

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

January 1963

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,

A mediaeval country priest once made this announcement to his flock: "Tomorrow let us venerate Epiphany with deep devotion, for it is a very high and principal feast; I know not whether Epiphany was a man or woman, but whatever it may have been, this day must be observed by us with godly fear".

No doubt, whatever their perception of Epiphany, the congregation warm-heartedly approved this sentiment, for in those days 'holy day' always meant 'holiday'.

This year Epiphany falls on a Sunday, so there is more opportunity than usual of observing this high and principal feast with godly fear, but (we hope) with more intelligent understanding than that old-time parson and his parishioners.

We know that Epiphany means shining-out, and that the Epiphany of Our Lord celebrates the radiant disclosure of the Divine splendour in Christ, who came to be this dark world's Light.

The event chiefly commemorated at the Epiphany in the early Church (and still in the Eastern Orthodox Church) was the Baptism of Christ. In the West it was the story of the Wise Men who came to worship the Infant Christ which caught people's imagination, and many legends grew up in Western Europe about "the three Kings". Nowadays popular devotion associates this event more with Christmas (as shown in many a Christmas card and carol). Perhaps then we may hope for a restoration of emphasis at Epiphanytide on the Baptism of Our Lord, which otherwise, unlike the other principal events in His incarnate life, has no particular day or season to commemorate it.

Epiphany (when it falls on a weekday) is perhaps the most neglected of all the high holy days in the Christian year. Christian people today need reminding that Sundays are not the only holy days. They tend to ignore the Church Calendar, with its rich variety of devotional treasure. The chief holy days are called Red-Letter Days, because they used to be printed in red to distinguish them from the lesser holy days printed in black type. Nowadays you can still see the red-letter days in italics or bold print. Church people ought to make a point of receiving Communion (whenever possible) on the red-letter days, even when they fall on a weekday.

It is becoming a matter of increasing urgency that Christian people should witness stedfastly to the sanctification of our time on earth by faithful observance of the feasts and fasts appointed by the Church. Already Good Friday is coming to be known as 'Easter Friday, the first day of the spring holiday.' This morning's post contained a notification that Feb. 27th is the date chosen for the

Mayor of Evesham's Annual Ball. Believe it or not, they have picked on Ash Wednesday!

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. On Wed., Jan. 23rd, a Christian Unity Forum has been arranged in Evesham Public Hall, 7-30 p.m. The chief speakers are an Anglican, a Roman Catholic and a Free Churchman. The Chairman will be the Headmaster of the Grammar School. Questions are invited, and should be sent in beforehand.

Parents' Meeting, Royal Albert Hall (Contd.)

Here is the rest of the report by Mr. and Mrs. J. Ives of the meeting on October 24th, of which the first half was printed last month:—

After a vote of thanks had been moved by a member of the Mothers' Union in a charming red trolley we heard our last speaker introduced!

The Archbishop of York gave a moving address; his theme was "The Family and the Church".

The Archbishop spoke of his great desire to see the Lord's Day regain its rightful place in family worship and said that nothing should be allowed to stand in the way of Sunday worship which was the combination of the weeks' prayers.

At the risk of being "old fashioned" he said he would like to see family prayers once again the focal point of family life and grace said round the family table. Only a home where God was openly and regularly acknowledged as Lord could be regarded as Christian. The basis of marriage should be the unspoken assumption of its permanence and the rule of God in the home.

The Archbishop stressed his desire for a well instructed laity to strengthen their faith by a deeper understanding of the Church's teaching and expressed the hope that where such teaching was not available the congregation would seek it. He spoke of the dangers of a "woolliness of mind" in matters of faith and of the adulteration of the Gospel that could result.

This was followed by a plea for a less parochial view to be taken of the Church and an appeal for the support of missionary work. In some areas, he said, the Church's work was just beginning, and spoke graphically of life in India.

Then the Archbishop came nearer home. What did we want for our children, what were our ambitions for them, he wondered?

He asked whether we wanted our children to take or give, to be comfortable or to serve. God, he reminded us, gave His only Son and we should be mindful of His will.

Finally the Archbishop gave us a perfect pattern of family life by speaking of the supreme desire to see God's will done that existed in Mary and Joseph and of the atmosphere of prayer in that humble home.

A hymn of praise and final prayers closed the meeting.

List of Badsey Vicars.

This is at last completed, after years of research, starting with the scholarly labours of the Rev. W. H. Price (1897-1903), and continued by his successor Canon W. C. Allsebrook and by Mr. C. A. Binyon. In most parishes it is fairly easy to trace the names and dates of former incumbents by reference to the Bishop's Registry. This does not apply to Badsey and Wickhamford, which, like several other parishes in the Vale of Evesham were 'peculiar'. Their ministers were not instituted by the Bishop, as they were 'chaplains' appointed by the Abbey of Evesham before the Dissolution and afterwards by Christ Church, Oxford. We shall probably

never know the names of the pre-Reformation chaplains, as the Abbey records were almost entirely destroyed at the Dissolution, and there are no records at Christ Church about appointments before the Restoration. The present Vicar has been able to piece together a more or less complete list for Badsey from 1525 to the present day, from notes left by his predecessors and Mr. Binyon, from internal evidence from the parish registers (never signed by the minister till the 19th century) and from vestry records, from documents in Worcester Record Office and the British Museum and, (it must be confessed) a little bit of guesswork. It is hoped that more evidence may yet be forthcoming to verify or correct his surmises, and to complete the list for Wickhamford, which is proving even more difficult.

For interest the contemporary Deans of Christ Church and Bishops of Worcester have been listed in parallel columns. The whole list has been beautifully hand-written by Mr. A. M. C. Lewis, and elegantly framed at the expense of Dr. Arthur Sladden as a gift to the church. The framed list will shortly be fixed to the E. wall of the S. aisle by Mr. R. J. Taylor.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services.

- Jan.
1, Tues. **Circumcision of Our Lord.** 10-0 H.C.
2, Wed. No H.C.
6, SUN. **EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.** As usual for 1st Sun.
9, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
13 **Epiphany I.** St. Hilary, Bp. & Dr. As usual for 2nd Sun.
16, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
20 **Epiphany II.** St. Fabian, Bp. & M. As usual for 3rd Sun.
23, Wed. No H.C.
25, Fri. **Conversion of St. Paul.** 10-0 H.C.
27 **Epiphany III.** St. John Chrysostom, Bp. & Dr. 8-0 Holy Communion; 11-0 Mattins; 6-45 Holy Communion (Choral). **See Note below.**
30, Wed. 10-0 H.C.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON CHURCH SERVICES.

From this month onwards there will be a choral celebration of Holy Communion, with hymns and a short sermon, on the 4th Sunday evening at 6-45. It is hoped that many communicants who are unable to come to an earlier celebration will use this opportunity. An early tea is suggested for those who are going to receive at this service. It is hoped that communicants who have already received earlier in the day will take part in this evening service as a corporate act of praise and thanksgiving, and that people not yet confirmed will come and join in the Lord's own service which He gave us.

There will be no celebration of Holy Communion after Mattins on the 4th Sunday, but this will be held on the 5th Sunday in the month when it occurs.

P.C.C. Meeting. Tues., 1st Jan., 7-15 p.m. Mr. Hook, the Diocesan Secretary, has kindly consented to come and talk to us about Diocesan Administration and Finance, and to answer questions.

Church Electoral Roll. The Annual Church Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th February (please book this date). In preparation for it, the Electoral Roll has to be revised. 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 St. James's Church, you should apply for inclusion on the Roll. Forms are available at the church or vicarage. These, when signed, should be returned to the Vicar or Mr. H. L. Hatcher, Hon. Secretary, 53, Brefforton Road, before 1st February.

Servers for January. 6th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 N. Redgewell. 13th, 8-0 P. Bott; 11-0 C. Harwood (Server), M. Betteridge (Crucifer); 6-45 P. Moran. 20th, 8-0 C. Freeman; 6-45 A. Hartwell. 27th, 8-0 T. Hatcher; 11-0 C. Harwood; 6-45 A. Hartwell (Server), M. Betteridge (Crucifer).

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

- Jan. 1 Corporate Communion, 10 a.m.
" 8 Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. Speaker: Miss James, Warden of the Old House, Crophorne.
" 22 Branch Meeting 7-30 p.m. 'The work of the Police.' Speaker: a Policewoman.

Will members please note that the Corporate Communion will be on Tuesday, the Feast of the Circumcision.

Subscriptions are now due, 4/6 per annum, and should be paid to Mrs. Harvey. E.G.B.

Men's Fellowship. The meeting this month is on Tues. 8th Jan., at 7 p.m. in the Parish Room. Dr. D. Dickinson will show us some of his colour films, of Badsey and elsewhere, so we look forward to a very entertaining evening. It was a great disappointment that only seven members came to hear Superintendent Lewis, who gave us a most instructive and stimulating talk on road traffic problems, and answered our questions patiently and informatively. It does not seem right to ask a busy public servant to spare the time to come out here when there is such a small meeting. Were the members who stayed away afraid of being recognised by the police? Or was it just that, owing to the illness of our secretary, they had not had a reminder? May we ask members to make a note of the remaining Fellowship meetings (always the 2nd Tuesday): Jan. 8th, Feb. 12th, March 12th. In the meantime, visiting speakers will not be invited for Feb. and March until we know from you at the Jan. meeting what your response is likely to be.

Sunday School. The annual party will be in the Remembrance Hall on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Parents and children will be notified later of the times and other arrangements. Donations towards the party will be very acceptable and may be given to the Vicar or Deaconess. We would welcome gifts of cakes, sandwich fillings, trifles, made jellies (not packets), tinned fruit, etc. at the Hall on the 26th, not later than 2 p.m.

The World-Wide Church. There was a splendid gathering of between 60 and 70 people at the end of November to hear Dr. Spencer-Payne on the problems and needs of the Church in South Africa, with special reference to the building of primary schools in Basutoland. The pictures we saw of the conditions under which the children (such as are able to get it) receive their education, and their eagerness for it, were deeply moving. We were informed by the Chairman of our Overseas Committee, Miss Sladden, that our parish is undertaking a special project to send at least £25 a year towards the Basutoland schools. This will be additional to the funds we contribute to the missionary societies through our Church Membership Envelopes and church collections. The needs there are so urgent that we shall be glad of donations at any time, as well as from special efforts organised by individuals. Miss N. E. Smith, Pool House, will gladly receive any moneys on behalf of the project, and give further information about it, such as the interesting bulletins from Basutoland itself. She will also take orders for 1963 for Overseas News and the children's magazine *Adventurer* (each 2d monthly), and the *Quarterly Intercession Paper* for the Church Overseas.

Miss Smith will also gladly give a missionary box to anyone who would like to use this excellent method of contributing regularly at home to the needs of the missionary societies. The amount received in the boxes for the S.P.G. in 1962 was over £81 as against £55 in 1961. This is most heartening. With the funds at our disposal the P.C.C. has also been able to allocate £20 each to S.P.C.K., C.M.S. and B. & F.B.S., as against £10-16-7 each last year.

In the Church of England Children's Society boxes Mrs. Bonehill received £31-12-6, as against £28-15-7 in 1961. We hope that the excellent talk and film shown on behalf of the Society by Mr. T. H. Blake on 11th December will stimulate giving towards their needs. Mrs. Bonehill will gladly supply a box.

Jottings. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Jones for their Golden Wedding on 19th Jan.

We record with regret, and sincere sympathy to the relatives, the death of Mr. Arthur Wheatley, of Knowle Hill.

Your prayers are asked for Mr. W. Hartwell who has been admitted to Worcester Eye Hospital after a severe attack of shingles in the head, for Howard Ernstone who has to lie on his back after a spinal injury in school P.T., and for several patients who have now been some time in hospital: Mr. Crump, Mr. R. Chamberlain, Mrs. M. Dore and Mrs. Deighton seem to be making steady progress, and we do not forget Mr. Binyon and Mr. R. Crane who have been in hospital for quite a long time. Mr. Harry Hatcher has not yet recovered fully at the time of writing, and we pray that he will soon be really fit again.

Communicants. Week beginning Nov. 25th, 31; Dec. 2nd, 39; 9th, 40.

Birthday Half-Crown. Mrs. G. H. Knight.

Wedding Anniversary 5/-. Mr. & Mrs. Bertram Jones.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services

Suns., Jan.

6 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD. As usual for 1st Sun.
13, 20, 27 (Epiph. I, II, III.) As usual for 2nd, 3rd, 4th Suns.

Phones: (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

THE FLOWER BASKET

D. B. & R. COOK

75, Port Street, Evesham

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TELEFLOWER SERVICE

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PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

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

Church Electoral Roll. This will be revised by the P.C.C. in preparation for the Annual Church Meeting on Wednesday 13th February (keep this evening free). If you are not yet 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 Wickhamford Church, you should apply for inclusion on the Roll. You can do this on one of the enrolment forms obtainable at the church or from Mrs. Cooke, Robin Cottage. The forms, when signed, should be returned by Jan. 25th.

Mothers' Union. Mrs. Hulburd, from Bretforton, will speak about the work of the Church Army at the meeting on Wednesday, 2nd Jan., at 7-30 p.m. Tea will be served by Mrs. Roberts.

On Wednesday 16th Jan., from 5 p.m., we shall have our party, to which husbands and children of members are invited. E.G.B.

Holy Baptism

Dec. 8 (by the Bishop of Worcester) Felicity Grace Dunkerley.

Special Collection. Nov. 25, British & Foreign Bible Society £4.

Donation. Mr. and Mrs. Dunkerley £5-5-0.

Memorial Hall, Christmas Fair, Dec. 8. Total proceeds £85-14-7.

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CIRENCESTER BENEFIT SOCIETY

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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.