16-10; 26th (Missions), £9-1-6. Receipts from Envelope Scheme will be published quarterly.

**Acknowledgments.** Birthday Half-crowns: M.H.H., Mrs. G. Knight.

Wedding Anniversary 5/-; Mr. & Mrs. Bertram Jones. Donation £5.

The standing oak box with gold lettering for the membership envelopes has been made by Mr. Ralph Taylor and a friend with no charge to the church for labour.

The oak shelves for prayer and hymn books, also the work of Mr. Ralph Taylor, have been given to the church by Miss Norah Smith.

## WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services.

Suns., Jan. 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th (Epiph. I, II, III, & IV) As usual for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Suns.

**Church Electoral Roll.** The Annual Church Meeting will be held in February, so now is the time when the Electoral Roll is brought up to date. If you are not on the Roll and are a baptised member of the Church of England over 17, residing in the parish or regularly attending services in Wickhamford Church, you should apply for inclusion on the Roll. Forms are available at the church or from Mrs. Cooke, Robin Cottage. They should be returned by the end of this month.

**Mothers' Union.** The annual party will be held on Wednesday, 3rd January, commencing at 4 p.m. Helpers are asked to be at the Hall at 10-45 a.m. At the branch meeting on 17th January the speaker will be Mrs. Hills and her subject "Elizabeth Fry". I do hope members will make every effort to be present. Teas will be served by Mrs. Newbury. E.G.B.

### Burial. R.I.P.

Nov. 24. Sarah Pearce, aged 86.

Our warmest sympathy is extended to the members of Mrs. Pearce's family. She was a remarkable woman for her age. She and her husband were staunch churchpeople and regular communicants. They did much for the life of the village. They came to the Vale from Somerset, where Mr. Pearce was already a skilled gardener. After ten years at Sedgberrow, they took the Wickhamford Nurseries. Mrs. Pearce was a keen member of the Mothers' Union, and for some years was enrolling member of Wickhamford Branch. She worked hard to raise the money for the beautiful red

carpet in the church, which was the gift of the Mothers' Union.

### Church Bazaar, Dec. 2nd.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and hard work of stallholders, the stalls were well-stocked for the space available and the size of our little community.

The Vicar, welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Dunkerley to open the bazaar, said that they literally needed no introduction, because they were regular worshipping members of our family at St. John the Baptist's Church. The fact that they, as busy people with many demands on their time, were there that afternoon was due to their having the interests of their Church so much at heart. Mr. Dunkerley referred to the happy occasion of their marriage in Wickhamford Church. It was noticeably a well-kept church, but much had now to be done to keep up the high standards of maintenance which had been upheld in the past. A considerable sum of money was needed for urgent repairs to the fabric.

The takings of the various stalls were as follows:—Gifts £20-7-5; Produce £8-13-6; Cakes £11-8-3; Bottles £8-6-0; Secondhand £7-11-0; Books £1-2-9; Teas £2-14-0; Raffles £4-0-6; Bran Tub £2-0-0; Steady Hand Competition 12/- Total £66-15-5.

**The Sick.** We are glad to welcome back from hospital Mr. Arthur Carter and Mr. Frederick Cox. Mr. Frank Halford, in Avonside Hospital, has been very poorly. Your prayers are asked for Mrs. Ted Roberts' complete recovery. She has been receiving the laying on of hands in church.

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.