

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

August 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,

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford will be the starting-point of the **Bishop's pilgrimage** on foot through the villages of Evesham Rural Deanery at the end of this month. Accompanied by his chief missionary, the Rev. L. W. Chidzey, he will arrive at Badsey Church about 9-30 on Monday morning, 27th August, and we hope there will be a gathering of people to greet him at the entrance to the churchyard. He will spend that day in Badsey and Aldington, and at 7-30 p.m. will conduct a short mission service in St. James's Church and talk to parishioners informally after the service. He will then go on to Wickhamford and spend the night there, celebrating Holy Communion in St. John Baptist's Church at 7-30 a.m. on Tuesday the 28th. After breakfast he will walk through Wickhamford, with a few short visits on the way, to the boundary of Broadway parish.

We look forward eagerly to the Bishop's visit and to the opportunity of welcoming our father-in-God, who comes to us, not as a 'proud prelate', but in this simple friendly way, like the apostles whose spiritual descendant he is.

The Bishop's next visit will be for the **ordination** of Miss P. Wright as deaconess in St. James's Church on the 17th October, (Eve of St. Luke). So that the largest possible number from both parishes may have an opportunity to attend, as well as Miss Wright's relations and friends, the Bishop has kindly agreed to hold the service at 7-0 in the evening. I ask you all to remember Miss Wright in your prayers at this time, as she prepares for this act of self-dedication and consecration of her ministry.

May I remind you again of the **Confirmation classes** which will be starting in the autumn, and of the need for intending candidates and their parents to be attending church regularly **now**? Too often in the past there have been candidates who have started attending church only when classes begin, in order to "qualify" for confirmation, and then have dropped off immediately they are confirmed. The idea, I suppose, is that confirmation is a sort of finals examination. Once you have got your certificate, you can leave school, as it were. Confirmation is nothing like that at all. It is the confirming or strengthening of a worshipping and serving life already being practised. It is the gateway to the communicant life, the normal activity of a mature Christian. I should be failing grievously in my duty as a priest, if I were to present as a candidate for confirmation any person who showed by their casual attitude to God's honour and glory an inward insincerity and lack of real conversion.

Man and Beast. Moralists often condemn wholesale the aimless, mass-produced amusements of today, and bewail the decline of old rural pastimes. But there is another side of the picture, too easily forgotten. This is what one of my predecessors, the Rev. W. C. Allsebrook, said in the course of a sermon in Badsey Church in the summer of 1904 :

"It is now my unpleasant duty to refer to a pastime—I will not degrade the name of 'sport' by applying it to such a form of amusement—to which some of my parishioners are addicted. Some months ago my attention was arrested by the yelping of dogs in the Stockey, and I was perfectly horrified by what I saw going on there. I know the devotees of coursing are furnished with arguments in defence of the so-called sport, but from my point of view it is today altogether indefensible. However, be this as it may, it is the local variety of this species of recreation that I would venture to criticise tonight." He went on to describe coursing for the Waterloo Cup at Altcar in Lancashire, where he used to live. (This was many years before the electric hare was introduced in greyhound racing). "At Altcar, although, owing to the magnificent strength and lightning speed of the dogs, the quarry from first to last has not a ghost of a chance to escape, yet it is given a free field; take away this, handicap the intended prey, and all idea of sport at once disappears, whilst nothing remains but loathsome, cold-blooded butchery.

"Now it would be hard—it would be almost impossible—to imagine a more miserable travesty of what is at best an ignoble form of sport, than the proceedings in the Stockey to which I have alluded. The rabbits which were to be worried (you can't call it coursing) were confined in sacks, surrounded by a crowd of yelping dogs, representing more breeds than there were specimens, and the poor little rabbits experienced a hundred deaths before they were sent down the field. Round the field were ranged a lot of heartless and brutal men, provided with sticks for the purpose of preventing the rabbits from entering my shrubbery or otherwise escaping with their lives. The little creatures thus hopelessly crippled, were driven up and down the comparatively small enclosure, and were, of course, eventually worried by the dogs.

"If such meetings cannot be conducted on more humane principles, the law ought to interfere to abolish them; and there is not the slightest doubt that, if the Badsey methods were only adopted at Altcar, the Legislature would soon put an end to coursing:

"If any local coursers are here this evening, I beg of them to give up so brutal a pastime, which is a disgrace to the village; and I earnestly appeal to you all to do everything in your power to influence public opinion to discountenance these miserable meetings."

Such a gathering, you may say, would be inconceivable in an English village today. But would it? A few years ago in certain villages there was an illicit revival of cock-fighting which brought several prosecutions. One sometimes reads in the papers of horrible cases of cruelty to animals by children. Are these just the occasional psychopaths, or is this sort of brutality going to return in the next generation? The savage is always lurking not far beneath the sophisticated skin. The restraints of civilised society keep him in check. If these restraints are relaxed or snapped, who knows what will happen? One thing is certain: extremes breed the opposite extremes. The shrill voices of enthusiasts against all forms of hunting and shooting may well provoke an unpleasant reaction, just as the antics of the anti-bomb people make the ordinary citizen feel he wants to be a militarist. Only if we try to look on God's creation, man and beast alike, through the eyes of Christ, can we be sure of a genuine humanity which is independent of custom, prejudice or passion.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

AUG.

- 1, Wed. Lammas Day, 10-0 H.C.
 5 **Trinity VII.** As usual for 1st Sun. 11-0 Family Service.
 6, Mon. **Transfiguration of Our Lord.**
 8, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
 12 **Trinity VIII.** As usual for 2nd Sun.
 15, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
 19 **Trinity IX.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.
 22, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
 24, Fri. **St. Bartholomew, Apostle.** 6-30 a.m. H.C.
 26 **Trinity X.** As usual for 4th Sun.
 27, Mon. **Bishop's Pilgrimage.** Arrival 9-30 a.m., Mission Service, 7-30 p.m.
 29, Wed. No H.C.

Sunday School. On Sunday, 22nd July, all classes will close down for the holidays, and reassemble on Sunday, 16th September. During the break the children should come to the ordinary Sunday services, and it is to be hoped that parents will bring them and encourage them to come. It is an opportunity for the whole family to worship together, either at home or at the local church where one is staying on holiday.

P.C.C. Meeting. Tues., Aug. 21, 8 p.m.
 Pastoral Committee, Mon., July 30, 8 p.m.
 Finance Committee, Tues., Aug. 14, 8 p.m.

Badsey on the Bookstall. It is our turn again on the Church Bookstall in Evesham on Saturday, 11th August, from 9-45 to 4-0. We shall be glad to have names of volunteers as soon as possible. There will be a list in the porch. Please state time of day preferred.

Servers for August. (Kindly arrange a substitute if you are going to be away). 5th, 8-0 C. Freeman; 11-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 D. Barrand. 12th, 8-0 R. Harvey; 11-0 A. Hartwell (Server), P. Bott (Crucifer); 6-45 M. Betteridge. 19th, 8-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 A. Hartwell. 26th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 D. Barrand.

War Memorial Flowers. Aug. 4, Mrs. C. Crane; 12th, (Vacant); 19th, Mrs. R. Hartwell; 26th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow.

Christian Family Year. As there has been no Garden Fete this year, the P.C.C. have been giving a series of parties in the Vicarage garden in the summer months, and we hope that in the course of two or three summers every family in the parish will have had an invitation to one of these "at homes". Each district of the parish is being invited in turn, and one of the ideas of these parties is to help parishioners to get to know their own neighbours better. As summer engagements of one kind or another pile up these days, it has only been possible to arrange two of these events so far, and we have been happy to entertain the residents of Green Leys, Brewers Lane, Chapel Street and Badsey Fields Lane. We have not been very lucky with the weather, but the Vicarage rooms are fortunately fairly ample.

On Saturday afternoon, 13th October, there is to be a service of re-dedication and renewal of vows for couples who have been married in St. James's Church in the last five years, and the service will be followed by a party in the Village Hall. Invitations will be sent out in fairly good time, as many will have to be forwarded through parents, but it is hoped that couples concerned will book this date now.

Another meeting to be announced later is one for parents, at which an invited speaker (or panel) will help poor puzzled parents with their pressing problems. I hope no parents in Badsey are too proud to admit to having any problems. Anyway, just to get together for a natter will help some of us to work off our frustrations. One child, seeing her father had bought a book called "The Intelligent Parent's Guide", said, "That book isn't meant for you, Dad". To avoid such pitfalls, let us simply call our meeting a meeting for parents.

Jottings. It is a great pleasure to have some more members of the Sladden family now residing in their old home in Badsey. We welcome Mr. Cyril Sladden and Mrs. George Sladden, frequent visitors in the past whom it was always a pleasure to see, and now full-time residents.

We are very sorry to have omitted to record the 80th birthday (in May) of Mrs. Harry Reed, and hope she will forgive our congratulations in print being somewhat belated. Being such a good-hearted person we are sure she will not take it unkindly—one thing that must be offered in excuse is that it is extremely hard to believe that she really is as old as 80.

Heartiest congratulations to Richard Harvey on his engagement.

Among those who are or have been sick are Mrs. Johns (who is making a remarkable recovery after two successive strokes, we are thankful to say), Mr. Albert Brewer and his brother-in-law Mr. R. Whitford (who have both undergone operations), Mr. Bob Davies (who has had his knee-cap removed but hopes to be back at work at the garage after a few weeks), Mr. Bertram Jones (who has had pneumonia), and Michael Clements (who has had an operation for mastoid). On going to press, we have just heard that Mr. Bert Jells and Mr. Ernest Sadler have gone to hospital. Your prayers are asked for all these and others who are ill.

Holy Baptism

- July 1 Ian Frederick Knight.
 „ 15 Susan Mary Margaret Smith; Antony John Hartland.

Communicants. Week beginning June 17th, 31 ; 24th, 33 ; July 1st, 38 ; 8th, 42 ; 15th, 36.

Birthday Half-crowns Rev. P. Braby, In Memoriam A. T. Hart, Mrs. R. Sparrow.

Acknowledgments. Per Miss Sladden : Sale of old church lamps 30/-. From Miss Douse : A new red rope to the pulpit steps to replace the old one which had worn out.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services.

Suns., Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26 (**Trinity VII, VIII, IX, X**). Services as usual for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Suns.

Aug., 28 Tues. **Bishop's Pilgrimage.** 7-30 a.m. Holy Communion.

Sunday School Outing. Wednesday, 15th August.

Gift Day. Final total : £75-13-9. This is a very creditable result, and will help our church considerably towards meeting her commitments.

Birthday Half-crowns. Rev. P. Braby ; Mrs. Nott.

Jottings. Heartiest congratulations to Glenn Cox, not only on his coming of age (which he could not help), but on a brilliant conclusion to his career at Cambridge, with a first in the Natural History Tripos Pt. 2. We wish him all success and happiness in his research studentship at Birmingham University. His father, Mr. George Cox may be assured of the prayers of all of us in his illness.

We are so glad that Mr. Peet is now home again after his illness, and we are grateful to Mr. F. Cleaver for taking his place at the organ while he was away.

Our former organist, Mr. Tommy Knight, has also been ill and we pray for a good recovery, and that Mrs. Knight's arm will continue to improve.

We also wish Janet Allchurch a good recovery, after her operation for appendicitis.

Women's Institute. The speaker at the July meeting was Mr. D. Bartlett on hairdressing, cutting and styling. His talk was demonstrated by models from Mr. Frank Shindler. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Pole.

The competition for a miniature flower arrangement was won by Mrs. Litterick, Miss Willis and Miss Folkes, and the monthly parcel by Mrs. Collett. The Bring-and-Buy Stall for W.I. funds was in the care of Mrs. Shannon-Garvey. Sick Visitor : Mrs. Crump. Tea hostesses : Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Staite. K.H.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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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.