

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

July, 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.

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 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.

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. M. Jones.	
Clerk	...	Mr. C. H. Willis, 35 Pitchers Hill.	

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear People,

Your God is too small.

This was the title of a book written a few years ago by the well known Bible translator J. B. Phillips. I have to confess I have not read the book, but what a wealth of suggestion for meditation is in the title alone!

Do you remember that story in the Bible about the eminent brass-hat from abroad who came to the prophet Elisha to be cured of leprosy? One of the most fascinating details of the story is the general's request for a souvenir to take home. Might he have two mule loads of earth from Palestine? He didn't want it for his garden because it seemed extra fertile. He wanted to be able to worship the God who had cured him, but he felt he could not do that except on soil which belonged to Him. In the general's own country they had their local god, and the land there belonged to him. In those days people thought of their religion as a local cult. If you went to live somewhere else, you left your religion behind with the landlord's fixtures.

The Jews themselves had this idea of religion until they were deported from their own land. At first they just wanted to sit down and weep by the waters of Babylon, because they had lost their God as well as their home and that was that. But God taught them through His prophets to learn the great lesson that He is the universal Lord, and is to be found at work in mercy and love in every place and any situation. In the course of time He sent His Son to dwell among us, and Jesus showed that wherever two or three are gathered together in His Name, through the Holy Spirit He is there in the midst.

In spite of about 2,500 years teaching of the universal sovereignty of God, many of us still worship a local deity—a god who is far too small. Here is a test. When you are away on holiday, do you go to the local church on Sunday? If you move to a new neighbourhood, do you stay away from the church and its sacramental life because you are afraid it will not be the same as the dear old church at home?

People who behave like this show that their god is too small. They cannot separate their religion from the sentimental associations of a vanished past. They have found a false security in sentiment, and it has kept them from knowing the Lord who says to His disciples, "Launch out into the deep".

In the past centuries when people rarely moved from their ancestral village, even for a single day, there was some excuse for so parochial a religion. But this is the age of television, of the motor car, of rapid mobility. China and Chile are as near to us as Childswickham, and we are as familiar with Broadway, New York, as Broadway, Worcs. Our secular horizons reach out into space; but our god is too small.

"Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
There they behold thy mercy-seat."

Try to remember that, when you are away from home, or have moved to a new home. Their church looks different, smells different. They do things differently. They even have a different hymn book—that really is the end! So much the better for your soul. Variety is the spice of life, and God can often reach a soul easier by shocks and surprises than by the well-trodden path of custom. The important thing is not that the surroundings are strange, but that the one God is to be found there, in His people who are one in Him.

Sometimes perhaps when you are out for the day, you look round an old church or cathedral. Always re-

member that it is not a museum or ancient monument, but a place of living worship, used as such by a community of fellow-Christians. Never go round a church without kneeling for a prayer, and uniting yourself in the Spirit with the regular worshippers in that place. If you use the words of the Te Deum or some other ancient act of corporate praise, you will be joining in the worship of that community as it has been offered for generations, and was offered only last Sunday and will be next Sunday.

Let me finish with a practical suggestion. When we are away on holiday this summer, let us each bring back a souvenir—not two mule loads of earth, but a copy of the parish magazine of the church or churches we attend for worship. When we have our harvest socials in Badsey and Wickhamford, we will have a display of these parish magazines. It will be most instructive, and in this way we shall be able to widen and enrich our own common life by the ideas and experiences of other local Christian communities.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY & ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

July

- 1 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
- 5 **Trinity VI.** As usual for 1st Sun.
- 8 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
- 12 **Trinity VII.** As usual for 2nd Sun.
- 15 Wed. St. Swithun, Bp. 10.0 H.C.
- 19 **Trinity VIII.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 3.0 Holy Baptism.
- 22 Wed. St. Mary Magdalen. 10.0 H.C.
- 25 Sat. **ST. JAMES, APOSTLE & MARTYR (PATRONAL FESTIVAL).** 7.30 H.C.
- 26 **Trinity IX (PATRONAL FESTIVAL).** 8.0 H.C. 10.0 Children's Service. 11.0 Mattins. 6.45 Sung Eucharist.
- 29 Wed. 10.0 H.C.

Monthly P.C.C. Meeting (evening outing), Tues., 7th July, 7.0 p.m.

Overseas Committee, Fri., 10th July, Meeting House, 7.30 p.m.

Choir Outing, Sat., 11th July.

M.U. Outing, Tues., 14th July.

Badsey, Aldington & Wickhamford Flower Show, Sat., 25th July.

Churchyard. The Parochial Church Council have the duty of maintaining the churchyard for the benefit of all parishioners. Under powers given to them by the Parish Councils Act of 1957, Badsey Parish Council have voted to contribute £30 towards the cost of maintaining the churchyard for the remainder of 1964. The P.C.C. are very appreciative of this help, which has enabled them to employ Mr. L. W. Perkins as churchyard caretaker. The churchyard already looks considerably improved since Mr. Perkins began his work a week or two ago. A word of gratitude is due to the voluntary workers who undertook to keep portions of the churchyard tidy in their spare time, and succeeded in keeping down much of the weed and grass growth in the spring and early summer: Messrs. Austen and Patrick Jones, J. Hatcher, C. Sladden, D. Barrand, D. Hartwell, P. Sparrow and the Vicar.

Road Stewards. One evening last month a number of the road stewards attended a meeting with the Pastoral Committee (chairman Mrs. Daphne Bell), to discuss ways of carrying out the pastoral work of the Church in the parish. It was agreed that the duties of the road stewards included the following: informing immediately the Vicar or Deaconess of cases of sickness and need and of the arrival of newcomers; assisting sick neighbours in such ways as shopping and fetching prescriptions; visiting newcomers and making them welcome. So that parishioners might know who is the church road steward in their neighbourhood, it was agreed to re-publish the names (with the addition of any new ones) which were printed in the Parish Review a year ago. They are as follows:—

High Street: Miss Sladden, Mrs. A. Bell. St. James Close: Mrs. A. Reed, Mr. D. Barrand. Brewers Lane: Mrs. Byrd, Mr. Ives, Mrs. F. Cleaver. Chapel Street: Mr. R. Taylor. School Lane: Mrs. Harvey. Mill Lane: Mr. P. Tucker. Badsey Fields Lane: Mr. Austen Jones, Mr. C. Jones, Mrs. Betteridge. Willersey Road: Mrs. R. Hartwell, Mr. D. Hartwell. Sands Lane: Mr. Crisp. Old Post Office Lane: Mrs. Cobb. Green Leys: Miss James, Mr. E. Taylor. Synehurst: Mrs. L. Perkins, Mrs. Harman, Mrs. Grove. Bretforton Road: Mrs. F. Jones, Mrs. J. Barnard, Mr. H. Hatcher, Mr. Dale, Mr. Brady. Horsebridge Avenue: Mrs. Syril, Mrs. Gresty. Aldington: Mr. D. Jelfs, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Osborne.

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

July 1 Corporate Communion 10.0 a.m.
 July 6 Committee Meeting 2.30 p.m.
 July 14 Outing to Berkeley Castle. Coach leaves the School at 1.0 p.m. and continues to the Pike and the Oak.
 July 28 Branch Meeting 7.30 p.m. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. C. Stewart (committee) and Mesdames G. H. Stewart, Syril, Sladden.

Will those members who are going on the outing please give their money to Mrs. Harvey by July 7th.

E.G.B.

Holy Baptism

June 21 Mark Andrew Jones: Mark Hodgkins.

Holy Matrimony

June 20 David William Perry, of Norton, and Marlene Anne Salter, of Badsey.

Burials. R.I.P.

May 29 Florence Amy Lewis, aged 91. (service at Badsey followed by cremation).

Mrs. Lewis was the mother of Mr. A. M. C. Lewis, to whom and his family we tender our sympathy. She was remarkably vigorous for her age, both in mind and body. Nothing would keep her from the worship of God (the source of her strength) in His church, so long as she was physically able. Before coming to live in Badsey, she had worshipped for many years at St. Andrew's, Cardiff, where her husband, a doctor, was churchwarden, and she enrolling member of the Mothers' Union. Mrs. Lewis had met her husband when she was theatre sister at Birmingham General Hospital. We are thankful to have known this woman of indomitable faith and courage. May she rest in peace.

June 20 Walter William Blake, aged 69.

Mr. Blake died in the faith of Christ after a long illness which he bore with great patience. His frame had been weakened by gas attack in the Great War, but the outdoor life suited him and he became one of the fraternity of growers in Badsey. Our sympathy with Mrs. Blake and the family.

Miss Lorna Montgomery, who had lived a few weeks with Deaconess Caroline at Vicarage Cottage, before going into hospital, died of thrombosis in Hammer-smith Hospital on 13th June, three days after the skilful and intricate operation on her heart had been performed. A devout communicant, Lorna had committed herself entirely to God's will and keeping, in life or death, and we cannot grieve for her, except that so dedicated a life has been lost to the Church on earth. It was when she had offered herself to the S.P.G. for missionary work in India that the serious condition of her heart was discovered. We praise God for her devotion and are thankful to have known her.

Our sympathy to the Goldstraw brothers and their families on the death of their mother Mrs. Topsy Goldstraw in Avonside Hospital, news of which has just been received at the time of writing. She was a devoted mother, and we are glad to have known her since she came to Badsey from Honeybourne last year.

Jottings. We are sorry that Mrs. Jane Harwood, who so recently celebrated her 90th birthday, is now in hospital and pray for her recovery; also for Miss Frieda Lowle who is back in hospital. Andrew Pedrick, whose parents had such an anxious time when he was dangerously ill through blood poisoning, Mrs. Mary Cull of Bowers Hill, Mr. Ronald Hall who is so patient after several months' incapacity, and parishioners in Avonside Hospital: Mrs. Turrill, Mrs. Sparrow, Mrs. Deighton, Mrs. Field, Mr. Dutton, Mr. R. Crane, Mr. W. Enstone. We welcome home from hospital Mrs. Harry Reed, who has had an operation for cataract, Michael Guise, Mr. Henry Young, Mrs. N. H. Smith, Mrs. G. H. Welch, Mr. C. Jeffries, Brian Hancock, Mr. Douglas Jelfs (the last three from Aldington). We are all so glad to see Mr. George Crisp about again, and pray for his complete recovery.

Servers for July. 5th, 8.0 T. Hatcher; 11.0 C. Hartwell; 6.45 A. Silvester. 12th, 8.0 C. Harwood; 11.0 P. Moran (Server), D. Barrand (Crucifer); 6.45 D. Partridge. 19th, 8.0 D. Crane; 6.45 S. Gresty. 26th, 8.0 M. Betteridge; 11.0 C. Harwood; 6.45 D. Barrand (Server), D. Crane (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. July 5th, Mrs. N. Cook; 12th, Mrs. G. Knight; 19th, Mrs. Ingram; 26th, Mrs. G. H. Stewart.

Communicants. Week beginning May 24th, 60; 31st, 43; June 7th, 35; 14th, 47.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Suns., July 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th (Trinity VI, VII, VIII, IX). As on front cover.

P.C.C. Meeting, Wed., 22nd July, at 7.30 p.m.

Church Membership Campaign. As the time draws near, use this prayer:—

O God, our heavenly Father, of thy great mercy draw all the people of this parish of St. John the Baptist into the fellowship of thy Church, that they may know thee as their Lord,
 love thee as their Saviour,
 serve thee as their King,
 and worship thee as their God;
 to thy glory and their salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mothers' Union. The branch meeting will be on Wednesday, 15th July, at 2.45 p.m. Tea will be served by Mrs. F. Smith. E.G.B.

Whitsunday Collections for Sunday School Fund. £7-0-3.

Trinity Sunday Collections for Ordination Candidates. £4-19-4.

Sunday School. Members of Wickhamford Youth Club, inspired and encouraged by their wonderful leaders Mr. and Mrs. M. Jones and Miss M. Willis, arranged a Social Evening on 25th May, from which they made a profit of £5-16-3, and this they magnanimously gave to Sunday School Funds. The money will be used to buy badly needed hymn books. What a wonderful gesture on the part of my "old boys and girls" helping their successors in this way—it has given me one of the greatest uplifts in my work among the Sunday School children. May God bless them all.

The sum of £4 has been donated to U.M.C.A. from the Sunday School box. A.L.C.

The Organ. We are all most grateful to Mr. G. H. Yardley, of Broadway, for the help which he is giving us in accompanying the Sunday services.

Jottings. We are glad that Mrs. Thompson has recovered from her illness which necessitated a stay in hospital in Worcester. It is good to see Mr. W. A. Johnson back at church; we beseech him not to overdo things. We are also thankful that Francis Smith has now been able to start work (and serving at the altar) after so many months of being crippled.

We record with regret the death of Edith Agg on 8th June. She was a regular worshipper at our church till she left the village. Her father was Mr. George Agg, churchwarden for many years.

Women's Institute. The June meeting took the form of a delightful garden party held at Saintbury at the home of Mrs. Litterick (president). The weather was kind, which helped to make a most enjoyable evening. Mrs. Litterick welcomed Mrs. Odell, of the Executive Committee, who gave an amusing talk on her experiences as a W.I. member since she joined 10 years ago. The speaker was thanked by Mrs. Harty. It was suggested that Wickhamford items be collected for inclusion in the W.I. scrapbook for 1965. Mrs. Poles (secretary) gave a report on the recent conference held at Shirehall, Worcester, on "How to be good neighbours". A new member, Mrs. Keen, was warmly welcomed, and Mrs. Collett was appointed sick visitor for the month. A competition organised by Mrs. Litterick was a great success, being a treasure hunt in her lovely gardens. It was won by Mrs. Byron. A delightful supper ended a most pleasant evening.

Forthcoming events: July 9th, members' night; September 10th, talk by Mr. Huddy on "Old Evesham"; competition "knitted squares"; October 8th, First Aid ("kiss of life"), competition plum jam, nomination night. (No August meeting.) M.E.B.

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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.