

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JANUARY, 1968

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

My dear People,

The Bishop, at the Diocesan Conference, expressed the wish that as many parishes as possible would use the 1967 (2nd Series) Order of Holy Communion for the full experimental period of four years. Only thus can a good consensus of Church opinion be obtained at the end of that period as to the good and bad points of this liturgy, and in what respects further revision is necessary.

In both parishes we have been celebrating Holy Communion according to this rite for two or three months, and I shall certainly invite comments at our annual church meetings in the spring. As a wide variety of alternatives is permissible within the rite, we may decide then to try out a different set of these alternatives. In the meantime I want to clarify one or two points about our present use of this liturgy.

Commandments (or Kyries) and Gloria (Nos. 3 & 4). Both are optional, and there seems little point in having both. If the Kyries are being sung or said, or the response to the Commandments or Our Lord's Summary, the Gloria, with its repetition of the phrase "have mercy upon us", does not come in very well at this stage. So my present practice is to have the Commandments or Kyries in Advent and Lent, and the Gloria at other seasons.

The Sermon. Rubric 12 says: "the Sermon shall be preached after the Gospel". This is marked with the symbol which shows it is one of the obligatory, not optional, sections. I have been following this literally, and at early celebrations giving a short talk of 3 or 4 minutes on something from the Gospel or Epistle.

The Intercession. Occasionally I use the alternatives in Appendix 2, particularly on weekdays.

The Preparation of the People. Only the Invitation, Confession and Absolution are obligatory. It is not necessary to use both the Comfortable Words and the Prayer of Humble Access (Nos. 20 & 21), but I am doing so during the penitential seasons.

The Greeting of Peace (22). This is optional, but I am using it at every service, because I think it is a valuable addition (or rather restoration). It seems appropriate for the congregation to stand for this.

The Thanksgiving (Consecration Prayer). Nos. 24, 25, 26. The congregation join in the "Holy, holy, holy", "Blessed is he..." (all through from the beginning, not just the Hosanna), and say the Amen.

Note that the consecration of the bread and wine is deemed to be effected by the thanksgiving prayer as a whole, sealed by the people's Amen, and not by the recitation by the priest of any particular words which form a part of it. In the Western Church during the Middle Ages, a false emphasis came to be given to the words of institution (and accompanying manual acts) as bringing about a change in the elements by a sort of magic formula. This idea was unfortunately perpetuated in our English rite of 1662. The 1967 consecration prayer restores the practice of the primitive Church, never abandoned in Eastern Christendom.

At Badsey Church the 50-year old tradition of tolling the bell 3 times at the consecration (chiefly for the benefit of invalids and others unable to be at church) is still maintained, but this is done once only, at the conclusion of the whole prayer, and not twice over, at the words of institution.

The Communion. The Words of Administration (31). Not many communicants are replying 'Amen' to the words "The Body of Christ", "The Blood of Christ". I now always pause before handing the Bread or Cup, to give the communicant time to do so. I thought at first that this 'Amen' was only a revival of an old pious

custom, but it has been pointed out that it is really a very important act of belief. Although Christ is truly present in his Body and Blood, whatever the attitude of the recipient, we receive the benefits of the Sacrament only by faith. There is nothing automatic or magical in the bestowal of grace through the Sacrament. The thankful acceptance of the Gift by the communicant in faith is essential. Hence the importance of the 'Amen'.

Consuming of the Remains (40). Now done immediately after the Communion, so as not to delay the departure of priest and people after the Dismissal (39).

Dismissal or Blessing? (37, 38). In all the early Christian centuries, no blessing was given after Communion, as any verbal blessing by a human minister seemed inappropriate after receiving the greatest of all blessings in the Sacrament itself. Later the practice grew up of the bishop giving a blessing if he was present. Only later still did a priest pronounce a blessing. We have to remember however that sometimes there are children and non-communicants present, and they ought to receive a blessing. I am therefore using the full blessing at a Family Eucharist.

We have sufficient copies of the service for all members of the congregation at both churches, and there are also copies on sale (9d.) for personal possession.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Sunday School Teaching. A training course is to be held in the Church House, Evesham, by Miss J. Harcombe, the Diocesan Adviser, during the first 3 months of this year. The first meeting is on Thursday, 11th January, at 7-30 p.m., and the other dates and times will be arranged at this first meeting to suit all concerned. This is a fine opportunity for those who would like to offer their services for Sunday School teaching, but lack training. Our policy here is for our young teachers to qualify themselves by taking one of these courses and obtaining the diocesan certificate. It is not a job for amateurs. I have some enrolment forms, and will be glad to supply further information. P.B.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Jan.

- 1 Mon. **Circumcision of Our Lord.** 7-30 H.C.
- 3 Wed. No H.C.
- 6 Sat. **Epiphany of Our Lord.** 10-0 H.C.
- 7 **Epiphany I.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service.
- 10 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 14 **Epiphany 2.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 17 Wed. St. Antony, Abbot. 10-0 H.C.
- 18 to 25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- 21 **Epiphany 3.** As for 3rd Sun.
- 24 Wed. No H.C. 3-0 Pram Service. 7-30 p.m. United Prayer Meeting in Meeting House.
- 25 Thurs. **Conversion of St. Paul.** 10-0 H.C.
- 28 **Epiphany 4.** As for 4th Sun.
- 31 Wed. No H.C.

Feb.

- 2 Fri. **Presentation of Christ in the Temple.** 10-0 H.C.

P.C.C. There will be no meeting in January, but the committees will meet, as called by their respective chairmen.

Electoral Roll. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year will be on Tuesday, 19th March. Now is the time for the Church Electoral Roll to be brought up to date, and all regular worshippers at St. James's Church ought to be registered as church electors. We have had the pleasure of welcoming many newcomers to the parish in the last 12 months, and several of them are

already playing their part in the life and work of our parish church. We hope they will now become church electors. Enrolment forms are obtainable at the church, or the vicarage. They should be returned to Mr. H. L. Hatcher, 53, Bretforton Road, or the Vicar, not later than 1st March.

Gifts to the Church. At the time of writing we are expecting some fine enrichments of our church and its offering of worship. It is hoped that all of them will be in use at Christmas or soon afterwards.

Mr. Harry Robinson is giving the church a set of silver cruets, bread-box and lavabo bowl for Holy Communion, in memory of his wife Marion, who died earlier this year. They are being made by Mr. W. H. Warmington of the Campden Guild of Arts and Crafts, himself a former Badsey parishioner.

A lectern Bible is being given in memory of Dr. Arthur Francis Savory Sladden by his wife and children. It is beautifully bound in black morocco, and will replace the old one which is about 80 years old and getting very tattered. The new lectern Bible is in the Revised Standard Version, the modern version which is nearest to the King James Bible in its language, but a much more accurate translation. The New English Bible New Testament given by Mrs. Hilda Byrd in memory of her husband Leslie will still be used for many of the N.T. lessons.

A new festal altar frontal for use at festivals and weddings is being made by Mowbray's, and will be paid for out of the Vicar's fund which is made up from offerings at mid-week Holy Communion services, Communion of the Sick, weddings and churchings, and sundry small donations.

A wrought iron pedestal made by Mr. Dick Caswell, with flower vase, for use in front of the pulpit, has been given by friends in memory of Rosina Sparrow, Eunice Turrill and Mary Reed.

Sunday School Parties. The annual parties will take place at the Meeting House, Chapel Street, as follows:- Under 8, Saturday, Jan. 13, 3-0 to 5-30. 8 and over, Saturday, Jan. 27, 4-30 to 7-30.

As usual, donations towards the cost of the parties will be very acceptable, and may be given to the Vicar. Welcome also will be gifts of food for the teas: cakes, trifles, made jellies (not packets), tinned fruit, sandwich fillings, butter, etc. It would greatly assist the catering arrangements if those who are going to give food could kindly let us know a week or 4 or 5 days beforehand what they are going to give.

Badsey Senior Residents' Party. This will be held in the Badsey Remembrance Hall on Saturday, 20th January, at 5-30 p.m. All persons residing in Badsey, Aldington, Bowers Hill and Blackminster who are 65 years of age and over, are invited. If you think you have been missed, please let the Committee know.

Mothers' Union. Sat., 6th (Epiphany). 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tues., 9th. 2-30 Branch Meeting when the Rev. D. Russell, from the Littletons, will visit us and play some Christmas music on records. There will also be a Bring & Buy Sale. Tea hostesses: Mrs. Watkin (committee), Mesdames Bell, Knight & Marshall.

Tues., 23rd. 7-30 p.m. Branch Meeting. "Housewives' Choice". Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Caswell (committee), Mesdames Ives, Reed & Sparrow. J.B.

Burial, R.I.P.

Dec. 13 Florence Mary Jelfs, of Aldington, aged 76.

Our profound sympathy with Mr. Walter Jelfs and his family in the shock of Mrs. Jelfs' sudden illness and death. She had enjoyed remarkably good health before this. Mr. and Mrs. Jelfs celebrated their golden wedding four years ago. Mrs. Jelfs was one of the Chamberlain family of Bowers Hill.

Jottings. Mrs. Frank Jelfs of Bowers Hill has been in hospital for the past few weeks after a stroke, but has made some progress towards recovery. Her son-in-law Mr. Frank Masters is still in considerable pain and discomfort with his back. Carol Watkin has had her appendix out. Mr. Bill Jones, in Avonside, has been poorly the last few weeks. Mr. Jaynes has had another operation.

Servers for January. 7th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 C. Tucker; 6-45 R. Keen. 14th, 10-15 C. Hartwell (Server), D. Hatherley (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Clements. 21st, 8-0 D. Crane; 6-45 A. Clements. 28th, 8-0 T. Bell; 6-45 D. Bar- rand (Server), S. Gresty (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. Jan. 7th, Mrs. K. Cleaver. 14th, Mrs. N. Grinnell. 28th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Birthday Half-crown. Mrs. F. Knight.

Hitch-Hiking to Asia (continued) We travelled north via Larissa and Thessaloniki through spectacular country. The road to Istanbul, proud city of Kemal Ataturk, was long and straight. I was so excited at the prospect of Turkey I nearly missed my first sight of camels. Apparently Turkey also has the biggest goat population, so I was told.

We passed through the ancient walls and immediately I felt the impact of the oriental atmosphere. I was overpowered by the seething masses of people, and also the traffic, largely consisting of Turkish taxi cabs, the "dolmush", defied description. The streets were full of beggars, shoeshine men and hawkers shouting their wares, reminiscent of our own medieval times. The covered bazaar was a nucleus of colourful stalls where I was continually implored to buy every conceivable object—I even had an offer for the dress I was wearing!

I climbed the University tower for an extensive view of Istanbul with the Bosphorus, Golden Horn and the two bridges. I was thrilled by the beauty of the mosques, especially the Blue Mosque with six minarets. There were many worshippers there whose lives are entirely guided by their faith.

Turkey is a country of great extremes - rich and poor living side by side, extreme cleanliness of some places opposed to filth of others, for in the streets there is no penalty for dropping litter. Once again, the generosity of everyone overwhelmed me. I liked the way everyone always shook hands and ostensibly the Turks are more spontaneous than the Greeks—if one can make such generalisations—but even so, I felt I could sense the mark left by the recent clashes. In Turkey there is no television and it was so refreshing to find families spending whole evenings talking, drinking and listening to music. People get up very early and work much later—it made life seem fuller, even if rather exhausting! I was very impressed by the political awareness of the Turkish youth which enabled me to learn much about their attitudes. I realised by the number of men who sat in cafés all day how acute unemployment was, which made life so difficult. Other hardships included rationed water, hospital treatment which must be paid for and the sad lack of hygiene.

On the brighter side, I enjoyed eating egg plant, kebabs and bride's soup and drinking black Turkish tea. I also loved the language; it is full of big sounds like a child's talk - for instance 'Yok' (no).

I travelled on through wonderful, rugged, sometimes desert-like, country to Ismir, where I spent five days swimming and relaxing on the burning Aegean shores. For me Ismir combined ancient splendour such as that of Athens and the glamour of Istanbul but retained a serenity of its own. Of the ancient places I visited, Ephesus impressed me most with its library, baths, amphitheatre and forum remarkably well excavated.

Anthea Taylor.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Suns., Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28. (Epiphany 1, 2, 3, 4). As on front cover. Evensong is at 3 p.m. this month and next.

P.C.C. Meeting, Wed., Jan. 31, 7-30 p.m.

Electoral Roll. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year will be on Wednesday, 14th February, at 7-15 p.m. So now is the time for revising the Church Electoral Roll and bringing it up to date. We hope that some of our new parishioners, and young church members who have now attained the age of 17, will enrol themselves as church electors. Enrolment forms will be found on the table in the church, or may be had from the Vicar. Please return them, not later than Jan. 28, to Mr. C. G. W. Beacon, 11, Sally Close, or to the Vicar.

New Year Parish Party. Wednesday, 10th January in the Memorial Hall, at 7-30 p.m. Admission free. Refreshments on sale. Entertainment, including a play "The Leg-pullers". Games and Dancing. This party is primarily for adults, but children under 14 may come if they are with their parents, or are confirmed or attending confirmation classes.

Mothers' Union. The branch meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th January at 2-30 p.m. at 1, Coombe-field Road by kind invitation of Mrs. Byron. I do hope all members will be present. E.G.B.

Jottings. It is good that Mrs. Hogg is now home from hospital, though still incapacitated by her fall. But two other parishioners have since had to go to hospital as a result of falls: Mrs. Franklin, such a patient sufferer from arthritis, now in Worcester Royal Infirmary with a fractured thigh, and Mrs. Hall, a new resident from Bretforton, also an invalid, who has been in Evesham Hospital after breaking her leg. Mr. J. Colley and Mr. C. Sturt are both in Evesham Hospital at the time of writing, but seem to be doing well. Mr. Sturt has had an abdominal operation. Anne Sutton has had her appendix out. Your prayers are asked for Mrs. Cuttler, who has not been at all well, that she may be given strength in the care of her son Jack.

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