

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JUNE 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 10-15 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. Evening Eucharist 6-45 p.m.  
Fifth Sunday ... .. Holy Communion 8 a.m. Family Service 10-15 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. Over 7, Meeting House. Under 7, Parish Room and  
Village Hall.

### WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

- Churchwardens ... .. Mr. J. F. Ives, 45, Brewers Lane.  
Mrs. N. Clark, Pennyfields, Aldington.  
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.

## THE VICAR'S LETTER

19th May, 1966.

My dear People,

June this year begins with Ember Week (when the Church prays for its ministry and for Christian vocation in its fullest sense) and the Trinity ordinations.

### Why are Parsons Sparser?

Not in figure but in figures, if you know what I mean. In 1965 there were 472 candidates recommended for training, as against 656 in 1964 and 737 in 1963 (a drop of 46½% in two years!) Up to 1963 the number of ordinations had been steadily increasing. Why this sudden falling off?

A great many causes could be, and indeed are being, put forward. It is not easy for me, as an ordained minister myself, to suggest reasons, for it is always possible that we, the present run of parsons, are ourselves the chief 'disincentive' (blessed officialese word!) to anyone else wanting to be ordained.

The notion is being peddled around that being a parson is not a worthwhile job of work in the world of the nineteen-sixties. Some of the most assiduous salesmen of this idea are parsons themselves: the sort who go in for a lot of self-analysis and write up their findings in the newspapers. Certainly there are many of the clergy who do feel frustrated. But so do many family doctors, teachers, welfare workers, and other professional people who are concerned with human relationships. I don't think the clergy are peculiar in this respect.

### "Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive"

The cause of frustration, where it exists, is itself a challenge to young men of the new generation to enter the ministry. It is not easy for older people to adapt their ideas or methods in a revolutionary situation. Our outlook, training, even our experience, do not help us to be the best models of what the priesthood should be in these times. I often hope that the young men in theological colleges today, however bizarre and radical some of their ideas seem to me to be, will give the ministry a new look entirely suited to the second half of the 20th century.

The Advisory Council for the Ministry, in their last report 'Men for the Ministry of 1966', say: 'A prerequisite for ordinands is that they should be men of conviction; people excited at being alive at this time who think with the Psalmist that their feet have been 'set in a large room''. There are certainly not many of us middle-aged parsons who are jumping with joy at being alive at this time. Perhaps the best hope for an arrest in the decline of vocations to holy orders is that the really eager young laymen in the Church, who find the times exciting ones to live in, will take one look at us present lot of clergymen and exclaim: "The only hope for the Church is a transfusion of fresh blood in its ministry". Anybody who is once bitten with that idea has got to ask: Is God calling me?

### Ember Prayer, Trinity Giving

The situation really is serious, so let us spend quite a lot of Ember Week on our knees asking God to call whom He will and to give those He calls the grace to respond. Members of the Prayer Guild will receive copies of an Ember Litany of Vocation. There will be some spare copies for others at 2d. each. Our monthly prayer meeting, at the Vicarage at 7-30 p.m. on the Tuesday in Ember Week, 31st May, will be specially concerned with this.

Prayer and giving go together, so on Trinity Sunday there will be the usual envelopes in the pews to enable you to give for the cost of training men for the ministry. This year whatever is sent in by the parishes

as a result of this Trinity Sunday appeal will count as part of their contribution to the Diocesan Quota, so the more that is given by individuals in those envelopes, the less the P.C.C. will have to find out of its funds towards the Quota, and the more money it will have available for other purposes.

### A Special Need

The Bishop writes: "You will be aware that the Church now pays the fees of ordinands, but there is no way of helping married men with the support of their wives and families during this period - they have to make their own arrangements. I have at present at least two ordinands, both with a young baby which prevents the wife going out to work, and I am anxious to see if I can help them; so if a parish likes to send me a contribution towards this particular need, I should be more than grateful".

### The Bishop's Anniversary

Our dear Bishop will himself be celebrating this month the 10th anniversary of his episcopate and the 40th of his priesthood. He has asked us to join him in thanksgiving and dedication. To mark the occasion, the Diocese will be presenting the Bishop with a portrait of himself, to which both our parishes have contributed.

### Westminster Abbey

In connection with the 900th anniversary this year of the Abbey, a number of parish priests have been asked to do each a week of duty in the nave of the Abbey, helping visitors pastorally when requested and leading prayers from the pulpit at hourly intervals. The aim of the Dean and Chapter is that those who come shall be helped to think of themselves not so much as sightseers in a museum as pilgrims to a Christian shrine and participants in its worship. I have had the privilege of being asked to be one of these priests, and my week of duty will be June 20 to 25 (Mon. to Sat.), so I hope parishioners will excuse my absence during those days and that the work I shall be doing at the Abbey may have the support of your prayers.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

## BADSEY & ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### June

- 1 Wed. Ember Day 10-0 H.C.
- 5 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** As for 1st Sun. See Vicar's Letter about Trin. Sun. Appeal.
- 8 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 11 Sat. **St. Barnabas, Apostle.** 7-30 H.C. 4-30 S. Worcs. Bell Ringers' Service in Badsey Church.
- 12 **Trin. I.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 15 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 19 **Trin. II.** As for 3rd Sun. Preacher at Evensong 6-45: The Right Rev. Clifford A. Martin, D.D., formerly Bishop of Liverpool.
- 22 Wed. St. Alban, M. 10-0 H.C.
- 24 Fri. **Nativity of St. John Baptist.** (7-30 a.m. H.C. at Wickhamford Church).
- 26 **Trin. III.** As for 4th Sun.
- 29 Wed. **St. Peter, Apostle & Martyr.** 10-0 H.C.

**P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., 7th June, 7-30 p.m.** Rev. R. Walters will discuss arrangements for the Mission.

## THE GARDEN FETE, SAT., 18th JUNE

On the Vicarage Lawn, opening at 2-30 p.m.

As announced last month, we hope to raise £250 for the Bishop Tucker College, Uganda (the Diocesan M.R.I. project), the British Rheumatism and Arthritis Association, and our parochial overseas project in Fiji. Offers of help and gifts for the stalls, teas and prizes will be very much appreciated. Stalls will be as follows:

Garden Produce—Mrs. P. Osborne and Mr. P. Sparrow.

Cakes—Women's Institute.

"Village Shop" (groceries and miscellaneous, also white elephant)—Mothers' Union.

Gift Stall—(incl. children's corner)—Overseas Committee.

Handkerchiefs—Mrs. P. Churchill.

Bottle Stall—The Sidesmen.

Small Gift Tombola Stall—Mr. J. F. Ives.

Sweets and Soft Drinks—Sunday School.

Teas—Mrs. L. Perkins.

In addition there will be bowling (ladies' and gents'), pony rides, various draws and competitions, orange shy, record roulette, and other sideshows and attractions.

Lucky Number Programmes will be on sale early in the month.

The British Legion Fete is to be held on Saturday, 2nd July, at the Remembrance Hall.

## THE MISSION

Our priest Missioner, the Rev. Raymond Walters, is coming to plan the Mission Week (Oct. 16 to 23) with the P.C.C. on 7th June.

It is vitally important that we should be praying every day for the Mission, for no amount of planning or organisation is going to ensure its success. If you have not one of the mission prayer cards, please take one from the church, or ask the Vicar for one. Every Sunday we shall say one of the prayers corporately in our worship.

Offers of meals for the Village Evangelists during their stay (Oct. 9 to 23) will be welcome. If you can help in this way, please notify Mrs. A. C. Sears, "Branxton", Willersey Road (Badsey 332).

**Mothers' Union.** There will be no ordinary branch meeting this month. The outing takes place on Tuesday, 28th June. The coach will leave the Wheatsheaf and the Royal Oak at 1-30 p.m. Members who are going are asked to let me have their money by 19th June, as definite numbers must be sent at that date.

Corporate Communion Wed., 1st June, 10 a.m.

E.G.B.

**Youth Fellowship.** Friday night nearly always finds our members enjoying all the usual social activities that young people enjoy. But there is much more to our club life than this.

One of our aims this year is to improve the facilities of the Meeting House Kitchen. Patrick Morcombe has made an excellent start on the work and later on other members will be doing their share.

We have also undertaken to raise £10 to help the Church in East Africa. Youth Clubs in the Church of England have taken on a project which is concerned with three vital tasks:— the training of African leaders, providing Christian literature and serving Africans in new land re-settlement areas.

Finally, we want to improve our own club facilities. We really do need more equipment—a table tennis table, billiard table and dart boards. A good club must have plenty of equipment to occupy all members.

To raise the necessary money the Fellowship has already had one very successful social, thanks to a committee of parents and we hope that social nights will become a regular part of our programme. Meanwhile we hope to earn money through car cleaning, hedge cutting, lawn mowing, baby sitting and other jobs offered. If you can help the Fellowship by using members in this way, please contact Deaconess.

## Holy Baptism

May 15 Karen Jane Stewart; Jacqueline Mary Houghton; Wendy Mary Thould; Alison Jane Blegg

## Norman Hawkins Smith. R.I.P.

Mr. Norman Smith of Three Ways died very suddenly from a coronary thrombosis on 10th May, aged 54. His ashes, after cremation, have been laid in the Garden of Rest, and a memorial service was held in Badsey Church. Our profound sympathy and prayers for Mrs. Smith and Christopher.

A friendly and helpful man, Norman Smith will be much missed. Although not a native of these parts, he had endeared himself to many people and was a popular member of our community. God grant him rest.

**Jottings.** Mrs. Hilda Byrd has asked to be relieved of the work of hon. secretary of our branch of the Bible Reading Fellowship, and has been succeeded by Mrs. J. Ives. Mrs. Byrd took over this piece of service from her husband, whose untimely death in 1958 was such a great loss to us. She has been a keen and conscientious secretary, and promoter of interest in Bible reading, and we are most grateful to her for her work in this respect. Mrs. Ives, her successor, will be glad to give information to any enquirers about the Bible Reading Fellowship and to arrange new memberships.

Now that the times of services have been finally decided, Mr. John Bird has most effectively painted all the information on the church notice board. This was far from easy, as there was a lot of material to be included, but he has managed to put on all that lettering so that it is perfectly clear and without overcrowding. We are most grateful for this fine piece of work.

A new set of almsbags for the church, in four different liturgical colours for the Church's seasons, are on order and will soon be in use. They are the gift of Mrs. Fred Jones in memory of her husband.

We were all sorry that Deaconess's father was taken ill during Mr. and Mrs. Wright's visit here at Easter time, and we are glad to hear that he is making a steady recovery at home.

We are also sorry that the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Izod (our new postmaster's parents) to live in Badsey was marred by the immediate illness of Mr. Izod and his removal to hospital for an operation, and look forward to his return home.

Also in hospital at the time of writing are Miss Curtis, Mrs. Pitts Senr., and Mrs. Gunn (Mrs. Dickinson's mother). Since our last number the following have also been in hospital: Mr. Bernard Major (who will be returning later to St. George's Hospital, London), Mr. F. Reeves, Mr. C. Jeffries, Mrs. Annie Sadler, Mrs. E. Clarke, Mrs. L. Jelfs, Peter Lord, Mrs. W. Merriman.

**Servers for June.** 5th, 8-0 P. Moran; 11-0 C. Hartwell; 6-45 C. Tucker. 12th, 10-15 S. Gresty (Server), D. Crane (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Silvester. 19th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 6-45 C. Hartwell. 26th, 8-0 D. Partridge; 6-45 C. Tucker (Server), D. Barrand (Crucifer).

**War Memorial Flowers.** June 5th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 19th, Mrs. W. H. Reed; 26th, Mrs. Betteridge.

**Communicants.** Week beginning April 17th, 24; 24th, 67; May 1st, 46; 8th, 39; 15th, 65.

**Birthday Halfcrowns.** Mrs. M. Sladden. **In Memoriam** (10/-): Dorothy Stella Anderson, A. Leslie Byrd, Mr. & Mrs. A. T. Hart.

### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

#### Church Services

#### June

5 **TRINITY SUN.** As for 1st Sun. See Vicar's Letter about Trinity Sun. Appeal.

Suns., 12, 19, (**Trin. I, II**) As for 2nd and 3rd Suns.

24 **Fri. NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST (PATRONAL FESTIVAL).** 7-30 a.m. H.C.

26 **Trin. III.** As for 4th Sun. Preacher at Evensong: Right Rev. Clifford A. Martin D.D., formerly Bishop of Liverpool.

P.C.C. Meeting, Wed., 8th June, 7-30 p.m.

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**PLANTS      WREATHS      BOUQUETS**

**Mothers' Union.** The branch meeting will be on Wednesday, 1st June at 2-30 p.m. Tea Hostess: Mrs. Roberts. E.G.B.

**The Sick.** Mrs. Taylor Senr. has recently been taken ill, but we hope she will make a good recovery. Mr. F. Badham is making a slow recovery after his return from St. George's Hospital, London, and still has a good deal of pain. Mr. Dolphin was not so well at one time last month, but is always bright. Mr. Johnson continues to make a steady recovery.

**Stamps for the Mission to Seamen.** Our Sunday School decided to follow up an appeal in the Children's Church Newspaper to collect postage stamps (British Isles, Commonwealth or Foreign) to send to the Missions to Seamen, for them to sell to aid their funds. The children sent quite a nice collection as their special Lent effort. The Rev. W. S. Tyler, to whom I sent the stamps, has now sent us a letter of warm appreciation, and hopes we can extend this effort. Would anyone who can give stamps for this purpose please pass them on to one of the Sunday School pupils. I will willingly be responsible for sending them off to the Missions to Seamen from time to time. A. L. Cox.

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