

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

MARCH, 1966.

PRICE 4/- PER ANNUM

Vicar: REV. P. BRABY, M.A.
(Tel. Badsey 343)

Deaconess: MISS C. P. WRIGHT.
Vicarage Cottage

CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BADSEY.

SUNDAY SERVICES:

- First Sunday Holy Communion 8 and 11 a.m. (said). Evensong 6-45 p.m.
Second Sunday Family Eucharist 10 a.m. Evensong 6-45 p.m.
Third Sunday Holy Communion 8 a.m. Evensong 6-45 p.m.
Fourth Sunday Holy Communion 8 a.m. Family Mattins 10 a.m.
Evening Eucharist 6-45 p.m.
Fifth Sunday Holy Communion 8 a.m. Mattins 11 a.m. Evensong 6-45 p.m.
Holy Baptism 3rd Sun., 3 p.m. (Parents must see the Vicar personally at least seven days before).
Sunday School 10 a.m. (except 2nd and 4th Suns.). Over 7, Meeting House.
Under 7, Parish Room and Village Hall.

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

- Churchwardens Mr. G. H. Stewart, 36, Bretforton Road. (Badsey 219).
Mr. J. F. Ives, 45, Brewers Lane.
Clerk Mr. E. Mitchell, 68, Synehurst.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD.

SUNDAY SERVICES:

- First Sunday and
Festivals Holy Communion 9 a.m.
Third Sunday Family Eucharist 11 a.m.
Every Sunday Evensong 5-30 p.m.
Sunday School 11 a.m. (except 3rd Sunday), Village Hall.

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

- Churchwardens Mr. E. Cooke, Robin Cottage. (Badsey 237).
Mr. J. E. Parry, Wickham House. (Badsey 244).
Clerk Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

19th February, 1966

My dear People,

I haven't got the reference to hand, but I remember a passage in one of the Sherlock Holmes books where Dr. Watson is shocked to discover that his brilliant friend has no knowledge whatever of the solar system. Holmes replies that he has no need of it: he does not waste time storing his mind with facts which have no relation to his particular job, the study and detection of human behaviour.

How out of tune with the 20th century, in which Quizmanship is regarded as the skill of skills! In spite of the increasing specialisation in all branches of learning and expertise, everyone is expected to make himself a walking encyclopaedia. We have a restless craving for a smattering of information on everything under the sun (and beyond the sun), though not, in this materialistic age, for the things of the Spirit.

Scraps

The trouble is that none of us gets time to classify and digest the multitude of unsorted scraps with which our minds are fed during all our waking hours. More and bigger newspapers, special supplements, pictorial magazines, reviews, circulars, hand-outs, pour from the presses. (It is alarming to think how rapidly the stock of the world's timber is being depleted to produce so much paper. One single issue of the New York Times, I read somewhere, consumes 150 acres of trees. All this vast amount of ephemeral reading matter — and who am I to talk, the editor of a parish magazine?) One TV programme is immediately succeeded by another, and before our minds can assimilate what has been received by our senses, we must switch them over to something different. We simply have no time for reflection, or for solid reading of a worthwhile book. It is all the time scraps, scraps, scraps, and flittering impressions. With such dissipation of mind, it is no wonder that when we try to pray we are plagued by wandering thoughts.

Tyranny of Triviality

All this suggests some new and rather exciting forms of Lenten abstinence, appropriate to the 20th century. To be free to serve God, we need to break loose from the tyranny of triviality. I am not saying that we can do without entertainment, or indeed, occasional frivolity. Do not let us take ourselves too seriously, but let us take God seriously. I do mean that we can do without a great deal of the news items, flashes, articles, programmes (even the educational ones), adverts, commercials, comics, that demand entrance to our minds in a never-ending queue (not to mention the ones that jump the queue). If we could practise a little selection and discrimination in these things, we might not only develop minds a little less like cotton wool or blotting paper; we might find a space or two for God to get a hearing, and to remind us of the things that really matter.

Singlemindedness

After all, you don't have to be an egghead to be able to practise contemplative prayer. A priest noticed an old countryman who used to spend hours in church just gazing at a picture of Our Lord. One day he asked the old man what he was thinking about all the time. "I don't have to think", was the reply. "He just looks at me, and I just looks at Him. That's all".

Prayer is as simple as that. But 'simple' is not the same as 'easy'. What years of training and discipline it takes to reach the simplicity of the saints!

There's no harm in making a start this Lent. We might well begin by throwing out some of the junk

in the top storey — or at least by refraining from accumulating any more of it there.

A blessed Lent to you all,

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

P.S. I am always ready to suggest and lend books for spiritual reading.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

March

- 2, Wed. St. Chad, Bp. Ember Day. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Corporate Bible Study in church.
- 4, Fri. Ember Day. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 6 **Lent II.** As for 1st Sun.
- 9, Wed. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Corporate Bible Study.
- 11, Fri. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 13 **Lent III.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 16, Wed. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Corporate Bible Study.
- 18, Fri. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 20 **Lent IV.** (Refreshment & Mothering Sun.) 8-0 H.C. 10-0 **Mothering Service.** 3-0 Holy Baptism. 6-45 Evensong.
- 23, Wed. No H.C. 7-30 p.m. Corporate Bible Study.
- 25, Fri. **Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary.** 10-0 H.C. 3-0 M.U. Festival Service, St. Peter's, Hinton-on-the-Green. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 27 **Lent V.** (Passion Sun.) As for 4th Sun., but Sun. Sch. at 10-0., and Mattins said at 11-0.
- 30, Wed. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Corporate Bible Study.

Sunday Services (beginning in April). In the light of the experience gained from last year's trial arrangements, it has been decided to keep the general pattern the same, with the following modifications:

Every Sunday morning the children will assemble for Sunday School at 10-0. They will have Sunday School classes except on the 2nd Sunday, and on the 5th when it occurs. On these Sundays they will be brought by their teachers from Sunday School to the church service at 10-15, unless they are coming with their parents, in which case they will not attend Sunday School first.

On the 2nd Sunday there will be the Family Eucharist at 10-15, and on the 5th Sunday the kind of Family Service which has at present been on the 4th Sunday.

These new arrangements will not come into operation till April. This month please note the Mothering Sunday service on the 3rd Sunday at 10-0., instead of the Family Service on the 4th Sunday.

Parish Mission? The meeting of the P.C.C. on **Tues., 1st March, at 7-15 p.m.** in the Parish Room will be addressed by the Rev. Raymond Walters, Vicar of St. George's, Redditch, who will tell us about the sort of mission which is conducted by the Village Evangelists. This will be an open meeting, and it is hoped that others besides P.C.C. members will come, as this is a matter of great importance to us all. We need to ask whether God is calling us to have a mission in Badsey, and this meeting may help us to answer the question.

Confirmation. Intending candidates for the Confirmation next Spring (1967) are asked to give in their names to the Vicar or Deaconess as soon as possible.

Churchyard Keeper. A man is needed to work in the churchyard from April to October and keep it in good order, in succession to Mr. L. W. Perkins. Apply to the Vicar.

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

- Wed., Mar. 2 Corporate Communion, 10 a.m.
Tues. Mar. 8 Branch Meeting 2-30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Lissimore, "Life in Bible Times". Tea hostesses: Mrs. Betteridge (committee) & Mesdames Ballard, Cleaver, Caswell, Crisp.
Mon., Mar. 14 Committee Meeting 2-30 p.m.
Tues., Mar. 22 Branch Meeting 7-30 p.m. A speaker from Gerber Products on "Diets". Tea hostesses: Mrs. Bell (committee) and Mesdames Clark, Cole, Dickinson & Sister Davies.
Fri. Mar. 25 10-0 Corporate Communion. Deany Festival Service at Hinton Church 3 p.m. Preacher: Rev. L. W. Chidzey. (Transport available by coach). E.G.B.

Holy Baptism

Feb. 20 Steven John Wasley; Mark Anthony Merrett.

Holy Matrimony

Feb. 19 George Leslie Phipps, of Norton, and Angela Mary Margaret Jones, of Badsey.

Burials, R.I.P.

Feb. 4 Frederick George Jones, aged 51.
This sudden death was a grievous shock to us all. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mrs. Jones, Angela and Jennifer, Fred's parents, and the rest of the family. Fred was a strong churchman - it was in the family: his grandfather was churchwarden for many years. Fred was sidesman, parochial church councillor and deputy warden, till he was laid up with a bad back a few years ago, though he seemed to have recovered from this. The Church Militant has lost a faithful servant: may he find rest and joy in Paradise.

Feb. 8 Elizabeth Keen, aged 77.
(Burial in Badsey after service at St. Lawrence's, Evesham).

Feb. 9 Dawn Salter, aged 8 days.
Our warm sympathy with the parents.

Feb. 17 George Edward Anthony Royle, aged 67.
The funeral was at Cheltenham Crematorium. Sincere condolences with Mrs. Royle. Tony Royle was considerate and courteous, a sensitive artist, well-known before his retirement to Badsey as the cartoonist Belinda of the Daily Mirror. His last illness was sudden and severe. May he rest in peace.

News has just been received of the death of Mrs. E. M. Field. God rest her soul.

The Sick. At the time of writing we pray especially for Mr. Frank Stewart and for his family. We pray for those in hospital: Mrs. L. F. King, Mr. C. Sladden, Mr. J. D. Sladden, Miss H. S. Curtis, Mr. H. Sadler, Mrs. W. Bird, Mrs. Turrill, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Deighton. We welcome home from hospital Mr. D. Westwood, Mr. T. H. Knight, Mr. Fred Barnard, Mr. R. Glover, Mrs. L. Jelfs, Mrs. E. R. Taylor, Marilyn Bennett, and pray for successful convalescence.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Feb. 15

For the 2nd year in succession, the Vicar had to announce sadly that he had to accept the resignation

of a churchwarden of long service to the parish: Mr. G. H. Stewart, who had been warden for nine years. He was very much a man of the people and a born leader of men. More important, he was a man whose heart God had touched. There was hardly a soul in the parish who had not benefited, either as an individual or as a member of the community, from Harry Stewart's generosity and compassion. The source of his dedicated service to God and his fellow-men was his devotion as a weekly communicant and man of prayer. Mr. Austen Jones spoke appreciatively of Mr. Stewart's helpfulness and friendship as a colleague. They all regretted, he said, his ill-health of recent years, and hoped the release from this office would help him to recuperate. Mr. Jones then made a presentation to Mr. Stewart, on behalf of the parishioners, of two books and a leather pocket-case.

Election of churchwardens then followed, Mr. J. F. Ives and Mrs. N. Clark being chosen. The chairman remarked that this meeting had made history. There had not been a churchwarden from Aldington in the present century, and only once before had there been a woman churchwarden in this parish, in the 17th century. That had been a Mrs. Pigeon, a name not popular with the P.C.C. at the present time.

Mr. H. L. Hatcher presented the revised Electoral Roll, with 378 names, 4 more than last year. Mr. M. H. Harvey presented the accounts for 1965 and budget for 1966. In a total turnover of £2,398, nearly one third (£823) had been expended extra-parochially.

Printed reports were circulated at the meeting. It is hoped to give some extracts in the next issue.

Fête. It was decided to hold a fête again this year, for extra-parochial objects, the date to be Sat., 18th June.

Elections. Mrs. P. Braby was elected parochial representative on the Diocesan Conference for 3 years. Elected to the P.C.C. for one year were Messrs. D. Barrand, K. Cole, M. Harvey, H. Hatcher, P. Jones, E. Portman, G. H. Stewart, P. S. Tucker, Mesdames A. Bell, R. Harman, A. C. Sears, Misses R. Cook, E. I. James, J. Sladden, C. Wallace.

Mr. P. S. Tucker was elected deputy warden, and Mr. H. L. Knight, Hon. Auditor.

Elected as Sidesmen were Messrs. A. Bell, L. Bott, M. Brady, K. Cole, R. Gregory, T. W. Hardiman, D. Hartwell, R. Hartwell, D. Jelfs, C. Jones, A. Lewis, A. W. Smith, P. Sparrow, C. Stewart, R. Taylor, P. S. Tucker.

Dear Sir,

May I through the columns of your Magazine be given an opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Headmaster, Staff, pupils and parents of Badsey School for their most kind and generous gift on my departure at the end of last term?

After giving it much thought, I decided to purchase a Transistor Radio. This will be a constant reminder of my happy Badsey days, and especially of the musical occasions.

My sincere thanks to everyone,
A. W. D. Hayes.

Servers for March. 6th, 8-0 P. Moran; 11-0 D. Crane; 6-45 C. Tucker. 13th, 10-0 C. Hartwell (Server), D. Partridge (Crucifer); 6-45 D. Barrand. 20th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 10-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 A. Silvester. 27th, 8-0 C. Tucker; 6-45 D. Barrand (Server), C. Hartwell (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. March 6th, Mrs. Syril; 13th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 20th, Mrs. Hurman; 27th, Mrs. Littlewood.

Communicants. Week beginning Jan. 23rd, 62; 30th, 41; Feb. 6th, 39; 13th, 36.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services (please note extra services in Lent) March

- 2, Wed. 5 p.m. Children's Service.
6 **Lent II.** As for 1st Sun.
9, Wed. 5 p.m. Children's Service.
13 **Lent III.** 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.
16, Wed. 5 p.m. Children's Service.
20 **Lent IV** (Refreshment & Mothering Sun). 11-0 Mothering Service & Family Communion. 5-30 E.
23, Wed. 5 p.m. Children's Service.
25, Fri. **Annunciation of B.V.M.** 9-0 H.C. 3-0 M.U. Festival Service at Hinton.
27 **Lent V** (Passion Sun.) 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.
30, Wed. 5 p.m. Children's Service.

Confirmation. Intending candidates for the Confirmation next spring (1967) are asked to give in their names to the Vicar or Deaconess as soon as possible.

Mothers' Union. The branch meeting will be on Wed., 2nd March at 2-45 p.m. Tea hostess: Mrs. C. Sturt.

There will be a coach to take members to the Deanery Festival Service at Hinton on Friday, 25th March. Please give your names to me. Corporate Communion at 9 a.m. that day (Lady Day). E.G.B.

Memorial Tablet. A beautiful mural tablet has been erected on the S. wall of the nave by the Lees-Milne family in memory of their parents George and Helen Lees-Milne. The tablet, in grey slate, is the work of the well-known sculptor Mr. Reynold Stone. The lettering is simple but exquisite.

Holy Matrimony

Feb. 19 William Arnold Habbitts, of Longborough, Glos. and Shirley Ann Webb, of Wickhamford.

The Sick. Mrs. Southern Senr., has been very ill but seems to be a good deal better at the time of writing. Your prayers are asked also for Mrs. Stephens and Mr. Dolphin in hospital, and for Mr. A. E. Jackson who has to undergo a major operation. We welcome home from hospital Mr. F. Griffin, Mr. S. Figgitt, Mrs. Cecil Brotherton, Colin and Alan Carter. Mr. Cooke continues to make good progress.

Women's Institute. At the meeting on 10th March the speaker will be Mrs. Marshall on "Grandma as a housewife". There will be a competition for a jar of home-made lemon curd, and an exhibition of anything old.

Coffee Morning in Aid of Church Organ Fund. By kind invitation of Mrs. W. C. Astley. Sat., 5th March, 10-30 - 12-0 in the Memorial Hall. Admission 1/-. Bring and Buy Stall.

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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.