

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

AUGUST, 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  
(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.

18th July, 1970

My dear People,

With the declaration of a National Dock Strike, it is clear that testing times are ahead for our country. As I write the signs are that the stoppage will be a long one. There will be increasing frustration as the weeks go on. The lasting effects may be absolutely crippling to our whole economy and may well revolutionise our way of life and place in the world. For British Christians the damaging effects of this would not be the material hardships and loss of national prestige. In God's providence such deprivation might well be turned to our spiritual advantage, for Our Lord tells us that true happiness is only found by the poor in spirit and the meek. No: the serious loss would be in our capacity to help the less privileged people in the world. In our comparative prosperity we, as a nation, are not doing this to any marked degree. The worst of the new economic crisis is that it will turn us even more in upon ourselves. We shall be concerned for ourselves and how we are going to restore our material well-being.

**"Your country needs you"**

A national emergency often has the effect of uniting the country, and re-kindling the fires of unselfish patriotism. In face of an invasion threat, as in 1940, the issues were perfectly clear, and it was not difficult for everyone to feel he was able to contribute something positive to the common effort. Even in the national crises of 1926 and 1931 there were ways open to many people of at least feeling they were doing something active to help. In the present trouble, there is absolutely nothing an ordinary citizen can do, except be patient and keep calm. That is the most difficult of all kinds of national service, for it shows no outward results. But it is perhaps what our country needs from us most of all in the present situation.

**Who's to blame?**

There will be increasing bitterness, and the embers of class divisions which seemed to be dying may be stirred into a new heat. So I deliberately refrain from giving any opinions here on the rights and wrongs of the dispute. After all, there is a Court of Enquiry going into it all. As you know, I am not one of those clerics who use the privileged position of their pulpit or parish magazine to further their political views. I have no more expert knowledge on these matters than anyone else who reads the papers or watches television.

As a minister of the Gospel, however, I have authority to warn, admonish and exhort. My message is the old one of repentance and faith. Can any one of us honestly say that we do not need God's forgiveness for our own share in the sins of the nation which are bringing his judgements upon us? Are you or I never assertive of our rights, never possessive or acquisitive, never fearful of losing our security by failing to get what we can for ourselves, consoling ourselves that the weaker will not go to the wall because it is the job of "them" (the powers that be) to look after them? Does it ever occur to us to say: "My own group might be wrong in making the demands it does on my behalf"? And, if it did occur to us to say it to ourselves, which of us would be brave enough to stand against group opinion?

None of us is blameless in the sight of God, however pleasing we appear to ourselves. Equally, in God's eyes, none of us is hopeless, for Christ died for us. In that faith we commend our country to his strong protection, knowing that as is his majesty, so is his mercy.

**The crunch for the Church**

A crisis for our country. A crisis too for our national church. This also is economic. It was alarming to hear a few weeks ago that even the American Episcopal Church was in financial difficulties. All religious and

voluntary bodies, the world over, are badly hit by the ever rising inflation.

At the recent session of the Church Assembly, Sir Edmund Compton, Chairman of the Central Board of Finance, had this to say: "The crunch is far more severe than anything that could be foreseen a year ago, or even six months ago. The reason for it is that our expenditure goes up with national economic inflation, whereas our income does not; and we have to face inflation of quite a new dimension".

**The church mouse**

Expenditure goes, up, and income does not. All of us concerned with church affairs, in the parishes as well as in the diocese, know how true that is. Economies here and there make only a minimal difference to the problem of making both ends meet. Yet the personal incomes of most church members (I do not say all, but most) do rise to some extent to meet the increased cost of living; the incomes of most P.C.C.'s (even with Stewardship) fall or remain static. And in the last resort all money for central purposes (except the maintenance of the ministry) comes from the P.C.C.'s.

The crunch has come for the Church. It is de-crunchable (if that is the right word). The first thing that has to be done is for every church member to ask himself: "When did I last bring my contributions into line with the altered value of money?" Not everyone thinks of this, even when renewing a covenant made seven years before.

**Light luggage only**

In his speech Sir Edmund Compton went on to warn the Church Assembly that a painful operation lay ahead, with choices limited and the rôle of the Church at the centre severely curtailed by financial stringency. "Under synodical government the centre will have to travel light".

This means that when the members of the General Synod meet in November, full of ideas for initiating this, that and the other, they will be face to face with this unpleasant fact - limitation, not expansion, is the order of the day. If there is pressure from the centre for more money from the dioceses to meet expensive new projects, diocesan finances will break down. They are already in sore straits (in many dioceses) through default of parishes on the Quota.

I am sure that the first task before the new General Synod is a radical appraisal of the Church's role in society, agreeable to its completely changed status in the last 20 years. To give one example: Is the influence of Christianity in the modern educational system best furthered by the maintenance of so-called 'church' schools (whether 'aided' or 'controlled') at such an enormous cost to both central and local funds?

But the General Synod, if it removes old financial burdens, must take care not to impose new ones of doubtful value. "The Church must advertise", I read in a recent headline. To go in for commercial advertising methods on a large scale - what could be more financially ruinous, and what more contrary to the whole spirit of the Gospel?

**"Seek first the kingdom of God"**

Perhaps the need to think in less grandiose terms of both church and nation in the years ahead will bring us all nearer to the basic Gospel message. The present Government declares itself dedicated to releasing the community, wherever possible, from the stranglehold of increasing bureaucracy. Ordinary church members, lay and clerical, will want their representatives in Diocesan and General Synod to do the same for the Church of England.

Last month I was stressing how much the people in Whitehall need our prayers. This month I put in a plea for the people in Church House.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

## PRESENTATION TO THE BISHOP

As is now well known, the Bishop of Worcester is resigning his charge on 30th September. Many people of varying ages will want to show their gratitude and affection for this large-hearted and pastorally-minded father-in-God. A presentation fund is being opened. Contributions may be sent direct to the Diocesan Secretary, Mr. D. P. Smith, at the Old Palace, Worcester, and I hope anyone contributing by cheque will do this. Cash contributions may be handed to me or one of the church officers, if you like, and at Sunday services there will be a bowl or plate in church for this purpose.

The Bishop has arranged a series of farewell evening Eucharists in different centres in the Diocese. He will be coming to Evesham (All Saints) on Tuesday, 15th September, at 8 p.m., and this will give us an opportunity, as he says, to "break bread with him at the Lord's Table".

## EXTRACT FROM THE BISHOP'S PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Diocesan Conference, 26th June

And now may I close on a personal note. The time has come when I must give back to Him the ministry which I received when God called me to be Bishop of this Diocese; as I read again the sermon I preached to you at my enthronement I realise with much sadness how often I have failed to come up to the ideals I then set myself, but in spite of this your love and affection has never failed, and if Calais was engraved on Queen Mary's heart, Worcestershire will always be engraved on mine. Two things I would ask of you. The first is to give to my successor the same welcome, affection and support you have given me; whatever you do, do not tell him what I did or did not do. As I have already indicated, it is not the past but the future which matters, and I believe that he and you together will achieve great things for God. The second is that I may be saved a series of sentimental and trying farewells. I shall be planning to celebrate a number of evening Eucharists in various centres in September, where I should like those of you who care to come to break bread with me at the Lord's Table, where in his sacramental Presence we can commend to Him the future and dedicate ourselves afresh to his service.

So in the words of St. Paul "I commend you to God and to his gracious word, which has power to build you up and give you your heritage among all who are dedicated to him. Keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, who himself said, 'Happiness lies more in giving than in receiving'".

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### August

- 2 **Trinity 10.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service. Subject for discussion: "Should there be censorship of literature and entertainment?"
- 5 **Wed. 10-0 H.C.** (as for Transfiguration. See 6th).
- 6 **Thurs. Transfiguration of Our Lord.** See above.
- 9 **Trinity 11.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 12 **Wed. 10-0 H.C.**
- 16 **Trinity 12.** As for 3rd Sun.
- 19 **Wed. 10-0 H.C.**
- 23 **Trinity 13.** As for 4th Sun.
- 24 **Mon. St. Bartholomew, Apostle.** 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 25 **Wed. 10-0 H.C.** No Pram Service.
- 30 **Trinity 14.** As for 5th Sun. 10-15 Family Service.

Sunday School will be on holiday during August, and will re-assemble on Sept. 6th. Parents are asked to bring their children to the ordinary services. Confirmation classes will be resumed on Sept. 7th. There will be no Pram Service this month.

**P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Sept. 1st, 7-15 p.m.**

## CHURCH CLOCK APPEAL

We quote from a letter which has been delivered to every household in Badsey:

The church clock, a very accurate time-keeper, is generally agreed to be of great benefit to the whole village. Many parishioners rely on it even more than their own watches, and the regular chiming of hours and quarters is a reminder of the time for people working in the fields as well as those in the village. People soon notice if it is out of order.

The clock was made and installed in 1903. It could hardly be expected that it would go on for nearly 70 years without some of its parts beginning to wear out, and this is what has happened. The makers, John Smith of Derby, have inspected the mechanism, and report that certain parts need renewal if the clock is to continue to give useful service. They estimate the repairs will cost £168, and if the dial is to be re-painted at the same time, it will cost a further £45.

In order to spread the load, we are inviting the whole village to help bear the cost, and an appeal fund is being opened. If you feel you would like to be associated with this joint effort, please hand your contribution to one of the undersigned, or put it in one of the collecting boxes in the village, or send it to the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, Mr. A. W. Eyre, 3, Binyon Close, Badsey.

Yours sincerely,

P. Braby, Vicar.

A. E. Clark, D. W. Harwell, Churchwardens.

R. G. Churchill, Chairman Badsey Parish Council.

**Mothers' Union.** On July 14th at 1-15 the M.U. left Badsey in drizzling rain for our summer outing. The weather did not dampen our spirits and later we were rewarded with a lovely sunny afternoon and evening. After a very pleasant ride we arrived at Burton Court, near Leominster, and met Commander Simpson who took us on a tour of the house. This was much admired, and also an exhibition of costumes and curios of the last 2 centuries. This was very interesting, and we were also delighted with the wonderful views over the grounds. We were then served with tea and cakes and large bowls of strawberries grown in the grounds and topped with cream. Leaving there at 5-15 we did a quick return to Leominster, where we visited the Priory Church and attended Evensong conducted by the Curate. Afterwards we toured the church and took in more history. Then back over the lovely Herefordshire countryside to Brockhampton Court Hotel for an evening meal and much chatter. Leaving there at 9-30, we eventually arrived back at Badsey at 10-45 having once again enjoyed the company of friends and a change from the usual routine.

### August Notices

Wed. 5th. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

There will be no meetings in August, but we hope to see you all on Sept. 8th when the new session starts. We shall, at that meeting at 2-30 have a Bring and Buy Stall for funds, and for Mrs. Moody and her work as Invalid Members' Prayer Circle representative. J.B.

### Holy Baptism

June 28 James Robert Goldstraw; Rosemary Holley.

### Burials, R.I.P.

July 1 Walter Henry Jelfs, aged 79.

Mr. Jelfs, of Sherwood Farm, Aldington, was a much beloved member of a well-respected family. He had ailed considerably, ever since his wife's death two years ago. We rejoice to think of them re-united in Christ Jesus. Our sincere condolences with the family, specially Miss Cecily Jelfs who looked after him so devotedly.

July 8 Eugeniusz Tyszkow, aged 48.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mrs. Tyszkow and Margaret in their said loss. Indeed his death at such an early age is a loss to the whole village. A White Russian who became a German prisoner-of-war, he was a hard worker and soon adapted himself to English people and ways. He had become a naturalised British subject, and was much appreciated in Badsey for his fine character and courteous friendliness and concern for others. In his long and painful illness he was fortified by a courageous Christian faith.

**Jottings.** Our sincere condolences with Mrs. Hickinbotham and John on the sudden death of Mr. Albert Leslie Hickinbotham on June 22nd. The funeral took place at Cheltenham.

Your prayers are asked for the sick, especially Mrs. Harrison of Blackminster, who is very ill, Mrs. Danks who is in Ronswood Hospital receiving treatment, Mr. Collicutt who was gravely ill in Worcester Royal Infirmary, Mr. H. Robinson who is making some brave progress, Mrs. Joan Harman who is having treatment at Highfield Hospital, Droitwich. Mr. Albert Jelfs and Mrs. Crump, both in Avonside Hospital. Others still receiving treatment after return from hospital are Mr. A. Crane, Mr. H. Brailsford, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. D. Barrand.

**Servers for August.** 2nd, 8-0 G. Toney; 11-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 K. West. 9th, 10-15 T. Bell (Server), M. Exon (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Clements. 16th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 6-45 M. Exon. 23rd, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 K. West; 6-45 M. Clements (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer). 30th, 8-0 A. Owen; 10-15 D. Barrand; 6-45 M Exon.

**War Memorial Flowers.** Aug. 2nd, Mrs. Sears; 9th Mrs. R. Hartwell; 16th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow; 23rd, Mrs. G. Marshall.

**Overseas Committee Coffee Evening, July 1st.** Congratulations to the members of the Committee and helpers on the splendid result of £55-17-6. It was a delightful evening at Seward House, and we are most grateful to the Sladdens for their hospitality. The P.C.C. decided to send £25 to U.S.P.G. for the Kamdara project, and the balance direct to the Rev. E. D. Houston out there towards the motor vehicle so badly needed by the mission.

**Trinity Sunday envelopes** for Ordinands' Training, £10-17-0.

**Birthday 5/-.** Rev. P. Braby.

#### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

##### Church Services

Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Trin. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14). As on cover for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Suns.

##### Holy Baptism

July 12 Graham Robert Cox.

##### Holy Matrimony

July 4 John Frederick Cleveland of Evesham, and Patricia Haile, of Wickhamford.

**Jottings.** Mrs. Shirley Habbitts is in hospital with gall bladder trouble. Mrs. R. Franklin, in Avonside Hospital, has been going through rather a bad time. Mr. Simon Lees-Milne had a nasty injury in motor racing, but has now almost recovered.

**Birthday 5/-.** Rev. P. Braby, Mrs. L. Nott.

**VILLAGE FETE, Bank Holiday Monday, August 31st.** On the Playing Field in aid of the Memorial Hall Car Park. To be opened at 2-30 p.m. by Mr. & Mrs. H. P. Terry of Wickhamford Manor.

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