

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JUNE, 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.

19th May, 1968

My dear People,

"Endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace".

We now hear these words at every Holy Communion service. They are a reminder that the unity which the Holy Spirit inspires in his people, to carry out some common purpose, needs constant endeavour on their part to maintain, when it comes to working out how the purpose is to be executed.

First comes the vision: it lights up the imagination of thousands. The wind of the Spirit seems to throw down barriers of the mind and sweep away entanglements. The fire of his love kindles a warmth of brotherly regard, even affection, for all others whose hearts He has touched. Surely now the Church can act as one body and speak with one voice! Yes. But first it must be agreed what are the appropriate actions of the body, and the suitable words for the voice. And that is where the trouble begins.

#### **God proposes, a committee interposes**

Whenever human beings meet together in conference to work out a detailed plan of action, a constitution or an order of service, however godly and well-intentioned those people may be, they find it extremely hard to agree. It is easy to feel the Holy Spirit at work when an assembly is captured by some compulsive idea. But if you find yourself on a sub-committee working out a formula to recommend to another committee to report back to a joint commission for final consideration by two or three different independent bodies, it is not easy to recognise the Holy Spirit as having anything to do with it. His Name may have been invoked in a perfunctory opening prayer. After that He is pretty effectively sealed off by a sort of sticky fly-paper which keeps a lot of buzzing (though half-dead) catch-phrases glued to our little minds.

#### **Hectic handouts**

At the present time there is a mood of exasperation in the Church of England at the constant stream of new proposals, reports of commissions, schemes for this, that and the other. They seem to tumble over one another, claiming our consideration. Before we have arranged a meeting to study some report or other, passed down to the parishes, we are asked to answer some questions on another one which has just come out. (Why, for instance, when for some years we have been trying to find a common mind on terms of intercommunion - Stage 1 - with the Methodists, does another report suddenly appear, trying to deal with inter-communion all round)? And the worst of it is that we know that if we do get really interested in some new proposal - even excited about it - it will be years before it has been through all the process of being mangled, minced and pulled about, till it comes out as a miserable, lifeless compromise.

Yet we ought not to be vexed that there is all this spate of new proposals. What happens to the proposals may be very frustrating, and often due to sheer human wilfulness and divisiveness. But that there is this ferment of new ideas in the Church is a healthy sign. It ought to exhilarate us. It means the Holy Spirit is at work. There is no doubt that the Church (and not only the Church of England) is going through a new period of reformation, even perhaps of revolution.

#### **Swing Wings**

The trouble, as I said, begins when people have to work out details. It is then that the vision seems to fade and the emotional force to be spent. Except of course among the extremists on both wings. They do not cancel each other out because they are both determined on

getting things settled in their way. The reasonable-minded people in the middle, usually the majority, may still be able to see the vision in its undistorted form, but lack the fire to push things through at the cost of offending the bigots.

But in a truly Christian assembly, minorities must not be ignored or suppressed. The Holy Spirit does not need the human machinery of the majority vote to do his work. The majority has not necessarily the mind of Christ. It is a diabolical idea that the voice of the people is automatically the voice of God. The single obstinate juryman, or the committee member who insists on writing a minority report, may be a cussed nuisance, but who is to say whether the Holy Spirit is speaking through him or the majority? Think of Elijah and the prophets of Baal.

As a kind of working rule we have to give weight to majority decisions, and the minorities must make the best of it. If they feel that a matter of great principle is at stake, they will be prepared to suffer for it. But good Christians do not want to make martyrs of their fellow committee-men if they can effect a compromise instead. Peace is better than war.

#### **Compromise the price of comprehensiveness**

If the Church of England is to retain her God-given comprehension, compromise must always be to some extent our lot. So must be that ambiguousness of statement which many zealots find so distasteful. It need not be assumed that the Holy Spirit is absent because a form of words has been deliberately chosen which can be taken in more than one sense. Often this is the only way to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

But one does sometimes wonder whether not only unity would be preserved, but also the vision and the fire, if whenever a christian conference met to draw up detailed schemes for implementing proposals, they would spend at least one whole day first in complete silence together, waiting on the Spirit. It would be time well spent.

A blessed Whitsun to you all,

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

#### **SPECIAL JUNE EVENTS**

**Whit-Monday Extravaganza**, Hartlebury Castle, June 3rd. Unfortunately it has not proved possible to hire coaches for the Evesham parishes on this busy public holiday, but this need not prevent those who are able to go by car.

**Trinity Sunday Appeal**. On Trinity Sunday there will be the usual envelopes in church for your personal contributions towards the cost of training men for the ministry. Please take an envelope and put an offering in it. (This will not only help to provide for this very important work, but will also assist your parish to pay its diocesan quota).

Also pray on Trinity Sunday and in the preceding Ember Week for those being ordained, those in training, and for more vocations to the ministry, both of men and women.

**Coffee Evening for Missions to Seamen**, Tues., June 11th, at the Vicarage, 7 - 9-30 p.m. (Bring & Buy Stall).

Please come and support this worthwhile cause with your presence and gifts.

**Diocesan Conference**, Kidderminster, Fri., June 14th.

**Coffee Evening for Badsey U.S.P.G. Project**, Thurs., June 20th, at Seward House, 7 to 9-30 p.m. Tickets 2/-, including refreshments. Stalls (Bring-and-Buy, Fancy, Miscellaneous).

Arranged by the Overseas Committee to raise funds for the educational work at Kamdara, India.

**Riverside Market for Bible Society** (Evesham Auxiliary) Saturday, June 29th, outside Methodist Church, Evesham, 2-30 p.m. Many stalls.

**Result of May Fair for Family & Social Service.** Total proceeds £152. Badsey & Wickhamford Stall £9-10-0. Mrs. Sladden wishes to thank all who helped by their gifts and assistance.

**Leprosy Mission.** After the visit of the Rev. E. Hough in April, several people took phials for the collection of sixpences in their homes. Each of these, when full, contain 22/6, which provides enough sulphonamide treatment to effect a cure in the less advanced cases, especially of children.

Miss L. Core, of 7, Old Post Office Lane, Badsey, and Mrs. Parry, of Wickham House, Wickhamford, have now kindly undertaken to be responsible for the collection and distribution of these phials in the respective parishes, and have been officially appointed as collectors by the Leprosy Mission. They will collect full phials and supply new ones.

### BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

June

- 2 **WHITSUNDAY.** 7-15 & 8-0 H.C. 10-15 Parish Eucharist. 6-45 p.m. Evensong (Decoration of the church on Sat., June 1, at 10 a.m. Helpers welcome, also flowers **before 10-0**, please).
- 5 Wed. Ember Day 10-0 H.C.
- 9 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** Services as for 2nd Sun. Trinity Sunday Offerings (see Note after Vicar's Letter).
- 11 Tues. **St. Barnabas, Apostle.** 10-0 H.C.
- 12 Wed. No H.C.
- 16 **Trinity I.** As for 3rd Sun.
- 19 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 23 **Trinity 2.** As for 4th Sun.
- 24 **Mon. Nat. of St. John Baptist.** (H.C. at Wickhamford Church, 7-30 p.m.).
- 26 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 3-0 Pram Service.
- 29 Sat. **St. Peter, Apostle & Martyr.** 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 30 **Trinity 3.** As for 5th Sun.

**P.C.C. Meeting,** Tues., 4th June, 7-30 p.m.

**Confirmation Class,** Wed., 12th June, 7-30 p.m.

**Coffee Evening for Missions to Seamen.** See Note after Vicar's Letter.

**Coffee Evening for U.S.P.G. Project.** See Note after Vicar's Letter.

**Riverside Market for Bible Society.** See Note after Vicar's Letter.

**Leprosy Mission.** Phials for Sixpences. See Note after Vicar's Letter.

**Mothers' Union.** Programme for June.

5th 10 a.m. Corporate Communion.  
25th Tues. Summer Outing to Eastnor Castle and Ross-on-Wye. Coach leaves Wheatsheaf at 1-45. Will all members please give their names to me as soon as possible.  
J.B.

**The Choir.** On Sunday, 19th May, the following boys were admitted to full membership of the choir: Philip Gresty, Robert Lake, Michael Millward, Stephen Owens and Adrian Willett.

Maurice Exon has now left the trebles for the men's stalls after very keen and regular service, and his place as head chorister has been taken by Kevin West.

On Saturday, 22nd June, the choir and servers will be going to Barry for their annual outing.

**Brownie Pack.** The first enrolment ceremony is to take place on Thursday, 30th May, and we congratulate Mrs. Chilver and Miss J. Clark on making such an excellent start.

**St John Ambulance Brigade Cadets.** A very great debt of gratitude is due from all of us to Mrs. B. Brazier for the most interesting exhibition of local history which she organised in the Meeting House last month, on behalf of St. John Ambulance Brigade. The exhibition, which attracted many visitors in the two days it was held, not only realised £25 for the funds, but gave us a fascinating glimpse of Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford events, buildings and personalities over the last 60 years or more. Many thanks are also due for all who loaned exhibits. Mrs. Brazier would like to compile an album of village history, and would be grateful to anyone who can spare old photos, newspaper cuttings, etc. Please see her before throwing any such things away.

### Confirmation

April 25 at St. Nicholas, Middle Littleton, by the Bishop of Worcester: John Thomas Batchelor.

### Burials, R.I.P.

April 24 Joseph Henry Plant, aged 76.

He died peacefully and unexpectedly in his chair on Low Sunday, having survived his wife by five years. In spite of his age, he took an active part in the social life of the village, and will be missed by many friends, as well as mourned by the family, to whom we extend our warm sympathy.

May 8 (by Roman Catholic rites) Harold Johnston, aged 48.

His death in hospital after a motor accident was a tragedy which has shaken us all. Mrs. Johnston and the family have the prayerful sympathy of the whole village.

May God grant rest to his servants, and comfort to the bereaved.

**Jottings.** Your prayers are asked for the sick, especially for those now in hospital: Mrs. Langstone; Mr. Thomas Harris and Mr. Vernon Knight (who have undergone serious internal operations); Mrs. F. Edwards, who has had an operation on both feet; Mr. George Malins. We have been glad to welcome home from hospital Mr. R. Hutchings, Mrs. H. Addis, Mrs. Merrett, Mrs. Daphne Bell, Mrs. Phyllis Knight, Mrs. Brenda Hall (née Stewart), who has patiently suffered a long time from phlebitis after losing her baby. Mrs. Amy Sadler is convalescent after a heart attack. Miss Hutchings and Mrs. Emma Cole, in Avonside Hospital, are both doing well. Mr. Jack Ford is ill at home.

Servers for June 2nd (Whitsun), 7-15 S. Gresty; 8-0 M. Clements; 10-15 C. Tucker (Server), D. Barrand (Crucifer); 6-45 M. Exon. 9th (Trinity), 10-15 C. Hartwell (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Clements. 16th, 8-0 D. Hatherley; 6-45 C. Tucker. 23rd, 8-0 T. Bell; 6-45 A. Clements (Server), R. Keen (Crucifer). 30th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 10-15 D. Hatherley; 6-45 D. Barrand.

War Memorial Flowers. June 9th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 16th, Mrs. Betteridge; 23rd, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Birthdays Half-crown: Mrs. M. Sladden.

### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

#### Church Services

June

- 2 **WHITSUNDAY.** 9-0 Holy Communion (with hymns). 5-30 Evensong.  
9 **TRINITY SUN.** As for 2nd Sun. Trinity Sun. Envelopes. See Note after Vicar's Letter.  
16 **Trinity 1.** As for 3rd Sun.  
23 **Trinity 2.** As for 4th Sun. 5-30 1st Evensong of St. John Baptist (Patron Saint).  
24 **Mon. NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST (PATRONAL FESTIVAL).** 7-30 p.m. Holy Communion (with hymns).  
30 **Trinity 3.** As for 5th Sun.

Please note the opportunity of corporate Communion and Thanksgiving on St. John Baptist's Day, in the evening

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

## THE FLOWER BASKET

D. B. & R. COOK

75, Port Street, Evesham

TELEFLOWER SERVICE

PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

Confirmation Class, Wed., 12th June, 5-45 p.m.

Missions to Seamen Coffee Evening. See Note after Vicar's Letter (June 11th).

Bible Society Riverside Market. See Note after Vicar's Letter (June 29th).

Leprosy Mission Phials for Sixpences. See Note after Vicar's Letter.

May Fair Result. See Note after Vicar's Letter.

**Jottings.** We were glad to welcome a party of about 70 from the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society to Wickhamford Church on 18th May, a very wet and cold day which limited their enjoyment of the Manor House gardens and the Evesham Historical Society's Roman villa excavations in Wickhamford.

We are sorry to have to say farewell to Miss Phyllis Sherwin, who is leaving Wickhamford to look after her brother in Yorkshire.

Your prayers are asked for the sick, especially Mr. J. Colley and Mrs. Stanley, both in Ronkswood Hospital. Miss V. Lawley is still away from home, her convalescence having been prolonged. Mr. Boston is also having to bear a long convalescence after his skin graft. Mrs. Franklin has been a victim to shingles in addition to her painful arthritis, but is very plucky as usual.

## F. MASTERS

*Painting, Decorating  
General Repairs . . .*

5, The Poplars,  
**BADSEY**

Tel. Badsey 456

## "AVON ELECTRICS"

DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS

72, HORSEBRIDGE AVENUE, BADSEY.

TEL. BADSEY 500

**Wheeler & Mansell Ltd.** - Lime Street, Evesham

are now engaged on, or will shortly be developing sites at :

**ALDINGTON, BADSEY, BLEDINGTON, BROADWAY,  
HAMPTON, EVESHAM AND MONMOUTH.**

*all types of Building Work undertaken*

**TELEPHONE - EVESHAM 6262 (3 lines)**