

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

May, 1964.

Price 4/- per annum

Vicar : REV. P. BRABY, M.A.

(Tel. Badsey 343)

Deaconess : MISS C. P. WRIGHT.

CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BADSEY.

SUNDAY SERVICES :

8 a.m.—Holy Communion (also at 6-45 p.m. on the Fourth Sunday and at 11-40 a.m. on the Fifth Sunday).

11 a.m.—Family Service (First Sunday), Sung Eucharist (Second Sunday and Festivals), Matins (Fourth and Fifth Sundays).

6-45 p.m.—Evensong (except on the Fourth Sunday).

Holy Baptism—Third Sunday, 3 p.m. (Parents must see the Vicar personally at least seven days before).

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

<i>Churchwardens</i>	...	Mr. G. A. Jones.	Tel. Badsey 333.
		Mr. G. H. Stewart.	Tel. Badsey 219.
<i>Secretary P.C.C.</i>	...	Mr. H. L. Hatcher.	
<i>Treasurer P.C.C.</i>	...	Mr. M. H. Harvey.	Tel. Badsey 325.
<i>Clerk</i>	...	Mr. E. Mitchell, 68 Synehurst.	

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD.

SUNDAY SERVICES :

9 a.m.—First Sunday and Festivals : Holy Communion.

10 a.m.—Third Sunday : Holy Communion.

11 a.m.—Fourth Sunday : Family Service.

5-30 p.m.—Every Sunday : Evensong.

WEEKDAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

<i>Churchwardens</i>	...	Mr. E. Cooke.	Tel. Badsey 237.
		Mr. J. E. Parry.	Tel. Badsey 244.
<i>Secretary P.C.C.</i>	...	Mrs. E. Cooke.	
<i>Treasurer P.C.C.</i>	...	Mrs. M. Jones.	
<i>Clerk</i>	...	Mr. C. H. Willis, 35 Pitchers Hill.	

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear People,

Do you ever remember sermons?

Don't let the hackles rise! I am not bellyaching. It is just a simple question which I often ask myself about the sermons I have heard.

I must confess that as a rule I only remember the illustrations and anecdotes. But of course these are just the seasoning. It is like having a lovely meal of roast lamb and green peas, and afterwards the only taste that stays in your mouth is the mint sauce. A mouthful of sauce wouldn't see you through a day's work, and in the same way an earful of anecdotes won't strengthen you for a week of Christian living. Do sermons then do us any good, if we don't retain the substance?

I am not saying that recalling the illustrations will do no good at all. It depends on the illustration. Our Lord taught in parables, and the lesson He was teaching was in the parable itself. It is very different when we preachers of today drag in a story or allegory to arrest our hearers' attention at the start or to awaken their flagging interest later on. An illustration ought to illuminate the point we are making, i.e. make it clearer; but often we preachers are drawn to use a particular illustration for its entertainment value rather than its aptness to our theme. The worst kind of after-dinner speaker is not the one who tells no funny stories at all, but the one who runs off a string of completely unconnected anecdotes as if he were a clown filling in time while the scenes are being shifted. It is the same with a preacher who dishes up all seasoning and no solid food.

There must however be some seasoning, to help us get the food down. The point I am making is this: the time the preacher has spent in preparing the meal, and his skill in serving it in an appetising way, are completely wasted if it is not going to be digested and assimilated by his hearers during the coming week.

I am becoming more and more convinced that in modern times, with the poor memories we 20th century people have for the spoken word, pulpit sermons are practically useless unless either (a) they are followed by opportunities for discussion; or (b) the hearers take written notes, particularly of the Bible references, so that they can follow up the message that has been proclaimed to them, in meditation and prayer during the week.

With regard to (a), I shall be happy to arrange such opportunities if a sufficient number of people desire them. As to (b), what a difference it would make to the quality of the sermons as well as to the lives of the hearers, if only people would bring pencils and note-books to church with them and jot down the particular points which strike them as being helpful, and the Bible references, so that they can feed on the Word of life during the week. It is the same with the lessons read from the lectern. Make a note of anything that strikes you. Look it up again at home. The Epistle and Gospel you hear from the Authorised Version in the Prayer Book: read them at home in one of the modern English versions. The A.V., for all the majesty of its language, is often shockingly misleading, not necessarily through bad translation but because the meaning of words has changed. The New English Bible (New Testament) is now published in a paperback edition. Better still is the American Revised Standard Version (whole Bible), also available in cheap paperback form.

There is nothing indecent about taking notes in church! On the contrary, it indicates a reverent concern for God's Word and the intention to take Him seriously.

An old custom that ought to be revived is for people to bring their Bibles to church, at least to follow the lessons. But I don't advise you to look up the references during the sermon. While you are turning the pages you miss the thread of the discourse. Jot them down and look them up afterwards.

If you have managed to read through to the end of this letter, you might like to look up Isaiah chapter 55, verses 1 to 3 and 10 to 11. Imagine you are going to preach a sermon on this, and write down a note or two of how you would apply it to the lives of the hearers. Then turn it into a prayer for yourself.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

MAY FAIR, WALKER HALL, EVESHAM

Friday, 8th May, 10.0 to 12.30

In aid of Moral Welfare Funds

Our two parishes are again running the cake stall. Cakes will be welcome, and should be brought to the Walker Hall early on the Friday morning, or on Thursday to the Vicarage or to Mrs. Hatcher, 53 Bretforton Road. If unable to provide a cake, will you let Mrs. Hatcher have some ingredients (or monetary equivalent) early in the week, for her to make one. Ladies, all make a note in your diaries of the May Fair, and support it. During the morning you can have coffee there too, and a good natter with your friends.

Diocesan Youth Rally, Sat., 23rd May. A very interesting programme has been arranged, as in previous years. Details will be issued later, also of transport arrangements from our parishes.

"Within a Yard of Hell". This is the title of an exciting and revealing book by Sister Gemmell of the Church Army, who will be the guest speaker at the A.G.M. of Evesham Deanery Moral Welfare Association, on **Friday, 29th May.** All are welcome in hell, we understand, and the same applies to the meeting in the Walker Hall that evening at 7.30 p.m. It should be a warming experience.

Diocesan Missionary Festival at Redditch, Sat., 20th June. Details next month.

Easter Offering. The Vicar wishes to thank the people of both parishes for their kindness and generous goodwill.

BADSEY & ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

May

- 1 Fri. **SS. Philip & James, Apostles.** 6.30 H.C.
- 3 **Easter V** (Rogation Sun.) as usual for 1st Sun.
- 6 Wed. No H.C. 2.30 Decoration of church. Flowers welcome, beforehand.
- 7 Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY. 6.30 & 10.0 H.C.**
8 p.m. Evensong (with hymns).

- 10 Sun. after Ascension. As usual for 2nd Sun.
 13 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
 16 Sat. Whitsun Eve. 9.30 a.m. Decoration of church. Flowers welcome, beforehand. 6.30 E. & Preparation for H.C.
 17 **WHITSUNDAY. 7.0 & 8.0 Holy Communion.** 10.0 Children's Service. 11.0 Sung Eucharist. 3.0 Holy Baptism. 6.45 Evensong.
 19 Tues. R.D. Chapter meeting at Badsey. 9.0 H.C.
 20 Wed. Ember Day. 10.0 H.C.
 24 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** as usual for 4th Sun.
 26 Tues. M.U. Diocesan Service, Worcester Cathedral, 3 p.m.
 27 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
 28 Thurs. (Corpus Christi, H.C. Wed.)
 31 **Trinity I.** As usual for 5th Sun.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., 5th May, 7.45 p.m. Parish Room.

Fete Meeting, Tues., 26th May, 8.0., Meeting House.

Servers for May. 3rd, 8.0. T. Hatcher; 11.0 C. Harwood; 6.45 P. Moran. 7th (Ascension Day), 6.30 a.m. S. Gresty. 10th, 8.0 P. Moran; 11.0 M. Betteridge (Server), D. Crane (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Silvester. 17th (Whitsun), 7.0 C. Freeman; 8.0 D. Crane; 11.0 C. Harwood (Server), N. Redgewell (Crucifer); 6.45 D. Barrand. 24th (Trinity), 8.0 S. Gresty; 11.0 D. Crane; 6.45 D. Barrand (Server), P. Moran (Crucifer). 31st, 8.0 T. Hatcher; 11.0 C. Harwood; 6.45 A. Silvester.

War Memorial Flowers. May 10th, Mrs. T. Keen; 17th, Mrs. R. Sparrow; 24th, Mrs. Spencer; 31st, Mrs. C. Haines.

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

- May 4 Committee Meeting, 2.30.
 - May 7 (Ascension Day) Corporate Communion.
 - May 12 Branch Meeting 2.30 Tea Hostesses: Mrs. L. Perkins (Committee) and Mesdames Holley, Ives, G. A. Jones, G. Knight.
 - May 26 Diocesan Festival Service in the Cathedral, 3 p.m. Coach leaves the Pike, Badsey 1.30 p.m. and picks up at the usual places, finishing at Wickhamford 1.40. Please give your name to Mrs. Betteridge.
- No evening meeting today.

May I urge members to support the Moral Welfare May Fair on Friday, 8th May at 10 a.m., and to give generously towards the Cake Stall? E.G.B.

Youth Fellowship. May 1st, May Day Dance (Open Night); 3rd, Corporate Communion, followed by breakfast and a ramble; 8th, Cricket Night; 15th, Many a Slip; 18th, Outing to Drayton Park; 22nd, Beauty Culture and The Law & the Road; 29th, Barbecue (Open Night); 30th, Youth Rally at Kidderminster.

C.P.W.

Parish Fete, 27th June. At the meeting on 15th April it was decided that the proceeds should be divided between the work of the International Red Cross, local nursing equipment, and Basutoland Primary Schools.

The following have agreed to run stalls and will be glad of assistance, and goods for sale:—

Horticulture Produce: Mrs. P. Osborne, Mr. P. Sparrow. Cakes: Women's Institute. Gift Stall: Overseas

Committee. Cosmetics & Jewellery: Mothers' Union. Bathroom & Kitchen Requisites: British Legion Women's Section. Groceries: Mr. & Mrs. Austen Jones. White Elephant: Mrs. Sladden. Bottle Stall: The Sidesmen. Handkerchiefs: Mrs. P. Churchill. Sweets & Soft Drinks: Youth Fellowship. We need someone to run the 'Tombola' Gift Stall, and any other offers of stalls will be welcome. Some ladies have offered to help with the teas: we need some more. Competitions will include children's decorated bicycles, and bicycle tortoise race. Volunteers to help with competitions, selling programmes, gate-keeping, etc. are also needed. Plenty of jobs available for everyone. Come to the next meeting on **Tuesday, 26th May**, at the Meeting House, 8 p.m.

Christian Aid Week, May 25 to 30, supported by Christians of all denominations. Mrs. P. Churchill, 14 Chapel Street, is again organising the house-to-house collection in Badsey, and will be glad to have offers of assistance.

Holy Baptism

April 19 Dean Nicholas Keyte; Derek John Short-house. (Received into the Church) Martin Richard Harvey.

Burials. R.I.P.

- March 26 Ethel Minnie Anderson, aged 74.
- April 15 George Baden Powell Hartwell, aged 63.
- April 17 Annie Eliza Vincent, aged 85.

It is evident from his name and age that Mr. Hartwell's parents were greatly impressed by the defender of Mafeking. George Hartwell, in different circumstances, showed a similar patience and fortitude, under the stress of a long and wearisome siege of his health. He has now been mercifully relieved. Our warm sympathy is with Mrs. Hartwell, his children and grandchildren, brothers and sister.

Mrs. Vincent had been in failing health for some time. May she rest in peace, and be reunited in Christ with her husband, who died four years ago. Our sympathy with her family, especially her daughter Mrs. Norah Cook who has been devoted in her care for her.

Jottings. Heartiest congratulations to that remarkable person Mrs. Clara Jane Harwood, who celebrated her 90th birthday on the 3rd April. The bells were rung in her honour. In spite of having been totally blind for years, she is as serene and tranquil as ever, and her mind vigorous. We regret that another wonderful non-agenarian, Mrs. Florence Lewis, has had to undergo an operation in Worcester Royal Infirmary after a fall. Both the men's and women's orthopaedic wards there have been kept busy by Badsey folk during the last few months. Another casualty who has just had a spell there was Miss E. I. James; it is hard luck for a teacher to be in hospital for the whole of the Easter holidays. At Badsey School we have said goodbye to Mr. Hunt and Mr. Morton, and wish them well in their appointments to headships. We welcome in their places Mr. D. Miller and Mr. A. W. D. Hayes. Golden Wedding: Heartiest congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Sladden. It was nice to see them in Badsey for the occasion. Your prayers are asked for Mr. W. Enstone and Mr. A. Crane in hospital, Mr. George Crisp, Mr. F. Herbert, Mr. J. Keen, Mrs. Anderson of Knowle Hill, among those ill at home. Pray also for Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Grinnell's baby Karen, who weighed 2½lb. at birth.

Communicants. Week beginning March 22nd, 82; 29th, 147; April 5th, 41; 12th, 46.

Birthday Half-Crown. Mrs. D. Sparrow.

Acknowledgement. A fine new St. George's Flag, emblazoned with the arms of Worcester Diocese has been presented for the church tower by the Mothers' Union.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

- 3 **Easter V.** As usual for 1st Sun.
7 Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY** 7-30 a.m. H.C.
10 Sun. after Ascension. As usual for 2nd Sun.
17 **WHITSUNDAY. 9-0 Holy Communion.** 11-0 Children's Service. 5-30 Evensong. (Collections for Sunday School Fund).
24 **TRINITY SUN.** As usual for 4th Sun. 11-0 Family Service. 5-30 E. (Collections for Ordination Candidates' Fund).
31 **Trinity I.** As usual for 5th Sun.

Holy Baptism

March 29th Lynne Winkett.

Mothers' Union. The branch will meet on Wednesday, 20th May at 2-30 p.m. Tea will be served by Mrs. Newbury.

The Diocesan Festival Service in the Cathedral will be on Tuesday, 26th May, at 3 p.m. The coach will pick up members at the Sandys Arms at 1-40 p. m. Please give names to me. E.G.B.

May Fair, 8th May. See notes after Vicar's Letter.

Diocesan Youth Rally, Sat., 23rd May. See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

Moral Welfare A.G.M., Fri., 29th May. See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

Women's Institute. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Litterick, who was on holiday, Mrs. Parry (vice-president) was in the chair at the April meeting. An enthusiastic audience, which included members from neighbouring villages, were entertained by a parade of spring and summer fashions presented by "Vivienne" of Stratford-on-Avon. Mrs. Edith de Bastion introduced the models, who included three Wickhamford members, Mesdames Parry, Thomas and K. Harman. Thanks were expressed by Mrs. Shannon-Garvey. Mrs. Folkes gave a report on the group meeting held recently at Childswickham. The sick visitor, Mrs. Bent, kindly volunteered for another month. Great amusement was caused by the competition, "Hat made from a kitchen utensil". Mrs. de Bastion kindly judged and found it a difficult task, placing Mrs. K. Mitchell, 1st, Mrs. Scigala 2nd, and Mrs. Hancock, 3rd.

Forthcoming events: May 14: V.C.O.; competition, Victorian posy (real flowers). June 11: garden party. July 9: members' night. M.E.B.

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.