

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JUNE 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,

I am very glad to be able to tell you that this coming autumn I shall have the help of additional staff in the pastoral care of these two parishes. With the agreement of the Parochial Church Councils, I have invited Miss Peggy Wright, at present a full-time Church worker at St. Peter's, Battersea in the Diocese of Southwark, to come in the same capacity to serve the parishes of Badsey and Wickhamford. Miss Wright has accepted the offer, and will come here in September or October. She is hoping to be ordained deaconess soon after coming to this Diocese.

Miss Wright is fully trained for this work, and is a qualified teacher. She has had a good deal of experience of work with young people and children, and I am sure that her assistance in this respect will be invaluable in these two parishes. We look forward to her coming, and pray that her work and ministry among us may be abundantly blessed.

Although we shall have the assistance of a diocesan grant, the provision of Miss Wright's stipend will be almost entirely met from the P.C.C. funds of the two parishes. A proportionate contribution from each P.C.C. has been agreed between them. Parishioners will appreciate, I am sure, that this new commitment is bound to involve a big strain on our parochial finances, and will challenge us to greater sacrificial giving than ever before. Badsey people have already made a splendid response to the Church Membership Scheme. If everyone does his best to fulfil regularly what he has already undertaken (and to give that little bit more, if improved circumstances allow him to), there will be no need to make any fresh appeal for funds. Wickhamford is to have its gift day at the end of this month, and this will be a great opportunity for dedicated giving.

**Diocesan Missionary Festival, June 23rd.** The Bishop has asked us all, as members of the family of this Diocese of Worcester, to make a special effort to participate in the Missionary Festival. I know Dudley is a long way from us, but when the Festival was held in Evesham last year, Dudley churchpeople supported us in greater numbers than some of the parishes nearer at hand. At any rate, a coach has been booked to take us from Badsey, Wickhamford and Bretforton, and we shall be glad to know as soon as possible the names of those wishing to join us. The cost (fare and tea) will be 7/- each. Please give your name (and the money) to Miss N. Smith, our overseas committee secretary (Badsey) or to me (Wickhamford) not later than June 17th.

We shall have to leave here about midday, as the procession of witness assembles at Dudley Technical College at 2-15. It is therefore suggested that you bring a packed lunch to eat on the journey.

An illustrated programme of the Festival will shortly be on sale. Copies of the S.P.G. annual popular report "Thorn in the Foot" are also now on sale (1/6).

**Christian Family Year.** Organised events in the parishes will not be held until the autumn and winter months. In the meantime we can be praying for the influence of Christian homes on the life of the nation, and practising the art of Christian family living in a more dedicated way. A book I strongly recommend is "Anglicanism for Parents", by F. F. Rigby (S.P.C.K. 5/-), which is on sale at Evesham Market Church Bookstall, and a series of booklets at 1/6 published by the Mothers' Union: "The Family and Society", "The Family and Possessions", "The Family and Leisure", etc. For both parents and teachers who are concerned with instilling Christian ideals in adolescents, an excellent study is "Teenage Religion" (S.C.M. Press 8/6).

I should like to conclude this letter by thanking you all for your kind Easter Offering. Mrs. Braby and I look forward to meeting you at the Lord's Table on Whitsunday, that glorious Festival of the Holy Spirit, when God's people, "all with one accord in one place", receive the inward light and life and power which binds them in one Family.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

### MAY

31 Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY.** 6-30 & 10-0 Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Evensong (sung).

### JUNE

3 Sun. **after Ascension.** As usual for 1st Sun. 11-0 Family Service.

6 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

10 **WHITSUNDAY.** 7-0 & 8-0 Holy Communion. 11-0 Sung Eucharist. 6-45 Evensong.

12 Tues. in Whitsun Week. 9-0 H.C. (Evesham Deanery Chapter meeting at Badsey).

13 Wed. Ember Day. 10-0 H.C.

17 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.

19 Tues. **St. Barnabas, Apostle** (transf. from 11th). 10-0 H.C.

20 Wed. No H.C.

23 Sat. Diocesan Missionary Festival at Dudley (see Vicar's Letter).

24 **Trinity I. Nativity of St. John Baptist.** As usual for 4th Sun.

27 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

29 Fri. **St. Peter, Apostle & Martyr.** 6-30 H.C. Diocesan Conference, Worcester.

**P.C.C. Meeting,** Tues., 5th June, 7-30 p.m.

Our Parochial Church Council, like most administrative bodies, now has a committee system in full operation, and the members of the different committees have each their particular jobs to do and spheres of activity in which to interest other parishioners. At present there are three main committees: Finance and General Purposes, Overseas, Pastoral and Social.

**Hymns A. & M. Revised.** The new books have arrived, and will be in use from the first Sunday in June. Those who have not copies of their own will find an ample supply in the church. It ought to be explained that the numbers of the hymns are not the same as in the old edition.

**The New Look.** By the time this is in print, the walls of the church will have been redecorated throughout, by Messrs. A. C. Hughes. This will be a great improvement and the clean appearance of the building will, it is hoped, add a new freshness to our worship.

**The Churchyard.** It is probably not generally known that, although every parishioner has the right of burial in the churchyard, this does not confer a right to the erection of a tombstone; strictly speaking, the erection of a monument without a faculty from the consistory court of the diocese is unlawful. In practice however, the court leaves it to the incumbent to grant permission for the erection of an ordinary tombstone which is not of unusual design, size or material. The incumbent and P.C.C. share responsibility for the maintenance and control of the churchyard; this task is by no means simple, for they have to consider the needs of the churchyard as a whole, in the future as well as in the present, and to ensure that whatever is erected will harmonise with the ancient fabric of the church, the churchyard cross, and surrounding walls, and will not be out of scale with neighbouring monuments. It is only natural that the outlook of individual parishioners wishing to erect monuments tends to be confined to their particular grave, and this wider responsibility of the vicar and P.C.C. for the churchyard as a whole is occasionally misunderstood.

The Central Council for the Care of Churches has recently issued a very helpful handbook on Churchyards, which includes a specimen set of rules for a P.C.C. to adopt for the control of a churchyard. Our P.C.C. has gone very carefully into this matter, and has now drawn up a list of rules which are a modified form of those suggested in the Churchyards' Handbook. These will shortly be published; a copy will be on view in the church porch and copies will also be in the hands of local monumental masons. It is essential that everyone wishing to erect a monument in the churchyard should first submit to the Vicar in writing the proposed design and inscription, before putting an order in hand. (This is a general rule which applies to every parish).

Within the limits of these rules, there is room for considerable variety in design, and the last thing the Vicar and P.C.C. wish to do is to impose a dull uniformity or insist on standardisation.

**Mothers' Union.** The only branch meeting this month will be on Tuesday, 26th June, at 7-30 p.m.

There will be a committee meeting on Monday, 4th June at 2-30, and Corporate Communion on Wednesday, 6th June, at 10 a.m.

The outing will take place on Tuesday, 24th July, leaving at 1-15 to visit Coventry Cathedral. Tickets costing 12/6 inclusive of evening meal must be obtained from Mrs. G. H. Stewart as soon as possible E.G.B.

### Holy Baptism

May 20 Dawn Elizabeth Hartwell; Kelvin Richard Hughes.

### Holy Matrimony

May 19 Michael George Simms, of Childswickham, and Susan Jane Chamberlain, of Bowers Hill.

### Burials, R.I.P.

May 5 Frank Ernest Caswell, aged 79.

"The smith also sitting by the anvil, and considering the unwrought iron . . . will set his heart upon perfecting his works, and will be wakeful to adorn them perfectly . . . They (the craftsmen) will maintain the fabric of the world, and in the handywork of their craft is their prayer."-

Ecclesiasticus ch. 38 verses 28, 34.

Frank Caswell will be sadly missed. He was a great lover of past traditions, and delighted to tell stories about the old days. But he was not just a talker about these things. We in Badsey have cause to be thankful that Frank came from Brefforton over 50 years ago to set up his forge in our village and maintain the very highest traditions of the blacksmith's craft. He courageously held on at a time when smiths all over the country were going out of business. Furthermore he passed on his skill and enthusiasm to the 2nd and 3rd generations. Son and grandson carry on his work, and Badsey forge is always busy, for it has a great reputation throughout the south-west midlands. We are very proud of our smithy, and we thank God for our old blacksmith, praying that his soul may find refreshment and peace. Our warm sympathy to Mrs. Caswell and the family. We are so glad that Mrs. David Caswell has been safely delivered of twins.

**Jottings.** Clifford Hartwell and Paul Halford were admitted to the choir at evensong on Palm Sunday. Reinforcements to the trebles are welcome, as several young nightingales have recently suffered the usual change to croaking corncrakes and graduated to the back row, where we are sure they will be useful tenors and basses before long.

What a happy thing that Mrs. Harvey recovered from her successful operation in time for the ceremony of her husband's handing over the presidency of the Worcestershire N.U.T. to his successor. Mr. Frank Reeves is home after a gruelling time and has stood up marvellously well to his operation, with his usual patient courage. Mrs. Deighton, though still in hospital, is considerably better. It is good to see Mr. Fred Jones at church again, and to know that he is able now to do some light work. Others home from hospital are Mr. Thomas Cook, Mr. John Perkins, Mrs. Taylor of Badsey Fields. Your prayers are asked for patients now in hospital: Mr. Bunce, Mr. W. Brown who has had a serious operation, Mr. R. Crane, Miss Sylvia Bayliss, and two children Stephen Owens and Maxine Phillips.

**Servers for June.** 3rd, 8-0 P. Bott; 11-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 M. Betteridge. 10th, (Whitsun), 7-0 T. Hatcher; 8-0 R. Harvey; 11-0 D. Barrand (Server), C. Harwood (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Hartwell. 17th, 8-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 M. Betteridge. 24th, 8-0 C. Freeman; 11-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 A. Hartwell.

**War Memorial Flowers.** June 3rd, Mr. Holding; 10th, Mrs. Edwards; 17th, Mrs. Reed; 24th, Mrs. Betteridge.

**Communicants.** Week beginning April 22nd, 160; 29th, 32; May 6th, 28; 13th, 59.

**Birthday Half-Crowns.** Penelope Betteridge. In Memoriam P. Case, Mrs. G. Danks, Mr. Gerard Poulter.

## WICKHAMFORD NOTES

### Church Services.

#### MAY

31, Thurs. ASCENSION DAY. 7-30 a.m. H.C.

#### JUNE

- 3 Sun. after Ascension. As usual for 1st Sun.  
10 WHITSUNDAY. 9-15 a.m. Holy Communion (with hymns). 5-30 Evensong and Sermon. (Collections for Sunday School Fund).  
17 TRINITY SUNDAY. As usual for 3rd Sun. (Collections for Ordination Candidates' Central Fund).  
23 Sat. Diocesan Missionary Festival at Dudley (See Vicar's Letter).  
24 NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST (PATRONAL FEAST). As usual for 4th Sun.  
30 Sat. GIFT DAY. (See below).

#### JULY

- 1 Trinity II. (Octave of Patronal Feast) 9-0 Holy Communion, 5-30 Evensong.  
P.C.C. Meeting. Wed., May 30th, 7-30 p.m.

**Mothers Union.** There will be no meeting during the summer, but any members are invited to attend the meetings at Badsey. Also any who would like to go on the outing (see Badsey Notes) are asked to give their names to Mrs. F. Smith, E.G.B.

**GIFT DAY, Sat., June 30th.** All parishioners will shortly be receiving a letter from the Vicar and Churchwardens about the Gift Day for our church. It was decided that the Saturday in the octave of St. John the Baptist's Day would be the most appropriate day. The Vicar will be in church to receive the gifts and bless the givers, from 10-0 to 12-30 and 2-0 to 6-0. The day will end with Evensong at 6-0. Next day, Sunday, thanksgivings will be offered at Holy Communion at 9-0 and at Evensong.

Pray now daily for God's blessing on our Gift Day.

### **Holy Baptism**

May 12 Jane Margaret Harrison.

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

May 22 (Service at Wickhamford, interment at Badsey)  
Maggie Pethard, aged 63.

The tragedy of Maggie Pethard's fatal accident was a great shock. Yet we cannot grieve that an existence in this world which had become unbearably sad for her since her husband's death has been terminated so soon. Life was very empty for her without Bob. She had recently found comfort in resuming nursing work at Avonside Hospital. Time might have healed the wounds to some extent—we shall never know.

We pray that she may be granted pardon and peace, and reunion with her beloved in Christ.

**Helen Christine Lees-Milne. R.I.P.**

In Mrs. Lees-Milne, who died on May 15th, Wickhamford has lost not only a great benefactress, but one who really cared for its people and showed a deep personal concern for their welfare. She had a warm affectionate nature, which extended to birds, beasts and flowers as well as human beings, and was generous in thought as well as in deed. For some years now her health had been indifferent: several times in the last few winters it looked as though she could not recover—but she put up a great fight, and returned each time with her wonderful resilience and zest for life. She and her late husband, Mr. George Lees-Milne, will always be remembered with gratitude and affection at Wickhamford.

**Jottings.** By the time this is in print, the restoration work being done by Messrs. B. Brazier to the seats and flooring of the church will be complete, and a solid wood-block flooring will have replaced the rotted timbers under the box pews on the S. side. The Vicar will also be relieved of the interesting but alarming possibility of falling through the floor of the pulpit. Work is also in hand to render the belfry timbers safe.

We are glad that Mr. Reginald Pearce, who has been ill in Evesham Hospital, is making good progress towards recovery. Mr. George Robbins, Junr. is in hospital and we pray that he may soon be restored to health and home.

**Birthday Half-Crowns.** Nicholas John Collett, Mrs. Haines.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

## **THE FLOWER BASKET**

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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.