

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JULY, 1970

PRICE 4/- PER ANNUM

Vicar (& Rural Dean): REV. P. BRABY, M.A.

(Tel. Evesham 830343)

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, Meeting House.

WEEK-DAY SERVICES. According to notice in porch.

- Churchwardens Mrs. N. Clark, Pennyfields, Aldington.
Mr. D. W. Hartwell, 35, Willersey Road.

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. (Evesham 830244).
Mr. H. J. Dunkerley, C.B.E., M.A., Gallipot Farm, Broadway.
Tel. Evesham 830395.
Clerk Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

15th June, 1970.

My dear People,

As we are going away for a week's holiday at this time, I am having to prepare the Parish Review a little earlier this month.

The result of the General Election will be known to you and me before you read this letter. I write as the campaign is in its last stages. Inevitably, while an election campaign is on, there is a lowering of the spiritual temperature of the nation. Some Christian leaders complain that candidates and parties appeal only to the material self-interest of the electors and play down great moral issues. But let us be realist about this. What else can they be expected to do, if they hope to be elected? Archbishop William Temple wrote: "A statesman who supposes that a mass of citizens can be governed without appeal to their self-interest is living in dreamland and is a public menace. The art of government in fact is the art of so ordering life that self-interest prompts what justice demands".

This is not to say that politicians need not have ideals. Of course they should be idealists. They should care greatly about justice and freedom and righteousness. But they also need to be as wise as serpents in their understanding of what makes people tick. It is certainly not a Christian outlook which confuses men with angels, or ignores the existence of original sin. A successful politician must be able to convince the people he wants to represent that he has a proper concern for their material well-being. Having won their confidence in this, he must gain their support in attaining what justice demands for others.

So, after the smoke has cleared and election fever has subsided, a group of citizens, frail and mortal like ourselves, find themselves in the position of having been entrusted by the majority of their fellow-citizens with the reins of government. In spite of the elation of victory, the position is not altogether enviable. Mr. L. B. Johnson, the former President, in some recent frank television interviews, has shown what a terrifying commission this is, in a modern State. So, whatever our party allegiance, we must give the unflinching support of our prayers for those elected representatives of the people whom the Queen appoints to be her chief advisers and ministers of State. They will need that wisdom, courage and truthfulness which only the grace of God can give, if they are to lead the nation in righteousness and peace.

Two matters concerning church services.

At Sunday Evensong, after each lesson, I propose that we remain sitting for half a minute's silence, before standing for the canticle, so that we give time for the seed of God's Word to sink into the soil.

The second concerns the receiving of Holy Communion. Some people, if they have a heavy cold or sore throat are (rightly) concerned whether they ought to receive from the cup, lest they should pass infection to others. But no need to stay away. I just want to tell you that you can receive by what is called 'intinction'. I do it myself when I have a cold. All you have to do is to give me a message before the service. When I come to you, I shall dip the consecrated bread into the consecrated wine, and place it straight in your mouth. You will thus still receive in both kinds. If you can arrange to come up at the end or beginning of a row, it makes this easier, but it is not essential.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

The Bishop's Notes

Now that the Parishes have elected their representatives on their Deanery Synods, the next step is the choice of the right men and women to serve on the National and Diocesan Synods. What are the qualities needed?

First I would say the candidate must be an instructed and committed Christian and Church member, who is a regular worshipper and communicant, for unless those who govern the Church are people of prayer and have a strong spiritual life, the very centre of the Church will be weak where it needs to be strong.

Secondly, a candidate should be one who has ideas, sees what the needs of the Church are and yet is able to listen and learn from the views of others. Archbishop Davidson, when he visited the troops in the first world war, while he wore his episcopal frock coat, breeches and gaiters, yet discarded his top hat for a tin helmet; so members of Synods should have their feet firmly on the ground, but their heads in the present.

Thirdly, a candidate should be of an age when he has learnt experience, but has not lost enthusiasm.

To sum up, let us look for representatives who look up to God for guidance, who look around to see what is needed for the Church, and who do not bother too much to look at the necessity of maintaining their own importance.

As we then go forward to Synodical Government, we cannot do better than read again the Acts of the Apostles, for it is one long story of Christ's followers doing what they believe their Master told them to do, and finding the power for such action as they went along. And there was always the same sequel - we are told in a kind of refrain "They were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit". What God did in that first century, and what He has been doing ever since, is as nothing to what He can do and will do in the future, if only we will have the faith both to believe and to act.

When Mr. Hook retired from being Diocesan Secretary many parishes subscribed for a parting gift. Unfortunately he has been unable to come back for a formal presentation and I have now sent him a cheque for £160. Mr. Hook writes "Thank you for the most generous cheque, which will enable us to buy one or two things for the house, and be a reminder, if that were necessary, of the great kindness shown to us throughout our stay in the diocese".

Keeping in touch - though at present we have no Diocesan Paper, yet every Deanery has its representative on each of the Diocesan Committees, and they are the best agents for communicating information from the centre to the circumference and vice versa. So do please use them.

† MERVYN WORCESTER.

BADSEY & ALDINGTON NOTES Church Services

July

- 1 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
- 5 **Trinity 6.** As for 1st Sunday. 6.45 People's Service. Hymn Practice and Discussion.
- 8 Wed. 10.0 H.C.
- 12 **Trinity 7.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 15 Wed. St. Swithin, Bp. 10.0 H.C.
- 19 **Trinity 8.** As for 3rd Sun.
- 22 Wed. **St. Mary Magdalen.** 10.0 H.C., 3.0 Pram Service.
- 25 Sat. **ST. JAMES, APOSTLE & MARTYR.** 7.30 a.m. H.C.
- 25 **Trinity 9. PATRONAL FESTIVAL.** 8.0 H.C., 11.0 Family Service and Holy Baptism. 6.45 Sung Eucharist.
- 29 Wed. 10.0 H.C.

Sunday School. Parents are invited to come and see a small display of the children's work during the year on Sunday, July 5th. The last session will be on Sunday, July 19th. Sunday School will re-open on Sept. 6th.

Confirmation Class. Last meeting before summer holidays, Monday, July 13th, 6.30.

P.C.C. Meeting. Tuesday, July 7th, 7.15 p.m.

COFFEE EVENING, 1st July, 7.30 - 9.0 p.m.

As announced in our June issue, there will be a Coffee Evening on the above date, at Seward House, in the garden if fine, or house if wet, in aid of our overseas project in Kamdara, India. Tickets 2/- are on sale now from P.C.C. members. There will be stalls with Needlework and Gifts, Cakes and preserves, and a Bring and Buy Stall. Goods for these will be welcome before 1st July, and may be given to Mr. Chaplin, Secretary of the Overseas Committee and other members of the Committee, or brought to Seward House. A Draw for a bottle of whisky, bottle of Sherry, and other gifts will be held.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 1st. 10.0 Corporate Communion.

Tues. 14th. Outing to Burton Court. Coach leaves Wheatsheaf at 1.30. Will members please see me for details.

Tues. 28th. 7.30 Branch Meeting. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Perkins (Committee), Mesdames Holley, Ives, Hatcher. J.B.

Holy Baptism

May 24. Jeremy James Wood.

Jottings. Our very best wishes go with Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Collett, who on the closure of the Bell Inn have moved to the Queen's Head, Sedgeberrow. We wish them every success there.

The cheese and wine party given by the P.C.C. to new residents on the Vicarage lawn on 12th June was generally agreed to have been a happy occasion, and it was an enjoyable way of getting to know new friends.

Our sympathy to all of our parishioners who suffered damage and loss in the phenomenal hailstorm and floods of June 11th.

Some of our parishioners are seriously ill in hospital at the time of writing. These include Mr. E. Tyszkow, Mrs. E. Harrison, Mr. Harry Robinson, Mr. W. Collicutt. Also receiving treatment in hospital are Mr. H. Brailsford, Mr. F. Salter, Mrs. Crump, Mr. A. Jelfs. We have been glad to welcome home from hospital Mr. A. Crane, Mr. W. Jelfs, Miss Linda Plant, Mr. Alf Anker, Mr. S. Brewer, Mr. W. Webb, Mr. W. Wheatley, Robert Lawson.

Servers for July. 5th, 8.0 T. Bell; 11.0 M. Clements; 6.45 D. Barrand. 12th, 10.15 S. Gresty (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6.45 M. Exon. 19th, 8.0 D. Norden; 6.45 M. Clements. 26th (Patronal Fest.), 8.0 A. Owen; 11.0 D. Barrand; 6.45 A. Clements (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer)

War Memorial Flowers. July 5th, Mrs. N. Cook. 12th & 19th, Mrs. Sears; 26th, Mrs. G. H. Stewart.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

July

5 (Trin. 6), 12 (Trin. 7), 19 (Trin. 8). As for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Suns.

28 (Trin. 9). No Evening Service at Wickhamford. Badsey Patronal Festival, Sung Eucharist 6.45. Transport will be arranged. Details later.

P.C.C. Meeting. Wed. , July 8th; 7.30 p.m.

Confirmation Class. Last meeting before summer holidays, Mon. July 13th, 6.30.

Holy Baptism

June 14. Lucinda Jayne Taylor.

DON'T TELL MAUD! (continued)

In last September's issue, we gave some extracts from the old unpublished Badsey Churchwardens' accounts, illustrating how local government was carried on in earlier times. In later issues we hope to give some selected extracts from the Constable's and Overseers of the Poor accounts.

In the earlier article we gave examples from the accounts of some of the civil duties of the churchwardens, from relieving wayfarers to destroying vermin. How about their primary duties as 'church-wardens', to maintain the church buildings and its services?

Most of the expenditure was necessarily concerned with repairs, with the maintenance of the bells and their accessories, and with the provision of bread and wine for the Communion and books for the services. Besides a large Bible and prayer books for the minister and clerk, and registers of baptisms, burials, marriages and "strange preachers", every parish church had to keep copies of certain books for reference. There were two cloths for the Communion table - the 'fair linen' put on at the time of Communion and the 'decent carpet' which was its permanent cover.

Here is a 'note of the church Goods' drawn up by the churchwardens in 1638: "one Bible, Erasmus Paraphrases, the communion Bookes, the Canons, Musculus Comon places, one booke of Homilies, Jewel's works, the Carpet cloth, the Surpells, the linnen cloth for ye Table, the comunon Cupp, the pulpit Cussion". In 1655 the minister borrowed some of these books - Erasmus, Musculus, Jewel's Apology, and promised to restore them to the churchwardens.

After the Restoration quite a number of new books had to be purchased. Thus in 1662:

"the form of prayer to be used the 29th of may being the Birth & Restauration Day of his matie. (majesty).	2 - 0
the new Comon Prayer Booke	8 - 0
the Articles of Enquirie Dr Jo. Gauden Bishopp	0 - 6
His maties (majesty's) Lre (letter) to ye Arch-bishopp of Cant	1 - 0
the marriage table	0 - 6
the 39 Articles of Religion	0 - 4"

The churchwardens were frequently having to buy copies of proclamations and special orders of service for thanksgiving or penitence to mark national triumphs and disasters. In the days before television, radio or newspapers, the pulpit was the chief medium of communication between government and people. Sometimes Acts of Parliament were ordered to be read out in church. Here are some examples:

1675. "For a proclamation of ye 30th day of Jan. 6d".

This was a 3rd revision of the form of service for the day of the execution of King Charles I.

1691. "Another book & proclamation for ye thanksgiving. 2 - 0".

The thanksgiving was for Nov. 5th, already observed annually by Act of Parliament for the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot. But. Nov. 5th was also the anniversary of the landing of William of Orange at Torbay in 1688, and the proclamation referred to by the churchwardens concerned the new order of service which added references to the recent happy event. The wardens had to see that the bells were rung on this day, and to pay the ringers. Thus:

1730 "Gave the ringers the 5th of Nov. 3 - 0".

But bells were not the only audible means of celebration: 1695. "For powder at ye thanksgiving day. 5d". (on this occasion the thanksgiving was for the deliverance of William III from assassination).

Then there were the great national events which were cause of rejoicing:

1697 "laid out for ye Ringers at ye proclaiming of the Peace. 2 - 6". (This was the Treaty of Ryswick ending William III's war with France). There is no reference to our bells being rung for the more important Peace of Utrecht in 1713, or for Marlborough's great victories, but Badsey bells were in a state of constant disrepair at this time.

There were also national days of fasting. Thus: 1680 "for the booke of the ffast 22 of Dec. 1 - 8" (this was for the Popish Plot).

1747 "To the paritor for 3 books concerning ye Cattle & 1 for ye fast 8 - 0". (there had been a serious outbreak of cattle plague).

A frequent item of expenditure concerns the annual Rogationtide 'beating of the bounds'.

1682 "at ye perambulation 1 - 6".

1688 "At ye precession (procession) 2 - 0".

1686 "On the neighbours at the precession 2 - 0".

By the early 19th century the overseers of the poor commanded much greater resources than the churchwardens, who now confined themselves very largely to matters concerning the church. The chief reason for this was that the poor rates were so high that the levy for church maintenance had to be kept low; in any case the latter was extremely unpopular with many people, and collection was difficult. We find the overseers assuming extra duties put on them by the central government. Among these were the drawing up of a census of the population every ten years, compiling electoral registers, and lists in connection with the factory acts as well as the poor laws. We also find them paying the constable's expenses. Here is a good entry, with its deliciously unconscious humour, to conclude the present article:

1826 "Five journeys to Pershore four on Militia Buiseans and one with a Female 1-15-0".

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