

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

December, 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,

I do not often intrude a personal note, but this month I ask you to join me in thanksgiving for twenty-five years in the priesthood. I was ordained priest on 17th December, 1939, in St. Paul's Cathedral by Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, who had just become Bishop of London; I had been made deacon by his predecessor, Dr. A. F. Winnington Ingram, on 18th December, 1938. I hope some of you will be able to join me in the celebration of Holy Communion on 16th December, the Ember Wednesday, in special thanksgiving (or, if unable to come then, on Sunday morning 20th December: Badsey 8 a.m., Wickhamford 10 a.m.).

My call to the ministry came quite clearly after a few years of indifference (and intellectual distaste) towards the Christian religion. Many of us pass through this sort of phase in youth, but if there has been a steady course set by Christian parents, as there was in my case, the compass needle stops wobbling and comes to rest on the magnetic pole.

Happiness is an elusive thing that can never be found by seeking it as a goal in itself: it comes as a by-product of giving oneself unselfconsciously to some absorbing task, cause or person. I can enthusiastically recommend the life of a Christian priest for the deep happiness it brings, day by day, in spite of all the frustrations and failures. Dr. Johnson said: "Sir, the life of a parson, and a conscientious clergyman, is not easy. No, Sir, I do not envy a clergyman's life as an easy life, nor do I envy the clergyman who makes it an easy life." Maybe it is not so easy to take it easy nowadays as it was in Dr. Johnson's day, and the temptations of a parson today are of a rather different order. But enviable or unenviable, it is immensely rewarding (in the non-pecuniary sense). That is, as I said, a by-product, not the object. The happiness has come through God's love manifested in many dear souls whom I have been privileged to serve, and from whom I have learnt so much. Thanks be to God.

### Visit of the Dean

I want to draw your attention to two special events arranged for this month. On Tuesday, 1st December, we are privileged to have a visit from the Very Rev. R. L. P. Milburn, M.A., Dean of our Cathedral Church. The Meeting is to be in the Parish Room, at 7-15 p.m. The invitation to the Dean was from Badsey P.C.C. but it was felt that members of Wickhamford P.C.C., and others interested from both parishes, would like to have the opportunity of hearing him, so this will be an open meeting. The Dean's subject will be "Church Life in the Victorian Age", on which he is an acknowledged authority.

### Nativity Play

The other booking which I feel sure will be appreciated is of the Globe Players of Stratford to perform their annual Nativity Play in Badsey Church on Thursday, 17th December, at 8 p.m. Each year they go to different parish churches, and had been booked for Bretforton that evening. Unfortunately for Bretforton people, their church cannot be used, as an emergency restoration of the roof is under way, for which they have to raise £6,000. Their misfortune is our advantage, as the Globe Players will now come to Badsey instead. We have therefore invited Bretforton parishioners to join Badsey and Wickhamford people in Badsey Church that evening. The only charge made by the Globe Players is £3-5-0, for hire of costumes from the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. Admission to the performance in church will be free, but there will be a collection, and I very much hope there will be a balance after the expenses have been paid, which we can hand over to Bretforton Church for their Roof Fund. Information

about the Nativity Play and the Globe Players is given after this letter.

Mrs. Braby and our family join me in wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

## THE NATIVITY PLAY

performed by THE GLOBE PLAYERS

### The Play.

The Nativity Play performed by the Globe Players of Stratford-upon-Avon comes from the mediaeval Coventry mystery cycle fostered by the ancient Guild of the Shearmen and Tailors and probably dates from the 13th Century. Originally it was played as part of a mobile pageant, each episode of which was staged on a horse-drawn cart and repeated at various stopping points in the city.

The Play tells the story of the Nativity in homely, not to say earthy, language appealing then, as it still does, to the practical Christianity of the audience. The simplicity and overwhelming beauty of the lines have a power to move the cast and audiences alike.

In production the Play is kept as simple as possible, partly due to the necessity for suiting the production to the limits imposed by the varying architecture of the different Churches in which it is played, but also in order to preserve the direct simplicity of the Play itself.

The production is dressed in mediaeval costume, hired from the Wardrobe of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, and a number of the carols sung as part of the performance date from the same period.

### The Globe Players

This amateur company was formed in 1950 by Captain Henry Clarke, at that time the House Manager of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre and although several productions of Nativity Plays were presented between that time and 1958 the first tour of this particular play took place in the latter year, since when it has been an annual event. For some years it has been the practice to give the performances on eight consecutive evenings at different Churches and at the conclusion of this year's production the play will have been performed 47 times at a total of 33 Churches.

**Study Group on C. of E. Tues., Dec. 8, Badsey Meeting House, 7-30 p.m.**

**Worcester Diocesan Messenger.** An order form for 1965 is enclosed with this issue of the Parish Review. If you would like to have the Messenger in 1965 please return this order form with 3/- subscription to your Parish Review distributor.

**Artificial Flowers.** This subject has to be mentioned annually, in the hope that hurt feelings may be saved, if the position is made clear before any harm is done. Artificial flowers (except the traditional Flanders Poppies which have a recognised symbolism) are not allowed in Badsey and Wickhamford Churchyards: At this time of the year, when fresh flowers are expensive and may be spoilt by frost, it is a happy tradition to place evergreens, berries or everlasting flowers on graves. It spoils a good holly wreath, for instance, to stick bogus flowers into it. The significance of real flowers or evergreens is that they symbolise the Christian hope in the Resurrection, whereas sham flowers not only suggest despair, but look subtopian and out of place in a setting of green grass and brown earth.

The care and proper ordering of the churchyard are the responsibility of the incumbent and the P.C.C., the churchyard itself being the freehold property of the incumbent. It is therefore quite as much their right and duty to regulate what shall be placed in the churchyard as what shall be placed in the church.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### December

- 2, Wed. 10-0 H.C.  
6 **Advent II.** St. Nicolas, Bp. As usual for 1st Sun.  
9, Wed. 10-0 H.C.  
13 **Advent III.** As usual for 2nd Sun.  
16 Ember Day. 10-0 H.C.  
17 8 p.m. Nativity Play in church by the Globe Players (See Vicar's Letter).  
20 **Advent IV.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.  
21 **St. Thomas, Apostle.** 7-0 H.C.  
24, Thurs. **Christmas Eve.** 11-30 p.m. **1st Communion of Christmas** (with hymns, and carols by the handbell ringers).  
25, Fri. **CHRISTMAS DAY.** 8-0 & 11-45 a.m. **Holy Communion.** 11-0 **Family Service.**  
27 Sun. **St. John, Apostle & Evangelist.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins. 6-45 **Service of Lessons & Carols** (including some on the handbells).  
30, Wed. No H.C.

#### January

- 1, Fri. **Circumcision of Christ.** 10-0 H.C.

For all who seek "the benefit of absolution, together with spiritual counsel and advice", in accordance with the Prayer Book Exhortation to Communion, the Vicar will be in church at 7-30 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 19, and Thurs., Dec. 24.

Flowers and evergreens will be welcome at the church for decoration on Thursday morning the 24th. Decoration will begin at 2 p.m. and we shall be glad of helpers.

The Vicar will be glad to take Holy Communion to the homes of those who through sickness or infirmity are unable to get to church. If you are not already on his regular list, please let him know.

Alms on Christmas Day are for the Church of England Children's Society.

P.C.C. Tues., Dec. 1, 7-15 p.m., The Dean of Worcester. See Vicar's Letter. Business meeting, Tues., Dec. 15, 7-30 p.m.

**Rev. W. B. Chapman Memorial.** A letter is being delivered to every house in the parish.

**Mothers' Union.** There will be only one branch meeting this month, on Tuesday, 8th December, at 2-30 p.m., when there will be discussion on questions affecting life today. (Tea Hostesses: Mesdames C. Stewart, committee. Edwards, Evans, Franklin & C. Haines).

The Corporate Communion will be on Wednesday, 2nd Dec., at 10 a.m. E.G.B.

**Youth Fellowship.** Dec. 6. Corporate Communion followed by breakfast.

Dec. 20. Evensong followed by Club at the Meeting House.

Jan. 1. New Year Dance.

### Holy Baptism

Nov. 15 Ian Donald Walker; Mark Anthony Smith.

### Burials R.I.P.

- Nov. 2 Mary Griffin, aged 87.  
" 2 Minnie Bell, aged 82.  
" 14 Clara Jane Harwood, aged 90.

With rapidly failing eyesight and other infirmities, the "burden of the flesh" had been very heavy for Mrs. Griffin since her husband's death, yet she remained cheerful and patient to the end, appreciating all the care of her family for her but trying to carry on in her own home as long as she could. There she received the Holy Sacrament two or three weeks before her death. We thank God for her release from all the limitations of this life, though she will be much missed.

It is many years since Mrs. Minnie Bell lived in Badsey, but she was affectionately remembered here and quite a number of old Badsey friends attended her funeral.

Mrs. Harwood's health and vigour so remarkable up to her 90th birthday in April, seemed to have suddenly collapsed after that, and she had spent the last few months in hospital, the shadow of her former self. Perhaps the effort of keeping so alert in body and mind had been more costing than any of us realised. She had been totally blind for a good many years, yet always seemed patient and unruffled. She was a delightful person to talk to, with her wonderful memory for past days and people. As a girl she belonged to the church choir, which processed on alternate Sundays to Wickhamford to sing the morning service there. She must have joined at an early age, for she could remember singing from the west gallery in Badsey Church before its removal in 1885. She was a devout communicant, and for some years had been receiving the ministrations of the Church at home.

May the souls of the faithful, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**Jottings.** Mrs. Mary Cull, of Bowers Hill, has had a nasty fall, but keeps calm and wonderfully active for her age. We are glad Mr. Richard Harvey has had gall stones successfully removed. We are glad to welcome Andrew Pedrick home again from hospital. Your prayers are asked for Mr. Frank Herbert, Mrs. Malin, mother of Mrs. E. Wilkins, Mrs. Lucy Knight in Evesham Hospital, and parishioners in Avonside Hospital: Mrs. E. Cole, Mrs. Deighton, Mrs. Turrill, Mrs. Field, Mr. Dutton, Mr. R. Crane.

**Servers for December.** 6th, 8-0 P. Moran; 11-0 C. Hartwell; 6-45 D. Barrand. 13th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 C. Harwood (Server), S. Gresty (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Silvester. 20th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 D. Partridge. Christmas Eve & Day, 11-30 p.m., T. Hatcher; 8-0 D. Barrand; 11-0 C. Harwood. 27th, 8-0 D. Crane; 11-0 D. Partridge; 6-45 C. Hartwell.

**Birthday Half-crowns.** A.G.H., F.E.H., Mrs. P. Braby, Mary Braby.

**Communicants.** Week beginning Oct. 25th, 75; Nov. 1st, 50; 8th, 39; 15th, 40.

**Earl Haig Fund, Nov. 8.** £16-14-10.

## WICKHAMFORD NOTES

### Church Services

**Suns. in Advent II, III, IV,** Dec. 6, 13, 20. As usual for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Suns.

Thurs., Dec. 17. 8 p.m. Nativity Play in Badsey Church. (See Vicar's Letter).

**CHRISTMAS DAY.** 9 a.m. **Family Communion** (with hymns). Communicants will gather round the altar in the Chancel. Alms for Children's Society.

Sun., Dec. 27. **St. John the Evangelist.** 11 a.m. Family Service. 5-30 p.m. Evensong & Carols.

**Communion of the Sick.** See Badsey Notes.

**P.C.C. Meeting, Wed., Dec. 16, 7-30 p.m.**

**Visit of the Dean of Worcester, Tues., Dec. 1.** See Vicar's Letter.

**Diocesan Messenger.** See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

**Artificial Flowers.** See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

**Study Group.** See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

**Mothers' Union.** There will be only one branch meeting this month, on Wednesday, 2nd December, at 2-45 p.m. Tea will be served by Mrs. Whiting. E.G.B.

**Sunday School & Youth Club.** The Annual Prize Giving will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, the 6 December in the Memorial Hall. We hope that all parents and well-wishers of the Sunday School will be there to give encouragement both to teachers and children.

A donation of £2 has been sent from our Missionary Box to the Special Zambia Appeal.

We were sorry to lose Mary, William and Jane Daffurn, who were among the most faithful of our pupils, but we wish them every happiness in their new Devonshire home. The Sunday School gave them Birthday Books as a little farewell gift.

Phones : (Shop) 2020. (Nurseries) 2130

## THE FLOWER BASKET

D. B. & R. COOK

75, Port Street, Evesham

○○○○○○

TELEFLOWER SERVICE

○○○○○○

PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

Since many of the Youth Club members are our Sunday School attendants and for that reason I still take a great personal interest in them. I hope they will not think me presumptuous in mentioning their activities. In a Quiz, Youth Club members versus Adults, the former showed, by beating us with a comfortable margin, that all their spare time is not spent on Rocking 'n Rolling! They have now, by a further effort, raised £10 for the benefit of the Old People of the village. Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. M. Jones and my very devoted fellow teacher, Miss Margaret Willis, for their able handling of this Club.

A word of praise to the junior members of the Sunday School who, led by Vicky Cull, raised 10/- for its funds. A.L.C.

### Holy Baptism

Nov. 1 Giles Edward Percival.

**The Sick.** Your prayers are asked for Mr. Dolphin, in Ronkswood Hospital. We have been glad to welcome Mr. Collett home, and hope he will have a successful convalescence. It was hard luck on Mr. John Poulter and his wife Pat that he had to go into hospital for orthopaedic treatment so soon after their marriage. We are glad to see him home, though in a dog collar which he proudly told the Vicar was bigger than his.

**Wedding Anniversary 2/6.** Mr. & Mrs. Hodges.  
**Earl Haig's Fund, Nov. 8.** £5-2-0.

## F. MASTERS

*Painting, Decorating  
General Repairs . . .*

19 Willersey Road  
**BADSEY**

Tel. Badsey 456

FOR QUICK SERVICE SHOE REPAIRS — Come to

**THE MODERN**

BRIDGE STREET, EVESHAM

We shall be pleased to oblige, and endeavour to satisfy

THE THRIFTY PERSON FACES THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

IT PAYS TO JOIN THE

**CIRENCESTER BENEFIT SOCIETY**

Open to Men, Women and Children (no medical examination under age 45 if in good health)

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.