

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

OCTOBER, 1969

PRICE 4/- PER ANNUM

Vicar (& Rural Dean): 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). People's Service 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. Mattins and Holy Baptism 11 a.m. Sung 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	...	...	See 4th Sunday. (Parents must see the Vicar personally at least seven days before).
Sunday School	...	...	10 a.m. Over 8, in church. Under 8, Parish Room and Meeting House.

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

Churchwardens	...	...	Mrs. N. Clark, Pennyfields, Aldington. Mr. D. W. Hartwell, 35, Willersey Road.
Clerk	...	...	Mr. E. Mitchell, 68, Synehurst.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD.

SUNDAY SERVICES:

First Sunday and Festivals	...	...	Holy Communion 9 a.m. Evensong 5-30 (3-0 Nov. to Feb.).
Second Sunday	...	...	Evensong and Holy Baptism 3 p.m. (all the year).
Third Sunday	...	...	Holy Communion (with hymns) 11 a.m. Evensong 5-30 (3-0 Nov. to Feb.).
Fourth & Fifth Sundays	...	...	Evensong 5-30 (3-0 Nov. to Feb.).
Holy Baptism	...	...	See 2nd Sunday. (Parents must see the Vicar at least seven days before).
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, C.B.E., Gallisport Farm, Broadway. Tel. Badsey 395.
Clerk	...	...	Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

17th September, 1969

My dear People,

It is all too easy for us English to feel superior about the troubles in Northern Ireland, and to dismiss them as the squabbles of children who have not yet grown up into the 20th century. To us, William of Orange is even deader than Queen Anne, and we cannot see what all the fuss is about. But, as someone has said, the history of Ireland is something which all Englishmen would do well to remember, and all Irishmen to forget.

The Legacy of History: 1. Ireland

Just as the difficulties in this country over immigration are not primarily to do with colour at all, so in Ulster the differences are not primarily to do with religion. The labels Catholic and Protestant stand not so much for opposing doctrines as for two distinct communities, each competing for political and economic benefits, and highly suspicious and fearful of one another. Past history is important, because it has produced a situation where the majority section rule, and have in the past shown an inclination to rule in their own interests rather than of the country as a whole; while the minority, despairing more and more of getting political equality or a share in ordering the affairs of the country, look constantly over their shoulders to their co-religionists over the Border, who are the majority there.

But why, asks a newspaper editorial, has this situation, which has been there all the time, suddenly boiled over at the present moment? It is all part, says the same editorial, of the universal mood of explosive discontent, which seeks to solve social predicaments by violent means. And, wherever there is any possibility of civil commotion, the flames are fanned by young left-wing anarchists who are not interested in the rights or wrongs of the parties, but in the opportunities provided to attack authority anywhere and discredit the forces of law and order. In keeping an atmosphere of tension going, they are assisted by all the apparatus of television coverage and feverish press publicity.

Here we have a situation which calls neither for ridicule nor despair, but for sympathetic understanding and continuous prayer. How the people involved do need to be upheld by prayer! Think of Major Chichester-Clark and his colleagues in the task of convincing the whole people of Ulster that they stand for the national interest, while satisfying their more extreme supporters that they are not betraying the ideals of their party. Think of General Freeland and the Army in their complex mission of combining conciliation with firmness. Think of the civil rights leaders who must continue to seek justice for their followers while giving no scope for hotheads to provoke violence. Above all, pray for the leaders of the Churches (whose reconciling influence is already in evidence), that they may be strengthened to bring the healing power of Christ into the prevailing atmosphere of suspicion and distrust.

2. Badsey.

Irish concern for past history is apt to be divisive. In our movement for reunion in this country, the realisation of a shared historical heritage can inspire unity in Christian mission today. In England, religious divisions were once as bitter as in Ulster today. Looking back, we can lament the tragedy and wastefulness of it all; we can also find examples of an underlying unity, as in the story I gave two months ago about the village of Eyam in the plague.

It so happens that in Badsey we have a unique historic link between Anglicans and Methodists. William Seward the first Methodist martyr, was not only Badsey born and bred, but a zealous churchman who gave (among other gifts) the Communion Table which we use in St. James's Church today. He became a disciple and compan-

ion of the great Methodist preacher George Whitefield, who came to Badsey in 1739 and, being denied the use of the church, preached in the yard of the Swards' house. (It must be remembered that these early Methodists were members of the Church of England and had no intention at that time of starting a break-away movement). After accompanying Whitefield to America, Seward returned home, and set out from Badsey in October 1740 for a preaching tour of Wales. He was badly received by hostile mobs in several places, and at Hay-on-Wye was stoned to death. His last words, after the example of the first Christian martyr, were to forgive those who had killed him and to ask that no charge should be brought against anyone for his death. He was buried in Cusop churchyard.

I knew the bare facts of this story some years ago, and wrote about it in the Parish Review for Sept. 1963. I am indebted for new information to the Rev. D. A. Tipper, Vicar of Balderstone, Rochdale, who asked a friend to visit Badsey in connection with research into the life of George Whitefield.

A Service of Reconciliation

The anniversary date of William Seward's martyrdom is 22nd October. Our Methodist friends in Badsey have agreed with me that we should make this date the occasion of an annual joint commemoration service. The Methodist minister in Evesham, the Rev. T. R. Hill, has declared himself to be in favour of such a project, though owing to a previous engagement he would not be able to take part personally on Oct. 22 this year.

It would seem appropriate that the first commemoration should be a Service of Holy Communion using the holy Table which William Seward gave (but removing the modern frontal). The regulations recently issued by the Bishop would enable us to do this. Accordingly on Wednesday, 22nd October, instead of the usual 10 a.m. service, there will be Holy Communion, with hymns and participation by Methodists in the readings and intercession, at 7-30 p.m.

I hope that many of you will come and share in this 'service of reconciliation', declaring our willingness to heal the breach, to make reparation for past wrongs and misunderstandings, and to give thanks in the communion of saints.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING SERVICE

The annual service for the parishes in the Deanery of Evesham will be held in Badsey Church this year. This is a service of thanksgiving, offering and prayer for the work of Family and Social Service, and a representative from each parish presents the contributions towards the People's Offering. Our preacher will be the Rev. Raymond Efemey, Vicar of Dudley, and Chairman of the Diocesan Association for Family & Social Service. Mr. Efemey is well known as a forceful speaker and writer on social and ecclesiastical matters. There will be refreshments after the service, which will be at 7-30 p.m. on Wednesday, 15th October.

EVESHAM RURIDECANAL SYNOD

Monday, Oct. 27, at Evesham County Secondary School, 7-30 p.m. The Synodical Government Measure comes into effect in 1970, and the whole set-up of representative government in the Church of England is going to be different. We are fortunate in having our new Dean, the Very Rev. Eric Kemp, to come and explain it all to us, and answer questions. Dr. Kemp is undoubtedly the greatest authority on this subject in the Church of England, and was the chief architect of the present Measure.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Oct.

- 1 Wed. St. Remigius, Bp. 10-0 H.C.
- 5 **Trinity 18.** As for 1st Sun.
- 8 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 12 **HARVEST FESTIVAL.** (See Note below). 10-15 Family Eucharist (with Children's harvest offerings). 6-45 Evensong.
- 15 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Family & Social Service: People's Offering Service in Badsey Church. Preacher: Rev. R. F. Efemey. (See Note above).
- 18 Sat. **St. Luke, Evangelist.** 10-0 H.C.
- 19 **Trinity 20.** As for 3rd Sun.
- 22 Wed. No H.C. at 10-0. 3-0 Pram Service. 7-30 p.m. Holy Communion: William Seward Commemoration Service with the Methodists. (See Vicar's Letter).
- 26 **Trinity 21.** Alfred, K. of the W. Saxons. 8-0 H.C. 11-0 M. & Holy Baptism. 6-45 Sung Eucharist. Preacher: the Rev. E. D. Houston, for U.S.P.G. Meeting afterwards at which he will give illustrated talk on work in Kamdara. (See Note below).
- 28 Tues. **SS. Simon & Jude, Apostles.** 10-0 H.C.
- 29 Wed. No H.C.

Nov.

- 1 Sat. **ALL SAINTS' DAY.** 10-0 H.C.
- 2 **Trin. 22.** Commemoration of all Souls. Names for remembrance at 8-0 and 11-0 to be given to the Vicar in writing by Sat. evening.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING, Oct. 12

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 early on Saturday (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, 13th, beginning at 9-30, to sort out the goods, and arrange and deliver baskets to the sick. Cars will be useful if available.

Finance & Gen. Purposes Committee, Tues., Oct. 14, 7-15

Ruridecanal Synod, Mon., Oct. 27, Four Pools School, 7-30 p.m. (See Note above).

OUR PROJECT IN INDIA

The Rev. E. D. Houston is home on furlough and will be visiting the parishes of Bengeworth and Badsey for the three days Oct. 25 - 27. He will preach at the evening Eucharist 6-45 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26, and there will be a meeting immediately afterwards in the Meeting House, at which he will show us slides and tell us about his work in Kamdara, in the Diocese of Chota Nagpur, our special parochial overseas project. If any would like to invite him to a meal during his stay, please let the Vicar know.

Mr. Houston was born in Belfast and educated at the Methodist College, Belfast. He is a graduate of Dublin University where he took an Honours Degree. He was ordained Deacon in 1957 and Priest the following year. Before going overseas in 1959 he was Curate of Cornwall Union with Gartan in the United Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.

Until recently the Diocese of Chota Nagpur in which Mr. and Mrs. Houston are serving could have been described as a land of villages and 'jungly hills, complete with tigers and all the other paraphernalia which the romantic imagination associates with rural India. Large tracts still consist of jungle and peasant smallholdings. But like a firework display bursting out on a dark night, a shower of industrial enterprises of advanced 20th

century pattern has suddenly dotted the primeval landscape'.

Kamdara lies to the east of the River Koel in the state of Bihar, and Kamdara parish was founded nearly half a century ago. It is a schools centre with hostels for boys and girls who come from a distance to school, although it has been noted recently that more boys "commute" daily to school by bicycle. Being such an important educational centre, Kamdara has a good record of literacy.

PARISH PARTY

Autumn Social with Special Buffet

In the Meeting House,

THURSDAY, 30th OCTOBER

from 7-30 to 10-30 p.m.

Adults 3/6 Children at School 2/6

Refreshments included. Tickets now available All Welcome.

Mothers' Union. Oct. 1st (Wed). 10-0 Corporate Communion. Joint Meeting with Bretforton. Coach leaves Wheatsheaf at 2-40.

Oct. 14 Tues. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Bell (Committee), Mesdames Holley, Ives and Izod.

Oct. 28 Tues. 7-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Rolt, of Bromsgrove, "Is Marriage out of date"? Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Caswell (Committee), Mesdames Marshall, Major and Perkins.

Holy Baptism

Aug. 24 Diane Linda Stewart.

Holy Matrimony

Aug. 23 Alain Christian Lacombe, of St. Martory, France, and Anthea Janet Taylor, of Badsey.

Sept. 6 Robert Keith James, of Honeybourne, and Judith Ann Hartwell, of Badsey.

„ 17 James Maxim Byrd, of Harvington, and Victoria Mary Mustoe, of Badsey.

„ 20 Graham Norledge, of Fairfield, Evesham, and Marjorie Elizabeth Littlewood, of Badsey.

Jottings. It was good to see Mr. & Mrs. W. Agg and their son, from Vancouver, on a visit to Badsey after 50 years.

Congratulations to Mr. Terry Sparrow on his success in the Certified and Corporate Accountants' examination Section 2, in which he gained the highest marks of all candidates in the British Isles.

Our sympathy with two parishioners who have sustained injuries and shock in motor accidents recently: Mr. Phil Sparrow and Mrs. Maureen Ford.

Mr. Cyril Bird has undergone a major operation in Worcester Royal Infirmary and seems to be making a good recovery. Others who have been in hospital but are now convalescent are Mr. Harry Robinson, Mr. D. Collis, Mr. J. Knight, Mr. R. Shorthouse. Miss Sladden is shortly to go into hospital for a foot operation.

Servers for October. 5th, 8-0 M. Clements; 11-0 T. Bell; 6-45 M. Exon. 12th (Harvest), 10-15 C. Hartwell (Server), D. Barrand (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Clements. 19th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 R. Keen. 26th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 11-0 M. Exon; 6-45 A. Clements (Server), M. Clements (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. Oct. 12th, Mrs. P. Sparrow; 19th, Mrs. D. Bonehill; 26th, Mrs. F. Cleaver.

Birthday Half-crown. J. F. Braby.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Oct.

- 5 **HARVEST FESTIVAL.** 9-0 Holy Communion (with hymns). 3-0 Children's Harvest Service. 5-30 Even-song.
Harvest gifts for the church will be welcome, and should be brought fairly early on Saturday morning.
- 12 (Trin. 19), 19 (Trin. 20), 26 (Trin. 21). As for 2nd, 3rd & 4th Suns.

Nov.

- 2 **All Saints tide & Commemoration of All Souls.** Names for remembrance at 9-0 Holy Communion should be given in writing to the Vicar by Saturday evening.

HARVEST SUPPER & SOCIAL

SATURDAY, 11th OCTOBER

In the Memorial Hall

7-30 for 8 p.m. sharp

Tickets 5/- each now on sale. All are welcome.

Family & Social Service. People's Offering Service, Wed., 15th October, 7-30 p.m. in Badsey Church. See Note after Vicar's Letter.

Ruridecanal Synod, Mon., 27th October, Four Pools School, 7-30 p.m. See Note after Vicar's Letter.

Holy Baptism

Sept. 14 Francis Diana Bell; Steven Heritage; Katherine Louise Lamb.

The Sick. Your prayers are asked for Mr. Ted Cooke, who at the time of writing is in Worcester Royal Infirmary, about to undergo a major operation.

Also for Miss Evans, of Drysdale Close, who has had an operation in Cheltenham Hospital and is to have further tests.

Mrs. Pemberton has been unwell, but is now recuperating, we are glad to say.

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