

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

FEBRUARY, 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.

20th January, 1968

My dear People,

In these gloomy times some rather heartening things have happened lately, which deserve some comment. One is Malcolm Muggeridge's stand against the enslaving tyranny of permissiveness. (More about that another time). Another is the "I'm Backing Britain" movement.

Backing Britain

I am quite sure that God is speaking to the people of this country through this movement, and saying, "Take up your bed, and walk". For years we seem to have been suffering a sort of paralysis. There has been little sign of activity except the stretching out of palsied hands for bigger slices of the national cake. The cake has shrunk to a few broken and mouldy crumbs - even the plums, however inflated, have lost their nutritional value. A sort of hopeless cynicism had set in. Politicians for ever urged Britons to tighten their belts, preachers exhorted them to heroic self-denial, statisticians wearied them with dismal figures. "What's the use? We've heard all this before. We can't do anything about it, and the government won't, so let's go out and enjoy ourselves tonight, or plan that holiday on the sunlit southern beaches. If the country goes bust, it won't hit you and me just yet. And by then something will have turned up on the pools or the premium bonds".

'Get up and Walk'

So we have been lying like that cripple Our Lord found by the magic pool of Bethesda, waiting, year in, year out, for someone else to carry him on their shoulders to health and solvency. The Lord says to the cripple: "Do you want to recover?" And he replies: "It's no use. Every time a chance comes, someone pushes me out of the way and gets there first. If it isn't General de Gaulle it's a dockers' strike or the gnomes of Zurich. And look what I've done for other people in my time!"

Jesus told the cripple at Bethesda: Get up, pick up that feather bed, the symbol of your impotence, and walk on your own two feet. And the man did walk. Something in him responded, in faith. He didn't need to bother now about a gimmick like the magic pool (football pools? the common market?). He'd got something better: a new heart.

The Miracle

It's strange, isn't it, that God seems to find the response He is looking for in the places least expected by anybody else? He found the instrument of bringing the Light of Light into the world in a young girl in despised Nazareth. So the spark of revived patriotism in Britain today has not come from the pulpit exhortations of elderly eggheads, not the smooth persuasiveness of television propagandists. It was ignited first in a bunch of kids in a typing office - members of that swinging generation regarded as heartless, pleasure-seeking and perverse. Glory to God in the highest (and in the High St.)!

Human Rights

The situation always looks quite hopeless until someone (like the boy with the loaves and fishes) offers something he has got, however small, and in this case the 5 girls broke the spell. Now it is being seen again, as it was in time of war, that the greatest of all human rights is the right to give. "He that seeks to save his life will lose it, and he who gives his life will find it" - eternal life, the real life that alone is worth finding. Sacrifice always breaks the spell, as Our Lord's perfect Offering of Himself broke the stranglehold of sin and death.

A heart transplant

God is transplanting a new heart into our nation. But everything depends upon whether the system will accept

or reject the new organ. Signs of rejection are obvious enough in the old encrusted and fossilised organs like the big trade unions. Of course trade unions exist to safeguard the rights and standards of their members. They must see that no one is made involuntarily to work longer hours for less pay. But the precious freedom a man has of being able to give of his own, even to his life - no organisation or group has the right to take it from him. Rather it ought to protect that right.

The Union Jack has come back into its own. But no jingoism this time. The emblem on our flag is a three-fold Cross. Christians, above all people, should be backing Britain, and keeping the momentum going, for we are servants of Christ crucified.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Christmas Appeal Result. You will be pleased to hear that the Vicar was able to send £56-10-0 to Captain Barry Irons of the Church Army as a result of the special Christmas Appeal in Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford. This was towards the furnishing of a house in Moseley which is to be a centre for the rehabilitation of young people addicted to drugs or alcohol. There are now sufficient funds to open the house on Friday, 16th February, though another £6,000 is still needed to complete the project. 28 young people from different parts of the Midlands will take up residence on the 19th.

We shall of course take a special interest in the project, and will be informed from time to time about its progress. Remember the work in your prayers.

Christmas Day Collections for Church of England Children's Society: Badsey £26-10-2; Wickhamford £6-5-6.

Bible Society (Evesham Auxiliary) Annual Meeting, Monday, Feb. 12th, 7-30 p.m., in the Baptist School Room, Cowl Street. Films.

Austerity Lunches for Christian Aid. On Fridays in Lent, beginning 1st March, austerity lunches will be provided in the Walker Hall, Evesham, at 2/6 a head, consisting of bread, cheese and coffee. Proceeds will go to famine and refugee relief, through Christian Aid. But the lunches will also provide an opportunity for Christian people in the Evesham area to meet together socially. This is one of the fruits of inter-church co-operation in Evesham, and deserves to be supported. If you are working or shopping in Evesham on a Friday, don't miss the opportunity.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

February

- 2 Fri. Presentation of Christ in the Temple. 10-0 H.C.
- 4 Epiphany 5. As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service.
- 7 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 11 Septuagesima. As for 2nd Sun.
- 14 Wed. St. Valentine, Bp. & M. 10-0 H.C.
- 18 Sexagesima. As for 3rd Sun.
- 21 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 24 Sat. St. Matthias, Apostle. 10-0 H.C.
- 25 Quinquagesima. As for 4th Sun.
- 28 Ash Wednesday. 6-30 & 10-0 H.C. 3-0 Pram Service; 4-15 Children's Service; 7-30 Evensong and Address.

Lenten Services

On Wednesday afternoons, after school, there will be a short children's service in the church, beginning on Ash Wednesday, 28th February.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday at 7-30 p.m. and continuing in subsequent weeks on Fridays at 8 p.m. in the church, there will be a series of talks and discussions on "The Discipline of Christ in the World of Today".

Shrove Tuesday Parish Party

27th February, 7-30 p.m., in the Meeting House. 3/-, including refreshments. We hope that many of the newcomers to the parish will come; they will find a ready welcome. This is primarily an adult affair - the children have had their own parties - so unless they are with their parents, we must ask children under 14 to stay away this time. Tickets from any member of the P.C.C. or at the Vicarage.

Electoral Roll. The Church Electoral Roll is to be revised at this time, in preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 19th March. All regular worshippers at St. James's Church over 17 ought to be registered as 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.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7-15 p.m.

Mothers' Union. Feb. 5th, Monday. 2-30 p.m. Committee Meeting.

7th Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

13th Tues. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Rev. P. Braby, "The Anglican Communion". Tea hostesses: Mrs. Bell (Committee), Mesdames C. Stewart, Sladden and Wright.

27th Tues. 7-30 p.m. Parish Social. There will be no branch meeting this evening, but I do hope we shall meet together at the Social. J.B.

Sunday School Parties. Many thanks to all who contributed towards the cost of the parties and who helped with the catering, serving, running of games, etc.

Holy Matrimony

Jan. 3 Victor Stanley Ireson, of Hale, Farnham, Surrey, and Audrey Robinson, of Badsey.
,, 20 Roger Brotherton of Hampton, and Angela Joan Jinks, of Badsey.

Burials, R.I.P.

Dec. 21 John Adrian Wilde, aged 65.

This was a sudden and unexpected death, comparatively young, and we offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Wilde and the family, who though they have not lived in Badsey many years have made a number of friends.

Another very sad event just before Christmas was the death of Christine Ann Davies, aged 20, the newly married wife of Keith Davies of Horsebridge Avenue. The

funeral was at Bengeworth (Christine's home parish) on Dec. 22. They were married three two months before, and had taken one of the new bungalows on the Oaks estate, Badsey. Christine was suddenly attacked by a deadly virus, and her illness was short and severe. Keith, and Christine's parents, and the members of both families, may be assured of our continuing prayers and fellow-feeling in their great sorrow.

Jan. 18 William Adolphus Jones, aged 82.

"Conger", for many years our village road-keeper, was a much beloved and interesting old character, whom we shall sadly miss. He used to figure frequently in the amusing tales of the late Charles Gardiner. In recent years he had resided at Avonside Hospital, but used to visit his friends in Badsey. It was only in the last few weeks that he had been confined to bed.

Jan. 20 Philip Thomas Willett, aged 64.

Our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Willett and the family in this loss, at no very great age. Phil Willett also was a public servant, a cheerful and friendly man. He bore patiently his illness of several weeks in hospital.

Jottings. Congratulations to Mrs. March on her 91st birthday last month. She is as game as ever.

The doctors had an extra busy time this Christmas, and many of our parishioners have been in hospital since our last number. Miss Vera Lawley and Mrs. Fred Barnard just at Christmas time, and both, we are glad to say, have since come out. Mrs. Frank Jelfs, of Bowers Hill, has now returned home after several weeks in hospital, and others who have been in hospital are Mrs. Pike, one of our new parishioners, Ann Butler, Mrs. Godwin, Mr. Tom Harris, Mr. J. Hirst of Blackminster. Mrs. J. Wild of Badsey Fields has been ill for some weeks at home, now recovering, and Mrs. W. Ballard has been unwell at home. Mrs. Lottie Haines has improved, and managed to get to the old people's party.

At the time of writing, Andrew Salter, 11 months, is seriously ill in Ronkswood Hospital.

Servers for February. 4th, 8-0 M. Clements; 11-0 A. Clements; 6-45 C. Hartwell. 11th, 10-15 C. Tucker (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 R. Keen. 18th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 D. Barrand. 25th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 6-45 D. Hatherley (Server), R. Keen (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. Feb. 4th, Mrs. N. Cook; 11th, Mrs. M. Hewlett; 18th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow; 25th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Anniversaries. Mr. & Mrs. B. Jones, £1. Rev. P. Braby, 10th anniversary as Vicar of Badsey (Jan. 25), 10/-.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Suns., Feb. 4 (Epiphany 5), 11 (Septuagesima), 18 Sexagesima), 25 (Quinquagesima). Services as on front cover. Feb. 28 Ash Wednesday. 7-30 a.m. H.C.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Wed., 14th February, in the Memorial Hall, at 7-15 p.m.

This annual gathering is a real opportunity for parishioners to get together and discuss the matters of common concern regarding our church and its work. The churchwardens and church councillors have to be

chosen, after those now in office have presented to the parishioners a report and financial statement as to how they have carried out their duties in the past year. One of the matters on which in particular we want to hear the views of parishioners is the new Communion Service. Nominations to the Parochial Church Council should be made in writing and received **before** the meeting by Mr. C. G. W. Beacon, 11, Sally Close, or by the Vicar. There are nomination forms in the church, or on application to either of the above.

The New Organ

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the fund in recent months.

A very successful Coffee Morning was held in the Memorial Hall on Dec. 16th by Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. Astley and helpers. As much as £100 was contributed on that day, £70 of it being in donations.

A faculty has been granted for the organ, and it will be purchased. This will necessitate drawing temporarily on other church funds to meet the balance, so the appeal is still open. Mr. Gilbert Mills has kindly offered to give a recital on the organ in aid of the fund, and you will hear more about this later.

Notes. It was unfortunate that the night of the Parish Party was one of the worst in the year, with deep

frozen snow and slippery roads. However over 30 people turned out, and those who came certainly enjoyed themselves. We are most grateful to the ladies of the P.C.C. who arranged the catering, the W.I. Drama Group who entertained us - the only disadvantage for us was that, knowing the performers, it was difficult for us to appreciate the real nastiness of the characters these nice people were presenting - and to Mr. Gerard Poulter who organised the games and dancing.

Conditions were far worse the following Sunday, when the church was cut off from the village by floods.

Our prayerful sympathy is offered to the families of Mrs. Hampton and Mrs. (Fred) Cox. Kate Hampton died on Jan. 1st, aged 81, and was buried on the 4th according to the rites of the Baptist Church, of which she was a member. Dorothy E. A. Cox died on Jan. 9th and was cremated at Cheltenham on the 13th. May God grant to the faithful departed eternal rest.

Mrs. B. Franklin, Mr. Cecil Sturt and Mr. Jesse Colley are now home from hospital. Mrs. J. Mason is at the time of writing in Evesham Hospital, and Mr. Eric Wainwright in Cheltenham Hospital recovering from a cerebral haemorrhage, which fortunately was not quite as serious as at first was feared.

Anniversary Donations. Rev. P. Braby (10th as Vicar of Wickhamford, Jan 25th), 10/-.

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