

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

DECEMBER, 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

20th November, 1969

My dear People,

I wrote last month about the National Declaration on World Poverty, which people are asked to sign in December. It is being organised by the Churches' Action for World Development, of which the sponsoring bodies are the British Council of Churches, the Roman Catholic Commission for International Justice and Peace, and the Conference of British Missionary Societies. The aim is to draw the attention of Government and nation to the small proportion of our national income which goes to help the hungry and poor in less privileged lands.

Dives and Lazarus

Many people see the growing gap between rich and poor nations as a looming threat to world peace. However, the Christian is concerned about this poverty, not because he is afraid of revolution and violence, but because there are people suffering whom the Father loves, and for whom Christ died. Yes, people suffering the pangs of hunger while we fare sumptuously.

No one is being asked to sign just so that we can get another name on the list. Signing this petition is a responsible act. It means accepting the necessity for a cut in our own living standards. Human nature being what it is, this is not a popular cause. That is why public opinion needs to be roused. This 'Sign-In' aims to show that there is a very large body of people who are not content to let things go on as they are. They want action taken at top level: by the Government, and the wielders of power in commerce, industry and finance.

Sign-In, Dec. 14 to 21

The Declaration was printed in full in last month's issue. In December, petition forms (with the Declaration) will be available for signature. They must all be collected and sent in by the end of the year, to be presented to local M.P.s. at public meetings in January.

The 'Sign-In' Week in Badsey and Wickhamford will be from Sunday, Dec. 14 to Sunday, Dec. 21. There will be Declaration forms for signature in our churches. But I shall be grateful if individuals will volunteer to take forms for obtaining the signatures of friends, acquaintances and neighbours. Obviously we do not want to limit the opportunities for signing to those who will be in church on those two Sundays. Please let me know as early as possible if you will take a Declaration form to ask for signatures. I will see that you have an information sheet giving facts and figures, and the reasons for the Declaration.

My Christmas Appeal

Of course it would be quite meaningless, indeed frivolous, to petition the Government to do something, or to rouse public opinion, if we ourselves are not setting an example.

Once again I am asking you to contribute in a meaningful way to alleviate distress - through my special Christmas Appeal. Do you remember the idea? For every shilling you spend on Christmas presents for your relations and friends, I ask you to spend another shilling in aid for the needy. Everyone will then give proportionately and equitably, whether their budget for presents is large or small. If you reckon you are going to spend £x on presents this year, then £½x is your present to Christ's poor, who cannot repay or reward you. What a blessing it will bring upon your Christmas! You will have been able to make a real token of love to the Child of the Manger.

Help the Aged

Our hearts have been touched lately by eye-searing pictures of hunger-bitten children. But this year we might try to alleviate the lot of poor people at the

other end of the age-scale. So my 1969 Christmas Appeal is for that excellent Christian relief organisation: Help the Aged. They are setting out to raise enough money to provide a quarter of a million meals to aged refugees.

The closing date for my Appeal will be Dec. 25th.

The plight of starving children is terrible. But imagine what it is like to be old - a life of struggle behind you - and now to find yourself homeless, destitute, cold, hungry and ill; without decent shelter, or herded with others into a refugee camp. When you were younger, you had greater physical powers of resistance, and always there was hope for a brighter future. But now - the feeble body racked, the mind tottering on the verge of collapse, and no one seeming to care.

Dear God of love, help us to care. Send into our hearts not just the sentimental spirit of Christmas, but the burning Spirit of your Christ.

Mrs. Braby and our family join me in wishing you a really happy Christmas.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Note that there will be no Pram Service this month, as the 4th Wednesday is Christmas Eve. There will be no Evening Sung Eucharist on the 4th Sunday. The Christmas Carol Service will be at the People's Service on Jan. 4, and not on the 1st Sunday after Christmas.

December

- 3 Wed. 10-0 H.C. As for St. Andrew, Apostle (transferred from Nov. 30).
- 7 Advent 2. As for 1st Sun. in month.
- 10 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 14 Advent 3. As for 2nd Sun.
- 17 Wed. St. Ignatius, M. Ember Day. 10-0 H.C.
- 21 Advent 4. As for 3rd Sun.
- 22 Mon. St. Thomas, Apostle (transf. from 21st). 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 24 Wed. Christmas Eve. 11-30 p.m. Midnight Eucharist. (Carols sung by Quartet from 11 p.m.)
- 25 Thurs. CHRISTMAS DAY. 8-0 Holy Communion. 10-15 Family Service. 11-0 H.C. 4-0 Evening Prayer (said).
- 28 Innocents' Day. Christmas 1. 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins & Holy Baptism. 6-45 Evensong.
- 31 Wed. No H.C.

Jan.

- 1 Thurs. Circumcision of Christ. 10-0 H.C.

For all who seek "the benefit of absolution, together with spiritual counsel and advice", in accordance with the Prayer Book Exhortation to Communion, the Vicar will be in Church at 7 p.m. on Mon. 21st Dec. & Wed. 24th Dec. (or other times by appointment).

The Vicar will be glad to take Holy Communion to the homes of those who through sickness or infirmity are unable to get to church at Christmas. If you are not already on his regular list, please let him know.

Decoration of the church for Christmas will be on Christmas Eve, beginning at 2 p.m. Helpers will be welcome. Flowers and evergreens will also be very acceptable, and should be brought to the church before 2 p.m.

The collections on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be, as usual, for the Church of England Children's Society.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Dec. 2, at 7-15 p.m.

Mothers' Union: Wed. 3rd. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tues. 9th, 2-30. Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Palin, of Wichford, will talk on M.U. Work in Uganda. Tea hostesses: Mrs. Sladden (Committee), Mesdames Caswell, Crisp and Evans.

There will no meeting on Dec. 23 as it is so near Christmas Day, but I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas.

J.B.

Holy Baptism

Oct. 26 Shawn Andrew Maberley; Wayne Reuben West; Elaine Sadie Knight; Joanne Clare Knight; Robert Andrew Smith.

Burials, R.I.P.

Our prayerful condolences with all to whom these departed servants of God are specially near and dear.

Nov. 1 Hilda May Addis, aged 64.

Mrs. Addis had suffered a good deal of illness from time to time, but her death was unexpected, and much lamented. She had a sweet nature, and many have testified to the help and friendship they owed to her.

Nov. 6 (by cremation. Ashes in Garden of Rest).

Ruth Hilda May Izod, aged 75.

Mrs. Izod's sudden death was a sad shock. She had been unwell, but none of us had realized it was so serious. Mr. & Mrs. Jack Izod soon became much liked after they came to Badsey, when their son and family took the Post Office. Mrs. Izod was a keen member of the Mothers' Union.

Nov. 17 Elfryn Lewis Williams, aged 50.

Mr. 'Les' Williams' sudden death at work, at an early age, is a sad blow to his wife and family, and also to many friends. A native of S. Wales, he had long been accepted as a Badsey man and good neighbour.

Jottings. Heartiest congratulations to two couples of the Keen clan who have celebrated their Golden Weddings at this time: Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Keen, on Nov. 15; Mr. & Mrs. Tom Keen, on Nov. 24. It is sad that the latter occasion should have been marred by the death of their son-in-law (recorded above).

Jean Mary Edwards, at Eilerslie School, Malvern, was confirmed on Nov. 22.

Mr. Len Perkins is in hospital recovering from a stroke. Mrs. Godwin has been in Cheltenham Hospital and is still receiving treatment. Mrs. Emma Cole, in Avonside Hospital, has not been very well, but is now a good deal better. Mrs. Lottie Haines, her sister, is also considerably improved. Returned from hospital and convalescent are Mrs. Kinchin, Mrs. Lord, Miss Lawley, Mr. R. Hands, Mrs. Seal, Mrs. Bowley. Mr. Chaplin had a nasty attack of shingles just before half-term. Mr. Austen Jones, incapacitated by a fall, wheels or hobbles himself around with his usual cheerfulness.

Overseas News. It was a great inspiration and spur to our endeavours to have a visit from the Rev. Edward Houston at the end of October. After preaching at our evening Eucharist that Sunday, he was able to show us some of his excellent pictures and tell us about his work at Kamdara and the people there.

Our prayers go with him and his wife Sheila, with their child, as they return this month to India. One of the pressing needs at the moment is a motor vehicle

for the work of the mission. It was felt by the Overseas Committee that if we could help towards the provision of this, it would provide an additional incentive to our giving, to have this particular object in mind. We could ask that any amounts, over and above the minimum of £25 we are pledged to give annually to the project, could be earmarked for this.

It was therefore very gratifying that the Coffee Evening held at Seward House on Nov. 18 raised £23 for the project.

Katherine Sladden, training teachers at St. Mary's College, Poona, finds time for a good deal of ecumenical activity. Inter-Church relationships there are very good, particularly with the R.C.s. She writes of an interdenominational Bible Study Conference at Nasrapur:—

"Sister Mary Rita and I were providing sessions of drama and music. On Sunday we got everyone taking part very successfully in situation dramas, and on Monday we took the Biblical basis of belief in the form of a 'television interview' of various N.T. characters, and followed this by the Creed expressed in music and movement... We also had some evening sessions of tape recordings of modern religious music, some for listening and some for singing. The Bishop (R.C.) and Fr. Shantilal provided various experiments in worship, in particular, attempts to Indianize worship. Each evening we had evening prayers centred on the lighting of the dipak (the traditional Indian lamp used in worship). On Monday we had a celebration of Communion in the way that is in use at St. Crispin's House, Poona... Theirs was a festival version and included an introit dance and an offertory dance, beautifully done by some of the girls, and it was all sung in Marathi to very vigorous Indian tunes...

"We sat in a rectangle on the floor and the Bishop sat on the altar step with the celebrant (Fr. Shantilal) sitting just below him on a mattress covered with a striped cotton mat, such as one might have in any home. His altar was a low table and in front of it we had a rangoli (coloured pattern made on the floor) in the centre of which stood the incense sticks and, in place of altar lights, we had a dipak each side of the rangoli. Another low table like the 'altar' (about 4in. high) stood at one side with the chapati (in place of wafers), wine & water, and a girl sat by it and acted as server.

"We remained seated throughout the service and the chapati and wine (in an Indian style cup) were passed round. I found on both occasions, at St. Crispin's and at Nasrapur, that I felt it was a completely natural way and felt able to worship quite easily. In a way this was odd, as I am quite put off if I have to sit on a chair as in non-conformist services, but I suppose the cross-legged position on the floor is a natural prayer position, which I habitually use for meditation, and I found the absence of movement at the Communion a great advantage".

Servers for December. 7th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 11-0 T. Bell; 6-45 M. Exon. 14th, 10-15 C. Hartwell (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Clements. 21st, 8-0 D. Norden; 6-45 C. Hartwell. 24th, 11-30 p.m. C. Tucker. 25th, 8-0 A. Clements; 10-15 D. Barrand; 11-0 M. Clements. 28th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 11-0 M. Exon; 6-45 (E.) T. Bell.

War Memorial Flowers. Dec. 7th, Mrs. Joyce Hewlett; 14th, Mrs. K. Cole; 21st, Mrs. H. Hatcher.

Acknowledgements. In Loving Memory: Philip Edward Brailsford, 5/-; Rosina Caroline Sparrow £1.

Birthday Half-crowns: Mrs. E. G. Braby, Miss Mary Braby.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

December

- 7 **Advent 2.** 9-0 H.C. 3-0 Evensong & Sunday School Prizegiving.
14 **Advent 3.** 3-0 Evensong & Holy Baptism.
21 **Advent 4.** 11-0 H.C. (with hymns). 3-0 E.
25 Thurs. **CHRISTMAS DAY.** 9-0 Family Eucharist (with hymns). Collection for Church of England Children's Society.
28 **Innocents' Day. Christmas 1.** 3-0 Lessons & Carols.

Communion of Sick, etc. See Badsey Notes.

Holy Baptism

Nov. 9 Guy Crompton Lees-Milne; Ian John Harrop.

Burial, R.I.P.

Nov. 19 James William Stanley, aged 60.

Our prayerful sympathy with Mrs. Stanley and the family.

Jim Stanley's last illness was painful and exhausting, but he was comforted and fortified by a strong simple Christian faith. A keen sportsman in earlier days, he was much beloved by younger people as well as his own generation, for he was a good companion, helper and steady friend.

Jottings. It is good to see Mr. Ted Cooke improving after his recent setback, though still in hospital at the time of writing. Mr. Jess Colley has returned from hospital and is doing well. At the time of writing Mrs. Elaine Lees-Milne is still in hospital after an operation. It is good to see Miss Vera Lawley back in church after being in hospital. Mrs. Jane Southern is also convalescent. Miss E. Evans is back in hospital, having tests.

Young Wives' Group. At the inaugural meeting on Nov. 19th, 16 young wives attended, from all parts of the village. Others, who were unable to come that evening, had sent messages signifying their interest and intention to join.

Mrs. Braby outlined the aims and activities of Young Wives' Groups. After introductions all round, a leader was elected (Mrs. Jane Lees-Milne), and a small committee formed. It was decided to meet fortnightly, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings. A programme is being drawn up by the committee, and will be discussed at the next meeting, which is on Wednesday, December 3rd, in the Memorial Hall, at 8 p.m. All young wives welcome.

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