

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

FEBRUARY, 1970

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., Gallispot Farm, Broadway. Tel. Badsey 395.
Clerk	...	...	Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

20th January, 1970

My dear People,

"What are you doing about Lent?"

The conventional answer to this would be: Giving up smoking... sweets... late nights... reading some helpful books... praying a bit more... putting some money in a self-denial box".

In other words, most of us tend to think of Lent as a time for self-discipline and soul-cultivation.

No harm in this. But it isn't the purpose for which the season of Lent was first instituted by the Church. The trainer of a football team would not sleep peacefully before the great match, if all he had done was to get each player to do P.T. exercises on his own, and go for a run every day before breakfast. True: he would want them to be in good trim as individuals. But much more important in their training would be coaching as a team - the trial games, practice in footwork, passing, co-operation between forwards and defence, etc.

It is the same with the Church's training period: Lent. It is meant primarily for practice in team-work.

The old idea of Lent was an annual spring-cleaning of the soul. As one of my brother clergy put it recently: "You took your soul off the shelf, looked it over, dusted it, and put it back again till next Lent".

Surely Lent is an opportunity for corporate training - the Church learning what it means to "be the Church". Not by huddling together to keep ourselves warm in a bleak world - but coming together to receive the wind and fire to transform the world.

At a time when local congregations - let's face it - are getting smaller, we need to do things together on a wider basis than the parish. So we have designed a number of corporate activities in Evesham Deanery this Lent.

Local Plans

1. **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 11.** A Deanery Eucharist in All Saints, Evesham, at 8 p.m. Said service with hymns. Celebrant: the Rural Dean. Preacher: Bishop Martin. Coffee will be served after the service, so would those intending to come please let me know not later than Sunday, the 8th. Also if you need transport, or can offer it.

2. **On subsequent Wednesdays in Lent,** at 8 p.m. An evening service in different village churches in turn. The Rev. A. E. Russell, formerly Dean of Belize, British Honduras, and now Chaplain-General of the Community of the Holy Name, will conduct a course on "Thought and Action". See separate parochial notes of "Church Services" for dates and churches. The provision of transport is important here. Please let me know if (a) you need transport; (b) you can offer a lift.

3. **An interchanging of pulpits on Sunday evenings.** The clergy and readers are doing the round of different churches. The course of sermons will be on a single theme: "New Clothes for Easter". The subjects (not in the same order in each church) are "Moth-eaten Wardrobes" (Christian Wealth), "Patched-up Clothing" (Christian Commitment), "A Camel-Hair Coat" (Christian Witness), "A Long-Sleeved Maxi" (Christian Status), "Baby Clothes and a Shroud" (Christian Salvation), "The Best Suit" (Christian Reconciliation).

4. **Ecumenical bread-and-cheese lunches on Fridays** in the Walker Hall, Evesham. Proceeds to Christian Aid.

Christmas Appeal Result

I was able to send £137-10-0 to 'Help the Aged', as a result of the splendid response of Badsey and Wickhamford people to my special Christmas Appeal. £36 of this amount was given in memory of Edmund Cooke, instead of flowers at the funeral.

Confirmation Candidates

The next parochial confirmation will be in the spring of 1971. I should like to have the names of intending candidates as soon as possible.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services (See Vicar's Letter as well)

Feb.

- 1 **Sexagesima.** As usual for 1st Sun.
- 2 **Mon. Presentation of Christ in the Temple.** 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 4 **Wed.** 10-0 H.C.
- 8 **Quinquagesima.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 11 **Ash Wednesday.** 10-0 H.C. 4-0 Children's Lent Service. 8 p.m. Deanery Eucharist, All Saints, Evesham.
- 15 **Lent 1.** As for 3rd Sun. 6-45 Preacher at Evensong: Rev. L. L. Guest of Norton, "Christian Commitment".
- 17 **Tues.** 4-0 Children's Service.
- 18 **Wed.** Ember Day. 10-0 H.C. 8 p.m. Deanery Lent Service in Badsey Church: Rev. A. E. Russell.
- 22 **Lent 2.** As for 4th Sun. 6-45 Sung Eucharist. Preacher: Rev. R. F. Griffiths of Fairfield, "Christian Status".
- 24 **Tues. St. Matthias, Apostle.** 10-0 H.C. 4-0 Children's Service.
- 25 **Wed.** No H.C. (See Tues.) 3-0 Pram Service. 8 p.m. Deanery Lent Service in St. Michael's Church, Broadway: Rev. A. E. Russell.

March

- 1 As for 1st Sun. 6-45 Evensong. Preacher: Rev. B. J. Palmer of Harvington, "Christian Wealth".

The usual Children's Services will be held in Lent, after school. The first will be on Ash Wednesday, but the later ones will be on Tuesdays.

It has been requested that the subject for discussion at the People's Service on the 1st Sunday of the month should be announced beforehand. The subject for Feb. 1st will be "When there is so much poverty in the world, is the Church right to spend so much money on maintaining ancient buildings and to hold on to art treasures?"

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Feb. 3, 7-15 p.m.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Tuesday, 17th February, in the Meeting House,
at 7-15 p.m.

This meeting is of special importance this year, inaugurating Synodical Government, the aim of which is to give a new opportunity for **partnership** in the life of our Church.

First, the new system is intended to be more complete, straightforward and effective, so that churchpeople at every level may feel that they are in touch with the Church as a whole and can play their part in decision making. Secondly, the laity are now to have their place in every aspect of church government, including the doctrine and services of the Church.

Everyone who is on the Church Electoral Roll will be receiving a letter inviting them to nominate representatives and to come and vote at the meeting.

The first business is the election of churchwardens. Then, after the outgoing Parochial Church Council has reported on its work for the past year and rendered its accounts, the election of representatives takes place: to the Deanery Synod, for three years (these are ex officio members of the P.C.C.), and to the P.C.C. for one year.

After the elections, there is general discussion on Church affairs, and anyone may raise any question of parochial or general church interest. Let us have your ideas.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 4th Corporate Communion at 10-0.

Tues. 10th. There will be no afternoon branch meeting, but a visit to Stratford Theatre in the evening. Coach leaves the Wheatsheaf at 6-30.

Tues. 24th. 7-30 p.m. Annual General Meeting. There will be elections of Enrolling Member and Committee, and I do hope all members will do their best to attend. Refreshments will be provided by the Committee. J.B.

The Senior Residents' Party - An Appreciation. This has always been a success, but surely none could have been more successful, and given so much pleasure, as the one held at Blackminster School on the 17th January.

The Committee, and all who gave so much time and energy in organising the Party, can be justly proud of their efforts, for good fellowship, happiness and enjoyment were there in abundance.

Over 130 attended, and following an excellent meal entertainment of an exceedingly high standard was provided.

Appreciation was expressed for the many arrangements made for the comfort of the Senior Residents, the numerous small gifts and the very acceptable present received by them at Christmas.

The thanks of the Senior Residents are extended to all concerned for making this a truly memorable occasion.

Burials, R.I.P.

Jan. 20 **Gladys Maud Barnard**, aged 64.

A victim, alas! of the 'flu epidemic. Double pneumonia developed, and could not be alleviated because of her chronic condition of Parkinson's disease. Her remarkable courage in facing this disability for the past 8 years was an inspiration to all who knew her. Generous and sweet-natured, she was sustained by a strong Christian faith and cheerful patience. Our prayerful sympathy with Mr. Jack Barnard and all the family.

Jan. 21 **Mark Edgar Mitchell**, aged 69.

Until his retirement last year through bad health, Edgar Mitchell had been our faithful Parish Clerk and Sexton for 21 years, having succeeded the late George Moisey. He was also gardener and groundsman at Blackminster School. In recent years he had not been able to do grave-digging or other strenuous work, but he was assiduous in his custodianship of the church and churchyard, and always took a keen interest in everything pertaining to them. In fact, he simply loved the church, and in times of illness, when he was officially off work, it was hard to keep him away. The Vicar, in particular, will miss him greatly - first as a loyal friend, but also as a mine of information about the graves, the people buried there, and the old traditions of the parish. Indeed, we have all missed him at the church in the last few months, when he has been an invalid, for he was not only conscientious in his duties as a servant of the Church, but a devout communicant and zealous churchman. He took some getting to know on first acquaintance, but as intimacy grew one recognised a depth of sincere faith which could be really heart-warming.

Our condolences and prayers for Mrs. Mitchell and all the family.

Mr. J. Nisbett, of Aldington, who had been in hospital for several months since he was laid low by a stroke, passed to his rest on Dec. 23, aged 61. He was cremated. Mrs. Nisbett and family are assured of our prayers.

Another victim of influenza was **Miss Nancy Ankers**, who died after a very acute attack on 27th December. Nancy was a shy and rather lonely person who was

not easy to know. She nevertheless had a small circle of friends who appreciated her goodness of character and capacity for affection. She could be rather discouraging in declining offers of help for herself, but was extremely kind in her concern for other people's needs. She had a quiet but steady Christian faith.

As the relatives, none of whom live in the parish or locality, arranged the funeral privately elsewhere, there will be a short memorial service in **Badsey Church on Saturday, 7th February, at 3 p.m.**

Miss Doris Harrison was another somewhat lonely character, who died in Avonside Hospital on 5th January, and was cremated. She had been ill for many months, and suffered from frequent depression. Previously she lived for some years in Badsey with her sister, the late Mrs. Walter Hall.

May God grant, to these and all his servants, pardon, refreshment and peace.

Jottings. Congratulations to Mrs. March, our oldest parishioner, on her 93rd birthday on Jan. 21st. She is, as usual, extremely active, and does not miss church if she can help it.

The Bennett and Thomson families have now arrived safely at Adelaide, and there is good news that the Thomsons have a bungalow already.

There has, as everywhere, been much sickness in the parish in the past few weeks, and it is impossible to mention all who have been ill. Mr. Harry Stewart, who has been seriously ill with a chest infection, has just returned from hospital at the time of writing. Mrs. Stewart, with the same complaint, is still confined to bed. Mrs. Edith Ford has been seriously ill in Gloucester Hospital, where she was taken in emergency while she and her husband were staying with their son Tom over Christmas. Mr. Harry Marshall, also with bronchial trouble, has returned home from hospital, but is making rather a slow recovery. Little Rachel Johnston is in Ronkswood Hospital with meningitis, and has been critically ill, but now seems to be on the mend, we are thankful to say. Mrs. Elsie Jelfs of Bowers Hill has been in hospital since Christmas with chest infection. Mrs. Annie Taylor and Mrs. Lardner are also patients in that ward. Mr. Fred Dore, Senr., has undergone a major operation, also Mr. Jepson who has had his appendix removed. Others who have had operations are Miss Daisy Addis, Mr. A. Cooper, Mr. Glyn Lewis. Also returned from hospital are Mrs. Irene Jelfs who has had serious ear trouble (her daughter Gail has also been ill), Mr. Ted Wheatley, Mr. Tony Hartwell, Mr. Powis. Mr. P. J. Taylor is in hospital with a bad back, Mr. Alan Major has been in hospital after a motor accident, Mrs. Hobbs and Mr. A. Anker have been having treatment at Droitwich (the latter acted as Father Christmas). Mr. F. J. Franklin has now returned to work after rather a long illness. Mr. Aubrey Cyril was ill with heart strain following 'flu at Christmas time. He and Mrs. Cyril have gallantly carried on delivering our papers in spite of their both being ill. Others badly affected by the 'flu included Mr. W. Addis, Mr. B. Hall and Mr. Floyd. Mrs. W. Bennett Senr. has been laid low by another nasty fall. Mr. Edgar Salter is considerably better after more than one heart 'turn'.

Servers in February. 1st, 8-0 T. Bell; 11-0 A. Clements; 6-45 D. Barrand. 8th, 10-15 S. Gresty (Server), M. Clements (Crucifer); 6-45 M. Exon. 15th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 6-45 A. Clements. 22nd, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 M. Exon; 6-45 D. Barrand (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer).

Acknowledgements. Wedding Anniversary 5/-: Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Hatcher; Christmas Day Collections for Church of England Children's Society, £22-14-6; Mrs. Crisp reports a record amount in the Children's Society boxes for 1969: £28-15-0; Help the Aged Appeal: See Vicar's Letter.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

(See Vicar's Letter as well. Note there is a celebration of Holy Communion each Sunday in Lent).

Feb.

- 1 **Sexagesima.** 9-0 H.C. 3-0 1st Evensong of **Presentation of Christ in the Temple.**
- 8 **Quinquagesima.** 3-0 E. and Holy Baptism.
- 11 **Ash Wednesday.** 7-30 a.m. H.C. 8 p.m. Deanery Eucharist in All Saints, Evesham.
- 15 **Lent 1.** 11-0 H.C. (with hymns). 3-0 E. Preacher: Rev. B. J. Palmer of Harvington (Christian Wealth)
- 18 **Wed.** 8 p.m. Deanery Lent Service in Badsey Church: Rev. A. E. Russell.
- 22 **Lent 2.** 9-0 H.C. 3-0 E. Preacher: Rev. A. Woods of Hampton (Christian Reconciliation).
- 25 **Wed.** 8 p.m. Deanery Lent Service in St. Michael's, Broadway: Rev. A. E. Russell.

March

- 1 **Lent 3.** 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E. Preacher: Rev. W. J. Moxon of Bengeworth (Christian Status).

Electoral Roll Revision. The Church Electoral Roll is the list of those qualified to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, to be held on Wed., 8th April, at 7-15 p.m., when the elections take for the parochial church council and the parish's representatives on the deanery synod. Any person entitled to attend the meeting may raise any question of parochial or general church interest. You are entitled to enrol if you are a

baptised member of the Church of England of 17 years or upwards. By enrolling you become a voting member of the Church and so help to ensure that all the Councils of the Church – from P.C.C. to General Synod – are fully representative of its members.

A copy of the Electoral Roll will be on view in the Church so that you can check if you are already on it or not. Enrolment forms are available at the church or from the Hon. Sec., Mrs. Parry. They should be returned to her or the Vicar not later than March 15th.

Jottings. We are sorry to have to say goodbye to Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lees-Milne, who have left Wickhamford to go and live in Cyprus. The Lees-Milne family have been established in the parish, with an honourable and generous record, since early in the present century, and we are glad that the 3rd generation, in the persons of Simon and Jane and their children, will still be with us.

Mr. & Mrs. Summers are now home from hospital, we are glad to say, after rather serious illness. We look forward to congratulating them on their Golden Wedding on Feb. 14. Mr. Charles Lewis and Miss E. Evans are convalescent after their operations. Mrs. Sturt, Senr. has been ill with a chest infection. Mr. Paul Folkes has been in hospital for an operation.

Young Wives' Meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the Memorial Hall, at 8 p.m.

'Help the Aged Appeal'. See Vicar's Letter.

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