

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

AUGUST, 1967

PRICE 4/- PER ANNUM

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

(Tel. Badsey 343)

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. (3 p.m. November - February).
Sunday School	...	...	11 a.m. (except 3rd Sunday), Village Hall.

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

Churchwardens	...	...	Mr. J. E. Parry, Wickham House. (Badsey 244). Mr. H. J. Dunkerley, Gallipot Farm, Broadway (Badsey 395).
Clerk	...	...	Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

18th July, 1967.

My dear People,

I am so glad that my forebodings a few months ago about the fate of the proposed alternative order of Holy Communion have been shown to have been unduly pessimistic. It has now been approved by the House of Laity, after some verbal amendments, by a large majority, and is authorised for use in the parishes for an experimental period of four years, if two-thirds of the P.C.C. approve.

There was such a general outcry at the delay that the House of Laity had an informal meeting with the clergy at the end of the last session of Convocation, and certain compromise forms of wording were agreed to, which would satisfy the small minority of extreme evangelicals who had been holding things up.

The Fourfold Action

The controversy centred mostly round a harmless enough phrase which the Liturgical Commission had taken from one of the early Christian liturgies, we offer this bread and this cup". I cannot remember now whether it has been agreed that we are to "offer", "give, thanks over", or "make memorial with" the bread and cup, but it is of no significance to me. All three of these things are done in the act of consecration, whatever we say. The main thing is that the structure of the service remains as before, and that is excellent.

What we do matters more than what we say, and in this rite the fourfold action of Our Lord at the Last Supper, signifying his Sacrifice, is clearly set forth: He took, He blessed, He broke, He gave. It is a simple service to understand, and the people have a much bigger part in it than in the old one. The 1662 rite is muddled and complicated in its structure (difficult to explain to confirmation candidates).

New Wineskins

Older people who have been used to 1662 for years may feel that no change is needed, but they ought to recognise that the Church cannot go on much longer using a rite designed for people who live in Stuart times. Even if some of the young men do wear their hair long, that world is as different from ours as the world of William the Conqueror was from theirs. Many people do not feel that the proposed new rite is radical enough, particularly in the matter of language. What should be remembered is that it is experimental, and there is no intention to impose a brand new order of service on the Church until people have had a chance to try it, and, by their suggestions in the light of experience, to help to improve it.

The Next Step

What are we going to do in Badsey and Wickhamford? Both P.C.C.'s studied the proposed service, in its earlier form, but no vote was taken. The P.C.C.'s will now have to decide whether or not the Holy Communion shall be celebrated according to the new rite for the next four years, how often, and which of the several alternatives in the service are to be used. But before they come to any decision, I should like the people in the congregations to have an opportunity of studying the service and having it explained to them. Whether or not it is decided to use the experimental liturgy in these parishes, every communicant ought to know something about it.

This our sacrifice of praise

No perfect prayer book or liturgy will ever be devised on earth, and in heaven they are not needed. We can only do our best to worship God as we believe He would have us do so, in forms appropriate to our generation and yet firmly moulded by Scriptural revelation and the continuing historic traditions of the Chris-

tian Church. The liturgical experts have done their best: now we must all do ours. What they have produced can only be tested by use in the living Church.

Whatever liturgy is used, the regular celebration of the Holy Communion remains our bounden duty and service. "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come".

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Aug.

- 2 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 **Transfiguration of Our Lord. Trinity II.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 Preacher at Evensong: **the Rev. Canon G. C. B. Davies, D.D.**, of Worcester Cathedral.
- 9 Wed. No H.C.
- 13 **Trinity 12.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 16 Wed. No H.C.
- 20 **Trinity 13.** As for 3rd Sun. (Baptism on Aug. 27th).
- 23 Wed. No H.C. No Pram Service.
- 24 Thurs. **St. Bartholomew, Apostle.** 10-0 H.C.
- 27 **Trinity 14.** As for 4th Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism (instead of Aug. 20).
- 30 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

Sept.

- 3 **Trinity 15.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service: Answers to Questions.

On the Sundays when the Vicar is away, the officiant will be the Rev. A. E. Whittingham.

In August, **Holy Baptism** will be administered on the 4th Sun. (27th) instead of the 3rd Sun.

The Sunday School will not meet during August, and parents are asked to bring their children, as far as possible, to the church services. Sunday School re-assembles on Sept. 17.

Mothers' Union. On June 27 a party of 29 members set off on our annual outing. The weather was dull but spirits were very high as we made our way to Elmore Court near Gloucester. This is a wonderful old house, full of history dating back over seven centuries. All enjoyed to the full a tea of home-made cakes, etc. After this we had a wander round the grounds and admired were impressed by the glories of the past, and also the most beautiful roses. Once more on the coach and a short tour of the country, stopping at Painswick to see the church; finding that we were just in time for Evensong, we took part in this, a moving experience. Off again and on to Andoversford Hotel, where a meal was waiting for us and beautifully served. Quite a change for us mothers to be waited on. This was greatly enjoyed by all and much laughter ensued. And so home, all feeling tired and full up but very happy after another successful M.U. Outing.

There will be no branch meeting in August.

Corporate Communion Aug. 2nd, 10-0

J.B.

Holy Baptism

July 16 Alison Marie Hall; Mark John Barnard; Timothy Smith; Robert Arthur David Smith.

Holy Matrimony

July 8 John Stewart Irvine, of Glasgow, and Cynthia Bell, of Badsey.

Burials, R.I.P.

June 22 Arthur Edmund Stewart, aged 51.

The death of another member of the Stewart family, at such an early age, was a great shock to the village. Arthur, an unassuming but friendly man, was much beloved, as was shown by the large congregation at the funeral.

July 7 (church service followed by cremation) Mildred Pearl Sandford, aged 63.

Her sudden collapse at the British Legion fête, in which, as usual, she took an active part, was another real shock to us all. Pearl was an assiduous worker for good causes and did not spare herself. She also had the gift of friendship, and this was attested by the large gathering of mourners. Her children, Robin and Jean, came over from the States for the funeral, and to be with their father for a while.

July 18 (church service, followed by cremation) Mary Elizabeth Reed, aged 85.

Her passing is cause for great thankfulness, for none who saw her in her pitiable condition of the last few weeks would have wished her to survive longer in this life. She had had no real savour for it since her husband died. But we shall miss this sweet and gracious soul, so gentle and brave. She is the last of that faithful trio of devoted friends (in M.U. and Sanctuary Guild) - Rose Sparrow, Eunice Turrill, Mary Reed - to pass from this life. We may be sure that their prayers are strong for us in the communion of saints.

Grant rest, O Lord, to these thy servants, and to those who mourn them give comfort, patience and courage.

Jottings. We shall be very sorry to have to say goodbye to Irene James and Catherine Wallace, who are leaving Badsey to live at Birlingham. They will still be near us, of course, and teaching in their respective schools, but we have no right to expect from them the active leadership which they have given in church and parochial life here. Their counsel and initiative, and strenuous service, will be sorely missed by the Parochial Church Council, and by a host of friends in Badsey. We wish them every happiness in their new home.

Congratulations to Mary née Churchill, now Mrs. Christopher Starkey, on becoming a doctor of medicine - the first Badsey girl to do so? (We are open to correction on this).

It was terribly hard luck that Mrs. Harry Stewart (a light one) soon after at last getting away on holiday with her husband after all the illness they have been through. But she is a cheerful patient and they are both facing up to it with great courage. Already there is considerable improvement.

Mr. Dick Hartwell is slowly improving after his major operation in Worcester Royal Infirmary. Both Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reeves have been unwell again, but are now better. Mr. Harold Wheatley has returned home from hospital. Mr. Herbert Jaynes, a newcomer to Badsey from Evesham, has been in Ronkswood Hospital some weeks and we hope to be able to welcome him back here soon. Mr. Blunom is in hospital. Mrs. Andrew had to go to hospital again.

The Coffee Evening and Sale held in the garden of Seward House on July 13 was a most enjoyable occasion, and raised nearly £60 for our U.S.P.G. Overseas project at Ba, in the Diocese of Polynesia. Congratulations to the Overseas Committee and other helpers who worked so hard to produce this fine result.

This is an opportune moment to acknowledge the splendid work that has been done by Miss Norah Smith for many years as parochial overseas secretary. She has now resigned, but will still look after the boxes and magazines. The new overseas secretary is Mr. Eric Portman.

Servers for August. Aug. 6th, 8-0 P. Moran; 11-0 A. Clements; 6-45 C. Tucker. 13th, 10-15 S. Gresty (Server), C. Hartwell (Crucifer); 6-45 M. Clements. 20th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 6-45 R. Keen. 27th, 8-0 C. Hartwell; 6-45 D. Crane (Server), A. Clements (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. Aug. 13, Mrs. A. C. Sears; 20th, Mrs. R. Hartwell; 27th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow.

Birthday Half-crowns: Miss E. Lowle; Rev. P. Braby.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Suns., Aug. 6 (Transfiguration) 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3 (Trinity 11, 12, 13, 14, 15). As on front cover.

On those Sundays when the Vicar is away, the officiant will be the Rev. A. E. Whittingham.

Jottings. Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Jones on their Golden Wedding last month.

Mrs. Sturt Senr. has had a severe attack of shingles and has been for the last few weeks in Evesham Hospital. Mr. Charles Beacon, still awaiting his call to hospital for an operation, has had a slight attack of shingles into the bargain, but has been working unstintingly for the coming Fete.

Birthday Donations: Mrs. Nott 5/-; Rev. P. Braby 2/6.

GRAND FETE

in aid of the Church Organ Fund

SATURDAY, 5th AUGUST

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TEAS & REFRESHMENTS

HOW MANY BEANS MAKE FIVE?

The recent report "Partners in Ministry" proposes a complete rationalisation of the payment of the clergy. About time, too, many will say. Others think that anomalies and oddities make life interesting, even if they do complicate income tax returns. But however involved may be the present system (?) of the parson's emoluments, it is nothing to what it was in the days of tithes.

There have been no ecclesiastical tithe charges on land since 1936, but long before that time the most valuable tithes had passed into lay hands. In Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford the greater tithes belonged to the lay rector, Christ Church, Oxford but back in the 16th century they had leased them to various lay people who had no personal interest in the place. This was common practice. The 'greater' tithes were those on wheat and other major crops. The vicar might be granted all or some of the small or 'privy' tithes, which were too troublesome for anybody else to collect. Being the man on the spot, it was left to him to claim what the law allowed him, if he could get it, and to face the inevitable unpopularity.

This was what the vicar was entitled to claim in Badsey & Aldington (apart from Wickhamford, where his tithes were different again) in 1714.

"...Alle maner of privy tithe within ye said parish of Badsey & Aldington payable in kind: except only Milk, in lieu whereof one penny a Cow is paid every Easter.

Some other of ye privy tythes are paid according to custome, as follow, viz. one halfpenny for the tythe of all young not exceeding Six, but if there be Seven or more, ye owner is to choose two, & ye Minister is to have his choice out of ye rest, & so likewise out of every ten except the last Seven, except Calves ye last of which is to be taken for Tythe at 3 weeks old. Lambs are tythable upon ye third of May, & pigs at three weeks old; & Geese about Midsummer. One penny, or half tythe of ye Wool is to be paid for every Sheep only wintered, or Summered in ye Parish. One half penny for every Sheep sold or removed about St. Andrew; ye same for every Sheep bought, or brought into ye Parish between Lady Day & Sheer Day (shearing day).

The home Closes are reputed to be Meeses (messuages), everyone which pays one penny at Easter yearly, in time of ye Tythe hay when mowed.

Badsey Mill pays yearly at Easter one Shilling and Sixpence; and Aldington Mill one Shilling, besides other privy tythes".

What a job working all this out, let alone collecting it, and being on the lookout for each new litter born or clutch of eggs hatched! At least the tithing of wool had become a little simpler than 200 years before (as we shall see in a subsequent article, which will also show how the vicar was able to turn the 18th century improvements in agriculture to his advantage).

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