

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

MARCH, 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.

17th February, 1968.

My dear People,

Have you noticed that a public which loves to feed its mind on fictitious tales of mystery and horror has no taste for the mysterious in real life? Everything must be exposed (warts and all) to the merciless glare of the flashlight bulb and the television cameras. (I think the House of Lords will come to regret its present experiment; with loss of mystique it will cease to command respect). Religion is now robbed of mystery—of dark shadows in church roofs and reverence for the awful holiness of God "in depths of burning light". And with that has come the rejection of the ideal of godliness, the "personal holiness" which it was John Wesley's mission to teach, that "holiness without which no man may see the Lord", which John Henry Newman preached in one of the most famous sermons in the English language.

We shall be pondering these things in our Friday evening course during Lent in Badsey Church (to which Wickhamford people are of course warmly invited).

Gas and Gaiters

But some forms of irreverence are healthy enough, when they deflate the pretentiousness of God's human agents.

I don't agree with the idea that any distinctive dress for the clergy should be done away with. It is right that we should wear some recognisable uniform, so that people can see what we are, if they want our help (or want to avoid us!)

But it is high time we discarded honorific titles. I don't mean only "My Lord" and "Your Grace". Let the 'inferior' clergy begin by discarding "the Reverend".

Out with the Rev.!

Our Lord told his disciples that they were to leave all that sort of thing to the rulers of the heathen, and were not to be as the scribes and Pharisees who loved to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. "But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master; and all ye are brethren".

"Reverend" does not mean literally someone who is reverent, but one who is to be revered. Such a title for the clergy seems quite contrary to Our Lord's teaching and to the whole spirit of the Gospel.

And the worst of it is that as a title it is now generally used quite incorrectly. People not only refer to the Reverend Smith instead of the Reverend J. Smith or the Reverend Mr. Smith; they even write to me, "Dear Rev. Braby", when they would not think of addressing the P.M., for instance, as "Dear Right Hon. Wilson", or, even worse, they put "Dear Reverend". (Would they write to the younger son of a peer as "Dear Honourable"?)

Clergymen have to be designated by some sort of title (in the telephone directory, for example). But this should refer to the office (e.g. bishop, archdeacon) rather than dignity. But what of the parochial clergy? They are not all vicars (despite the popular misnomer), and it certainly would not do to distinguish by saying Vicar So-and-So, Rector What's It, and Curate Thingamebob. Evangelical laymen would jib at calling a clergyman "Father" ("Call no man your father on earth"), while "Padre" (current among service men) is only the same thing in Portuguese. "Parson" smacks of a feudal society long since gone. Perhaps, all things considered, the Lutheran designation "Pastor" might be generally acceptable.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Austerity Lunches. A reminder that on Fridays in Lent the Evesham Council of Churches are arranging bread and cheese lunches in the Walker Hall at 2/6 a head, the proceeds to go to Christian Aid for famine relief. It is also a good opportunity for local Christians to get together.

Church Services

March

- 3 Lent 1. As on front cover for 1st Sun.
- 6 Wed. Ember Day SS. Perpetua & Companions, MM. 10-0 H.C. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 8 Fri. Ember Day. 8 p.m. Weekly Lenten meeting in church for prayer and Bible study.
- 10 Lent 2. As for 2nd Sun.
- 13 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 15 Fri. 8 p.m. Lenten Service.
- 17 Lent 3. St. Patrick, Bp. As for 3rd Sun.
- 20 Wed. St. Cuthbert, Bp. 10-0 H.C. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 22 Fri. 8 p.m. Lenten Service.
- 24 Lent 4. Mothering Sunday. 8-0 H.C. 10-15 Family Service. 6-45 Sung Eucharist.
- 25 Mon. Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary. 10-0 H.C. 3-0 M.U. Festival Service at Norton.
- 27 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 4-15 Children's Service.
- 29 Fri. 8 p.m. Lenten Service.
- 31 Lent 5. Passion Sunday. 8-0 H.C. 10-0 Sunday School (no Family Service). 10-30 M. (said). 6-45 Eysensong.

Lenten Services

On Wednesday afternoons, after school, there will be a short children's service in the church. Those attending will have cards with weekly stamps which make a beautiful coloured window.

On Friday evenings at 8 p.m., in the church, there will be a meeting for prayer and Bible study on the theme, "The Discipline of Christ in the World of Today".

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., March 5th, 7-15 p.m.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Tuesday, March 19th, in the Meeting House, 7-15 p.m.

All Electoral Roll forms should be in (to Mr. H. L. Hatcher or the Vicar) by Sunday, 3rd March, for the revision of the Roll by the P.C.C. on the 5th. The revised Electoral Roll and annual statement of accounts will then be posted in the church porch, for inspection by parishioners before the annual meeting on the 19th. We do hope that all who really care for their church membership will come to the meeting.

Churchwardens, Parochial Church Councillors and Sidesmen will be elected for the coming year. We hope we may have a good number of nominations for the P.C.C. They must be in writing, duly seconded, before the meeting, and forms are available at the church or vicarage. The nominations may be placed in the box so labelled in the church, or handed to Mr. Hatcher or the Vicar.

Among other matters for general discussion after reports and elections will be the 1967 Order of Holy Communion in the light of 4½ months' experience. The Vicar is particularly anxious to have people's views and suggestions. There will also be an opportunity for parishioners to bring up any matters of importance for discussion.

There will be corporate Communion for church councillors and officers on Sunday, March 24th, at 8 a.m. and 6-45 p.m.

Mothers' Union. March 6th Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion. 3-0 Service at Aston-sub-Edge by invitation from Weston and Aston-sub-Edge branch. Preacher: Rev. W. H. Bates of Great Rissington. Tea will follow. Coach will leave the Wheatsheaf at 2-20.

12th Tues. 2-30 Annual General Meeting. The tea will be provided by the Committee.

24th. Mothering Sunday.

25th Mon. Lady Day. 10-0 Corporate Communion. 3-0 Deanery Festival Service at Norton. Details of coach later.

26th Tues. 7-30 p.m. Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Taylor of Great Comberton. Subject: Prayer & Devotion in Lent. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Hartwell (committee), Mesdames Richards, Watkin & Miss Tizard.

The annual subs. are now due: 4/- plus 2/- for M.U. Journal. Would members who do not attend meetings please forward the same to Mrs. Watkin, 3, Chapel Street, Treasurer, or myself. Thanking you. J.B.

The Choir. Ian Hardwick and Stephen Waters were admitted to full membership of the Choir on Sunday, 18th February, at Evensong.

Maurice Exon is now head chorister in place of Tim Bell, who has 'retired' to the back stalls after faithful service as a treble.

There are 3 or 4 vacancies for boys, and plenty for men.

Young People's Meetings. A Brownie Pack is being formed in Badsey, under the leadership of Mrs. B. Chilver and Miss J. Clark. Meetings are on Thursday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Meeting House. Girls between 7 and 10 from Badsey and Aldington are welcome.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade Cadets for boys as well as girls meet now on Friday evenings, and the Junior Boys' Club continues to meet on Tuesday evenings.

New Overseas Project. For the past 3 years the special U.S.P.G. project we have been supporting has been the Anglican mission at Ba, Viti Levu, diocese of Polynesia. Each year we have been able to raise considerably more than the £25 minimum asked of us. With the opening and blessing of the priest's house and prayer room last year, the first part of this project has been completed, and we have now been asked by U.S.P.G. to support another project for the next few years. The P.C.C. has decided, on the recommendation of its overseas committee, to support the Rev. E. D. Houston and his wife in their work at Kamdara, in the diocese of Chota Nagpur, India. This project is chiefly the rebuilding of hostels for the boys and girls from very poor homes who attend the schools there. "For many of these, hostel life will be a true Godsend, for their parents are often unable to feed or clothe them and medical attention is almost unknown".

We have been fortunate in finding someone who has seen some of the work at Kandara and who will come and tell us about it and show us pictures, on Tuesday evening, 9th April. He is Mr. Anthony Hawley, brother of our churchwarden Mrs. Anne Clark. Please keep this evening free, and look out for further announcements.

Holy Baptism

Feb. 18 Tina Lorraine Keyte; David John Agg.

Holy Matrimony

Feb. 3 Robert William Hughes, of Weston-sub-Edge, and Sylvia Jean Taylor, of Badsey.

Jottings. We all rejoice with his parents on the recovery of Andrew Salter, who was so critically ill at the time of the last Parish Review going to press. Mrs. G. Elliott, sister to Mrs. M. H. Harvey, had not been living in Badsey long when she was suddenly taken very ill with pneumonia, and it is a joy to see her too on the way to recovery. Mr. Frank Masters has been back in hospital for treatment, and at last seems to be able to move about without pain. Mrs. Cecil Harwood is in Worcester Royal, where she has had an operation on her foot, and we have just learnt that Mr. B. A. Hodgkins is there with a fractured pelvis. Mr. Bert Jaynes, in Ronkwood, has had another operation. Mr. Tom Harris is

to go back there shortly, for another operation. Mrs. Phil Sparrow is in hospital for treatment. Mrs. Frank Reeves has had pneumonia.

Servers for March. 3rd, 8-0 C. Hartwell; 11-0 D. Crane; 6-45 T. Bell. 10th, 10-15 D. Barrand (Server), S. Gresty (Crucifer); 6-45 D. Hatherley. 17th, 8-0 A. Hartwell; 6-45 R. Keen. 24th, (Mothering Sun.), 8-0 C. Tucker; 10-15 S. Gresty; 6-45 T. Bell (Server), A. Clements (Crucifer). 31st, 8-0 M. Clements; 6-45 C. Hartwell.

War Memorial Flowers. March 3rd. Mrs. A. Cyril; 10th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 17th, Mrs. D. Grinnell; 24th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Birthday Thankofferings. Mrs. F. M. March £1; In loving memory of Alice Brailsford, 5/-.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services

Note that there will be Holy Communion every Sunday in Lent, and that (except on March 24th) Sunday Evensong is now at 5-30.

March

- 3 Lent 1. 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.
- 10 Lent 2. 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.
- 17 Lent 3. St. Patrick, Bp. 11-0 H.C. (with hymns). 5-30 E.
- 24 Lent 4. Mothering Sunday. 9-0 H.C. 3-0 Evensong & Mothering Service (no service at 5-30).
- 25 Mon. Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary. 7-30 a.m. H.C. 3-0 M.U. Festival Service at Norton.
- 31 Lent 5. (Passion Sunday). 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.

ORGAN RECITAL BY MR. GILBERT MILLS

The new Compton Sonatina organ has now been purchased for £435, but we are still about £40 short of the required sum and this has been met by a temporary loan from general church funds. Mr. J. Gilbert Mills, to whose expert professional advice we are indebted for the choice of the new organ, has kindly consented to come and give a recital in the church on **Wednesday, 6th March, at 7-30 p.m.** There will also be vocal items by Evelyn Sharp.

There will be no charge for admission, but a silver collection will be taken for the Organ Fund. Do come, and tell all your musically-minded friends.

Report on Annual Church Meeting, Feb. 14th

Attendance was very poor indeed, there being only 3 lay electors present besides church councillors.

Mr. J. E. Parry and Mr. H. J. Dunkerley were re-elected churchwardens. The Vicar thanked them for their loyal co-operation in the past year.

Mr. Charles Beacon, Hon. Sec., presented the revised Electoral Roll, totalling 156 names, and the report of the P.C.C. He mentioned the summer fête, which had raised £108-10-0 for the Organ Fund, and the coffee morning in December. The Vicar expressed their regret that Mr. Beacon would be relinquishing the secretaryship for the time being, owing to business commitments, and presented him with a book token on behalf of the P.C.C.

Mr. J. E. Parry then reported on the church fabric. The church interior had been re-decorated at a cost of £120, and the churchyard path re-laid for £182. A Compton Sonatina organ had been purchased for £435 to replace the old harmonium.

Miss A. L. Cox reported on the planned giving scheme. There were 30 members and receipts totalled £260, plus £124 income tax refund on the covenants.

Miss Cox also reported on the Sunday School. She thanked Miss M. Willis and three young teachers for their help. There were 45 children on the roll, about

30 attending regularly. During the year the Sunday School had sent £9 to U.S.P.G., £4 to Oxfam, £1 to Cancer Research, and 10/- to the Vicar's special Christmas Appeal.

In the absence of the hon. treasurer, Mrs. V. Johnson, through illness, the accounts for 1967 and budget for 1968 were presented by Mr. Parry. There was a balance at the end of 1967 of £93 in the general fund, though since then this has been depleted to meet the deficit in the organ fund. In addition to special collections for charities, grants totalling £35 had been sent to the Bible Society, the Missions to Seamen, and Family and Social Service. For 1968 the meeting budgeted £50 to overseas missions.

A letter of appreciation was sent to Mrs. Johnson, who had undertaken the treasurership at short notice in the middle of the financial year; grateful appreciation with an honorarium, was also accorded to Mr. W. Tullett, our hon. auditor.

The Vicar having nothing new to say, spared the meeting an annual report, but he did want to praise "the faithful few", so he read a poem by John Betjeman which expressed his sentiments in a far more entertaining way than he could himself.

After refreshments, the meeting discussed the 1967 experimental Order of Holy Communion. The changes were on the whole appreciated, and the Vicar agreed to use some of the other optional alternatives in the next few months.

Elections took place as follows:— P.C.C. Messrs. C. G. W. Beacon, E. Cooke, R. C. Lees-Milne, G. Poulter,

Mesdames E. Cooke, G. Halford, G. Harrison, V. Johnson, J. E. Parry, W. R. Thomas, Misses A. Cox, M. Willis. Sidesmen: Messrs. C. Beacon, E. Cooke, R. Harman, J. Newbury, G. Poulter, C. Willis. Hon. Auditor: Mr. W. Tullett.

At a short meeting of the P.C.C. after the A.P.C.M. the following officers were elected: Hon. Sec. Mrs. J. E. Parry; Hon. Treas. Mrs. V. Johnson; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. E. Parry.

Jottings. On Jan. 22nd James (Billy) Dolphin died in Avonside Hospital, aged 76, and was buried at Bengeworth. He had been an old soldier and a great fruit grower, footballer and athlete in his time. Life was hard for him after the death of his wife, with illness, inactivity, and the frustrations of old age. But he remained to the end the life and soul of the hospital ward in which he spent so many years.

Mrs. Violet Johnson has been laid up with a bad attack of bronchitis. Mr. Cecil Ward has been in Ronkswood Hospital for removal of gall stones. Mr. J. C. Jones is in Evesham Hospital recovering from a stroke, and Mrs. Hall, also of Sally Close is in hospital. Mrs. Mason has returned from hospital and is being cared for by her husband at home. Mrs. Sutton, in Avonside Hospital, has not been very well lately. Mr. J. Colley is making slow progress at home. Miss V. Lawley is still away being cared for by Mr. & Mrs. Morton in Norfolk; she is progressing slowly, and sends her love to all her friends.

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