

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

OCTOBER, 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

17th October, 1968.

My dear People,

Is Harvest Thanksgiving taken as seriously as it was ten years ago?

I get the impression that it is not. This may be peculiar to our villages, or it may be a country-wide trend. I don't profess to know. What I do know is that in the last few years only a small proportion of growers and farmers have troubled to bring any of their produce to church as a token of their thanks to God the Giver, or to present themselves in church on the festival Sunday. Even ten years ago, when we first came here, we remember a much bigger participation.

I think one reason for the falling off may be that the whole idea of harvest thanksgiving has been cheapened and commercialised by secular interests. In many places, organisations of all sorts have 'cashed in' on the idea, by holding so-called harvest festivals to raise money for their funds by the sale of goods. This is a very far cry from the dedication of the first-fruits of our labours to God, in humble and joyful thanksgiving, as an act of the whole community in the parish church.

It may be argued that life (even rural life) is so complex nowadays that there is no longer any such thing as a village community; that it is unrealistic to expect such a community (if it exists) to centre round the church, which tends to be regarded more and more as just one of the many organisations which compete for people's interest.

But, whichever way you look at it, the church building is there because it was built to the glory of God, and not to serve any sectional interest at all, even "the Church". It stands there as the one building in the place which exists solely to draw all men to God and to bring to all men the blessings of God.

The connection between God and our work and food is absolutely basic if life is to have any meaning. Without acknowledgement of God, the land worker becomes a slave to earth and earthiness. His spirit is sunk into the furrows, rotated in the machinery, and packaged in the market. It cannot soar.

At a harvest festival, religion has no obscurities for those who earn their living from the soil. That is why harvest festivals are the oldest of religious feasts, far older than Christianity itself. But the Son of God became man and toiled as a worker, to show us how to bring the whole earth to serve the purposes of love. In his Name and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we thank God for the good land He has given us, and dedicate our hands and minds and hearts to serve his utmost glory.

A great opportunity

Do you remember my special Christmas Appeal last year? You gave £56-10-0 to help Captain Barry Irons of the Church Army to set up a centre in Moseley for the rehabilitation of young drug addicts. The house was opened on 16th February this year, and a great work is being done there, by the grace of God, in absolutely shattering conditions of human degradation and misery.

Captain Irons is of course a very busy man, but in spite of the pressure of his work he has most kindly consented to come to Badsey and Wickhamford and tell us about it. He will visit us on **Sunday, 13th October** and preach at Evensong: Wickhamford 5-30, Badsey 6-45. This is an opportunity not to be missed, of hearing at first-hand about this work in Christ's Name to which we have contributed of our means and pledged the support of our prayers. I am told that Captain Irons is a forceful and inspiring speaker, and that the story he has to tell us is devastating, yet redeemed by Christian hope.

Family & Social Services

A work of Christian welfare very much closer at hand is the Family and Social Services. We have our own local association for Evesham, Bredon and Pershore Deaneries, and in the past have been able to support, very largely from our own local efforts, the salary and expenses of a trained welfare worker - first, Miss Walker and now, for the last two years, Miss Read. It is just this kind of service to the community, where personal and spiritual factors count for so much, which the Church can offer, and still does.

A visit to Barsham House, Malvern, the hostel for mothers and babies run by the Diocesan Association, is being arranged on October 24 for Evesham Deanery, and details will be announced later. On **Wednesday, 16th October**, the annual People's Offering Service will be held at St. Michael's, Broadway, at 7-30 p.m. Canon G. C. B. Davies of Worcester Cathedral will be the preacher. At this service the offerings of the parishes in Evesham Deanery, our own two included, are presented. I hope a number of people from Badsey and Wickhamford will go. Transport can be arranged, if you will let me know as soon as possible.

Clerical Roundabout

That same evening, Oct. 16, Canon W. A. Trippass, our Rural Dean, will be instituted to the parish of Bidford-on-Avon, in the Diocese of Coventry, and our prayers and good wishes go with him and Mrs. Trippass in their new sphere of work. We shall certainly miss them in Evesham Deanery; we have valued Canon Trippass' wise counsel and ever ready help. On Oct. 19th the Rev. W. J. Moxon comes from Bidford to be instituted as Vicar of Bengeworth, and he and Mrs. Moxon can be assured of a friendly welcome in this Deanery, where they are already known to many of us.

A devoted layman

The news, at the time of writing this, of the sudden death of Mr. Charles Raymer, at the age of 53, comes as a great shock to those of us who knew him and the big part he has played in the life of the Diocese and of Evesham Deanery. He was a most assiduous worker for the Church, and will be specially missed for his services to the Lay Readers' Association, as well as the Diocesan Conference, Board of Finance, Dilapidations Board, the Deanery Synod, and many other activities, in none of which did he spare himself. He had strong views on almost everything, which he would often propound at considerable length. But even those who disagreed with him could not help loving him, as the kind, warm-hearted Christian man that he was.

Public Baptism

The main subject for discussion (in groups) at the Evesham Ruridecanal Synod on Oct. 21 will be the new services of Baptism and Confirmation. The Bishop is expected to be present. The P.C.C.'s of both our parishes have studied the new form of Baptism service and approved its use in Badsey and Wickhamford during the experimental period of four years laid down by the Church Assembly. At the time of writing I have administered baptism of infants once in each church according to the new rite. It is a good deal shorter than the 1928 service which was commonly used, and certainly simpler and more intelligible in the wording and phraseology. The nature of the decision which is being made by the parents and sponsors in bringing the child to baptism is very clearly drawn out; so is the distinction between the actual Baptism in water in the Name of the Trinity, and the ceremonies which follow: the signing with the cross, and (optional, though much appreciated) the presentation of a lighted candle. The congregation have a definite part in these and in welcoming the new member of Christ into the family of the Church.

This highlights the importance of making Public Baptism the great festal occasion which it is meant to be in the life of the Christian community. Both our P.C.C.s are at present giving serious thought as to the best arrangements that can be made for this in our own parishes. Suggestions from parishioners will be welcome. All sorts of factors enter into the problem of finding the best time and how often. It may be that in this respect also we need to have a period of experiment.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

October

- 2 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
6 **Trinity 17.** St. Faith, V. & M. As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service.
9 Wed. St. Denys, Bp. & M. 10-0 H.C.
13 **HARVEST FESTIVAL.** (See Note below, also Vicar's Letter). 10-15 Family Eucharist (with Children's harvest offerings). 6-45 Evensong, Preacher: **Capt. Barry Irons, Church Army.** (See Vicar's Letter: "A Great Opportunity").
16 Wed. No H.C. 7-30 p.m. People's Offering Service, St. Michael's, Broadway (See Vicar's Letter).
18 Fri. **St. Luke, Evangelist.** 10-0 H.C.
20 **Trinity 19.** As for 3rd Sun. 3-0 Holy Baptism.
23 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 3-0 Pram Service.
27 **Trinity 20.** As for 4th Sun. 6-45 Sung Eucharist (Eve of **SS. Simon & Jude, Apostles.**)
30 Wed. No H.C.

November

- 1 Fri. **ALL SAINTS' DAY.** 10 a.m. H.C.
2 Sat. Commemoration of All Souls. Departed souls will be remembered by name at the altar next day, Sunday, at 8 and 11 a.m. Please give names to the Vicar in writing before Sat. evening.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Oct. 1st, 7-15 p.m. Parish Room.

Evesham Ruridecanal Synod, Mon., Oct. 21st, 7-30 p.m. Four Pools School.

Confirmation Class, Wed., Oct. 2nd, 7-30 p.m.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING, Oct. 13

Church Services (see above). Gifts of fruit, flowers, vegetables, eggs, preserves and other produce will be welcome, and should be brought to the church late on Friday or on Saturday, Oct. 12th not later than **10 a.m.**, when decorating begins (helpers will be welcome). Children will bring their gifts to the altar in the Family Eucharist at 10-15 a.m. on Sunday.

We shall be glad of helpers on Monday morning, 14th, beginning at 9-30, to sort out the goods; arrange and deliver baskets to the sick. Cars will be useful if available.

HARVEST SUPPER

At the Meeting House, Tuesday, 15th Oct., 7-30 p.m. prompt. Tickets 4/6, from any member of the P.C.C. (in advance). Ask at Vicarage if you don't know anyone else. (2/6 for children still at school. Children under 14 only admitted if with their parents. Don't excite yourselves, kids - it doesn't mean it has an X certificate).

PRAM SERVICE

This is a reminder, for mothers with young children not yet at school, of the special service we have for you every 4th Wednesday of the month, in the church at

3 o'clock. We know how difficult it is for you to get to church at the usual times. This service is quite short - 20 minutes - and there is no worry about disturbing other people, because you are all mums and kidlings together. It is an opportunity of turning aside from the daily round and rush, to spend a few moments with God and refresh your spirit. It also helps the children to get used to being at home in their Father's house. Our service this month is on the 23rd.

Mothers' Union. Programme for the month:—

- 2nd 10-0 Corporate Communion.
8th 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Anglebeck, "Family & Social Work". Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Hartwell (Committee), Mesdames Hall, Harvey and Harwood.
22nd 7-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker with Films: Mr. S. Ward, "The Life of Frances Ridley Havergal".
Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Caswell (Committee), Mesdames Franklin, Hatcher, Ives. J.B.

HOLY BAPTISM

- Aug. 28 Jennifer Louise Brooks; Paul Andrew McLennan.
Sept. 15 Jayne Hands.

Jettings. We shall be remembering in our prayers Nicholas Murray-White, who is to be confirmed in Bloxham School chapel on Oct. 12.

We were thankful that Stephen Wheatley, who was taken to hospital with head injuries after a cycle accident, returned home well after a few days. Mr. E. Williams has returned from hospital. Mrs. Harriet Taylor is in Worcester Royal Infirmary, and Mr. Frank Wheeler in Ronkswood. There are others who have been in hospital quite a long time, but whom we do not forget: Mrs. Emma Cole, Miss Ella Jones, Miss Ruby Jones, Mr. W. Churchill, Miss Hutchings (now convalescent), Mr. Blunsom. Mrs. Lottie Haines has setbacks, but comes up smiling. Mr. F. Padfield is not at all well. Mrs. M. Brotherton is using a new appliance on her swollen arm: the Vickers Splint. Mr. T. H. Knight has not been well, but seems to be getting stronger again - he is always bright. Mr. Fred Wheatley is waiting to go into hospital; so is Mr. George Grove. Please remember the sick in your prayers.

Servers for October. 6th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 A. Clements; 6-45 R. Keen. 13th (Harvest), 10-15 C. Tucker (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 D. Hatherley. 20th, 8-0 M. Clements; 6-45 M. Exon. 27th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 6-45 C. Hartwell (Server), A. Clements (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. 13th, Mrs. P. Sparrow; 20th, Mrs. Bonehill; 27th, Mrs. K. Cleaver.

Anniversary Donations. Anon. In Memoriam 10/-.
Birthday Half-crown J. F. Braby.

LILIAN LANGSTONE, R.I.P.

Just before going to press, we have heard of the death after many months of illness, of Mrs. Langstone. May God grant her refreshment and peace. Our prayerful sympathy with her husband Arthur and all the family, who have endured the long trial with such loving devotion and fortitude.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services

October

- 6 **HARVEST FESTIVAL.** 9-0 Holy Communion (with hymns). 3-0 Children's Harvest Service. 5-30 Even-song.
13 **Trinity 18.** St. Edward the Confessor. 5-30 Even-song. Preacher: **Capt. Barry Irons, Church Army** (See Vicar's Letter).
20 **Trinity 19.** As for 3rd Sun.
27 **Trinity 20.** As for 4th Sun.

November

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2 Sat. Commemoration of All Souls. Departed souls will be remembered by name at the altar at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3. Names in writing to the Vicar by Sat. evening.

Evesham Ruridecanal Synod, Mon., Oct. 21st, 7-30 p.m., Four Pools School.

Confirmation Class, Wed., Oct. 2nd, 5-45 p.m.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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TELEFLOWER SERVICE

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PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

HOLY BAPTISM

Sept. 1 Catherine Enoch; Emma Kate Badham; John Patrick Sweeting.

Jottings. We are all thankful for the preservation of Dr. Astley and Nigel in the tragic accident on Longdon Hill on Bank Holiday evening.

Congratulations to Harold Roberts, who has now qualified as a doctor and is on the medical staff of Wakefield Hospital.

NOTE FOR BOTH PARISHES

The Vicar will be glad to hear as soon as possible of adults who would like to be prepared for Confirmation (or Baptism and Confirmation). Classes will start in November.

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