

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

February 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,

I shall not waste much space on the main topic of the moment—the weather. By the time you get your Parish Review, conditions may be better or worse, or the same. Anything on the present situation (mid-January) will be out of date. One comment however might be relevant. A severe winter like this one (with attendant problems of transport, power supply and plumbing) brings to our notice how much we are dependent on the material comforts of our modern civilisation. Do we thank God often enough for these things? Romantic notions about “the good old days” and the joys of simple living are not only unrealistic but ungrateful. Next time you are tempted to curse your having been born in the 20th century, or to hold forth on “these dreadful times we live in”, remember this winter of 1963 and imagine yourself going through it two or three hundred years ago. Think too of roads without snow-ploughs, vehicles without springs, and operations not only by candle-light but without anaesthetics. Never despise civilisation. The Bible begins in a garden and ends in a city. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

It is wonderful how quickly human beings adapt themselves to abnormal conditions, even in a ‘soft’ age. “Business as usual” is the slogan of such times, and I hope this will apply to our fairly numerous parochial activities which have been planned for the next two months. It is a recognised thing here that we keep off the summer months for big meetings and social events, so we trust people will do their best to participate in the gatherings arranged for them in February. This applies especially to the annual church meetings in both parishes, the one big occasion in the year when priest and people get together outside the church building to talk over our needs and aspirations.

The Bishop's Course

The Bishop of Worcester is most anxious that his pilgrimage to the villages of Evesham Rural Deanery last summer shall not be just a flash in the pan. He wants it to lead on to something deeper and more lasting. So he is coming himself to conduct a Lent course in these parishes. Each Wednesday evening in Lent he will come to one of the churches visited on the Pilgrimage, starting with Badsey on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 27th. There will be a short service conducted by the priest of the parish concerned, followed by an address by the Bishop. An important feature is that it is a course for the whole group of parishes. Just as the Bishop went on pilgrimage from one parish to another, as we ourselves will go from one parish to another. It will not be sufficient just to attend the service held in our own church. One aim the Bishop has is to draw the parishes into closer fellowship with one another. A very important service can be rendered by people with cars, in

offering transport from our own parishes to the other churches. I shall be glad to have as soon as possible any offers for this. I would ask drivers not to make private arrangements to take particular individuals with them, but to offer their services for a car pool. All those needing transport would be at Badsey or Wickhamford church at a certain time, and would be taken in one of the cars to the church where the service was being held. No one need then hold back through shyness in asking for a lift.

A leaflet about the Bishop's Course is enclosed in this Parish Review.

Three Suggestions for Lenten Observance.

1. Make your observance as **positive** as possible, not negative. Not so much giving up things as enriching your spiritual life. More frequent Communion, more time for prayer, more Bible-reading, more sacrificial giving, more Christian service. Try and read one book of Christian devotion this Lent.

Where any pruning is necessary, it is in order to make room for these positive enrichments. More time given to prayer will have to be taken from something else which is less essential, more giving will mean less spending on things you can do without, more spiritual reading will mean less secular literature, listening in or viewing.

2. Draw up a **definite rule** about these positive aims. It is quite useless to have a general intention or vague resolution like: “I will read the Bible more often (go to church more regularly) (try to be kinder to people)”. Unless you have drawn up something specific, you will find at the end of Lent that you just haven't done these things at all. Your rule must be concerned with fairly precise measurements of your time, possessions, etc. “By the grace of God I will (read the Bible each day from the B.R.F. notes at such and such a time of the day) (go to Holy Communion once every week) (add ten minutes to my daily prayer time) (give back to God such and such a sum more each week than I have been giving) (attend the whole of the Bishop's Course) (visit regularly that aged person who cannot get out—agree to call on a certain day each week)”. These are only examples. You will know the sort of positive rule you can make in your case.

3. Having drawn up your rule, lay it before God as an offering of **love**. (If you like, you can hand it to me in a sealed envelope to lay on the altar at Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday or the Sunday before or after). The object of your Lenten discipline is not self-mastery but faithful discipleship. We look with awe and wonder at the Cross, and hear Him say, “This have I done for thee; what wilt thou do for Me?” If it is offered for love's sake, your Lenten rule becomes, not a means of self-satisfaction, but a means of grace. More and more your little offering of love becomes taken up and filled with the overflowing Love from

the heart of Christ, till you are able to say : "I am crucified with Christ : nevertheless, I live ; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me...the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

May the Blessed bless you.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services.

FEBRUARY

- 2, Sat. **Presentation of Christ in the Temple**, (Candlemas). 8-0 H.C.
- 3 **Epiphany IV**. As usual for 1st Sun.
- 6, Wed Queen's Accession Day. 10-0 H.C.
- 10 **Septuagesima**. As usual for 2nd Sun.
- 13, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 17 **Sexagesima**. As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.
- 20, Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 24 **Quinquagesima. St. Matthias, Apostle**. As usual for 4th Sun. H.C. 8-0 a.m. & 6-45 p.m.
- 27 **ASH WEDNESDAY**. 6-30 & 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. **The Bishop of Worcester's Lent Course I, at Badsey**. (See Vicar's Letter).
- 28, Thurs. 4-15 p.m. Children's Lenten Service, (every Thursday in Lent).
- P.C.C. Meeting**. Thurs., Feb. 5th, 7-15 p.m.

FILM SHOW, Feb. 7th.

As part of our Christian Family Year activities, we are showing a 90-minute film, which tells a story of modern home life, especially the problems of the I.s.d. of marriage. It is hoped this will be followed by a full and frank discussion. The meeting, which is for adults only, will be held in the **Remembrance Hall** on Thursday, Feb. 7th, at 7-30 p.m. Refreshments will be served during the evening. Admission will be free, but there will be a bowl for voluntary contributions towards the expenses.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING & SOCIAL

Tuesday, Feb. 19th, 7-15 p.m.

As last year, the meeting will be held in the Assembly Hall of **Badsey Primary School**. After business is completed, there will be refreshments and an opportunity for people to move around and chat. Then there will be general discussion. One topic that has already been suggested is the respective merits of the New English Bible and the Authorised Version for reading aloud in church. Suggestions on other subjects will be welcome, and it would be a good idea to give them to the Vicar in writing beforehand. The subjects will be taken in the order that they are received.

Before the meeting all who are on the Church Electoral Roll will have received nomination forms for the election of Parochial Church Councillors. It is important that nominations should be made in writing, and the forms returned to Mr Hatcher, or placed in the box in church labelled 'nominations', not later than Sunday, 17th February. Nominations cannot be accepted at the meeting itself.

On Sunday, 3rd March, there will be a Corporate Communion of the Parochial Church Council at 8-0 a.m. and a short commissioning of councillors at Evensong at 6-45.

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

- Feb. 4 Committee Meeting, 2-30.
" 6 Corporate Communion, 10-0 a.m.
" 12 Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. Speaker : Mrs. Hulburd, "Wilson Carlile and the Church Army".
" 26 Annual Party, 7-0 p.m.

Tickets for the party, 2/- each, must be obtained from Mrs. Harvey. Please note the time, 7-0 p.m.

I hope all members will come with their husbands to the Film Show on February 7th (See notice above). E.G.B.

Men's Fellowship. At our last meeting we agreed to make the February meeting, on Tuesday, the 12th, at 7-0 p.m., a Members' Evening. There will be no invited speaker, but members will entertain themselves. This will give us a good opportunity of social fellowship. One suggestion is that members should each bring some interesting object or curio and tell a story about it (true or fictitious!) This is optional, of course, but we hope some of you will do this. We hope also to have some amusing panel games. Altogether it should be quite a lively evening.

Senior Residents' Party. This will be in the Remembrance Hall on Saturday, 16th February, beginning at 5-30 p.m. Senior residents are all receiving notices about this.

Servers for February. 3rd, 8-0 P. Bott ; 11-0 A. Hartwell ; 6-45 N. Redgewell. 10th, 8-0 C. Harwood ; 11-0 M. Betteridge. 24th, 8-0 C. Freeman ; 11-0 C. Harwood ; 6-45 T. Hatcher (Server), A. Hartwell (Crucifer).

Holy Baptism

Dec. 16 Mary Elizabeth Goldstraw.

Holy Matrimony

" 29 Terence Luther Cundick, of Worcester, and Josephine Ruth Wheatley, of Badsey.

Burials. R.I.P.

Dec. 19 Ellen Lizzie Huxley, aged 68.
Jan. 18 Edith Annie Field, aged 73.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the relatives of these departed parishioners. Mrs. Huxley, of Bowers Hill, died suddenly at her daughter's home after awaiting admission to Ronkswood Hospital next day. Miss Field, of Aldington, also died unexpectedly, though her health had been poorly. She was vigorous for her age, always walking into Evesham, scorning the use of a bus.

Jottings. Sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Anderson on the birth of a still-born child.

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Reeves on their 50th wedding anniversary last month.

Among invalids, Mr. P. Crump hopes soon to return home after convalescing at Avonside Hospital. Mr W. Hartwell made a very good recovery after expert treatment at Worcester Eye Hospital. Mr. J. Dutton had to be taken to hospital after a fall. It is good to have Mr. Harry Hatcher back in circulation. Mrs. Greening is making steady progress after being taken ill just before Christmas. Mr. F. Herbert has been poorly for some time and is confined to his bed at home. Both Mrs. Johns and Mrs F. Lewis have been poorly, but we are glad that both have shown their usual resilience and are making good progress.

Communicants. Week beginning Dec. 16th, 31; 23rd, 176; 30th, 16; Jan. 6th, 19; 13th, 31.

Christmas Day Collections. (Children's Society) £20-18-0.

Birthday Half-Crowns. Mrs. L. E. Cull, Mr. T. W. Hardiman.

Donation. Mr. & Mrs. F. Morris, £2.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services

Suns. Feb. 3 (Epiph. IV.), 10 (Septuagesima), 17 (Sexagesima), 24 (Quinquagesima). As usual for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Suns.

Feb 27 **ASH WEDNESDAY.** 7-30 a.m. H.C. 4-30 p.m. Children's Lenten Service (see below). 7-30 p.m. Bishop of Worcester's Lent Course I, at Badsey Church (see Vicar's Letter).

Children's Services. During Lent there will be a service for children of all ages in Wickhamford Church on Wednesdays at 4-30, starting on Ash Wednesday.

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

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING & FILM Wed. 13th Feb., in the Memorial Hall, at 7-15 p.m.

Last year we had a most heartening and exciting evening at the Annual Meeting, because there was an unusually good

attendance. We hope it will be even better this year. After business is over there will be a cup of tea, and then the showing of a really first-class film of the work of the Church of England Children's Society, by Mr. T. H. Blake, Area Representative. Mr. Blake gives a very moving account of what is being done in our name by the Church's own society for child welfare. He has himself been a house father in the Society's homes. It is hoped there will be a really good gathering of Wickhamford people, not only to elect their churchwardens and parochial church councillors and participate democratically in the affairs of their church, but to see this film of the Children's Society.

Mothers' Union. On Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 7-30 p.m., we shall have a talk about the work of the police, given by one of the Evesham police-women. Bring a friend with you to hear about this important work.

On Feb. 20, at 2-30 p.m., Miss James, Warden of the Diocesan Retreat House, Cropthorne, will speak about the work and life of the House.

Teas at these meetings will be provided by Mrs. Hodges and Mrs. Figgitt respectively.

I am sorry that the severe weather caused the cancellation of the party in January. E.G.B.

The Sick. It was good to see Mr. W. A. Johnson back at Christmas. We pray for the complete recovery of Dr. and Mrs. Astley's son Nigel who has had a severe operation.

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.