

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

NOVEMBER, 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.
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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 p.m. 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

22nd October, 1970

My dear People,

The Service of Farewell to Bishop Mervyn and Mrs. Charles-Edwards in the Cathedral was most impressive (though spoilt for some by inefficient amplifying). The Bishop was presented with a cheque for £2,000 by the people of the Diocese, a fitting token of the great affection in which he was held, and a recognition of his devoted labours for us all. The final scene was most moving. The Bishop passed down the nave through a double line of parochial clergy, the people massed on both sides of them, the Bishop blessing us all as he went.

Our new Bishop

On the same day (Sept. 30) the announcement was made that the Very Rev. Robert Woods, Dean of Windsor, was to be our new bishop. This was very good news. I have twice had the privilege of meeting and hearing him, and can assure you that he is a man of charming personality, combining vigour of mind and energy in action with a genuine spirituality. Before his present post, he is known to have been an extremely capable archdeacon, in two such diverse places as Singapore and Sheffield. I think we shall find that we have again been greatly blessed.

It does not look as though the Bishop Designate will be consecrated and enthroned until the New Year, possibly as late as March. In the meantime the Dean, by commission from the Archbishop of Canterbury, is in charge of the Diocese. He and Bishop Allenby and the two Archdeacons may be assured of our prayers, and loyal support.

Synodical Government

The first meeting of the new Diocesan Synod is being held on Sunday, Nov. 15th, beginning with Corporate Communion in the Cathedral at 9-30 a.m. As I am one of the representatives from this Deanery, I shall not be able to arrange full services at both churches that Sunday, because several others of the clergy and readers will also be at Worcester. The services that day will be Holy Communion in Badsey Church at 8 a.m. and Wickhamford at 11 a.m. Evensong in Badsey Church at 6-45. It is the 3-0 Evensong at Wickhamford which will have to be forgone on this occasion.

On Nov. 4th the inaugural meeting of the General Synod is to be opened by the Queen.

Action Group

In these days, when people expect everything to be done for them by "them", i.e. the authorities, it is highly praiseworthy when a group of people in a community get together on their own initiative to provide a useful service. The "action group" in Wickhamford, who have worked hard to bring into being a young children's 'playschool', are to be greatly commended and supported. I draw your attention to the notice, in the Wickhamford Notes, of the Christmas Fair on Nov. 21st to raise further funds.

Incidentally, the expression "action group" is increasingly replacing the word "committee". In this case its use is perfectly correct, because a committee is a group within a larger body to which a special task has been 'committed' by the whole membership. But many genuine "committees" are calling themselves "action groups".

The reason is pretty clear. The word "committee" has become synonymous with "tea and talk". People are quite rightly declining to commit themselves to serve on committees which they think are going to be merely forums for discussion without action.

Yet, if you think it out, "committee" is a good word, and should never have been allowed to get such a bad

press. A group of people to whom a task has been committed should also be committed to their task.

In this sense the 12 Apostles of Our Lord were the first Christian committee. They committed their lives to Christ and He committed to them the task of bringing men into the Kingdom of God. When we come to Holy Communion and He commits Himself into our hands, He sends us out at the end with the same commission as He received from the Father. But we do not go out as lone individuals. We are members of his "committee", his action group.

Synodical Government in the Church will really get somewhere if it brings out this true meaning of "committee".

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

(Please note different arrangements for 2nd Sunday Remembrance Day).

Nov.

- 1 **ALL SAINTS' DAY. Trinity 23.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 Evensong (instead of People's Service). Names for remembrance at H.C. to be given to the Vicar in writing by Sat. evening.
- 4 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 8 **Remembrance Sunday. Trinity 24.** Saints of England. 8-0 H.C. 9-45 Sun. Sch. **10-50 Service of Remembrance.** 6-45 Evensong. Collection for Earl Haig Fund.
- 11 Wed. St. Martin, Bp. 10-0 H.C.
- 15 **Trinity 25.** (Collect, Epistle, Gospel for Epiph. 6). As for 3rd Sun.
- 18 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 22 **Sun. next before Advent.** St. Cecilia, V. & M. As for 4th Sun.
- 25 Wed. St. Catherine, V. & M. 10-0 H.C. 3-0 Pram Service.
- 29 **1st Sunday in Advent.** As for 5th Sun. Presentation of Missionary Boxes. (See Note below).
- 30 Mon. **St. Andrew, Apostle.** 7-30 a.m. H.C.

Missionary Boxes. These will be offered at the altar on Sunday, 29th November. Please bring your boxes to church on that day, or give them **beforehand** to Miss N. E. Smith, Pool House. Mrs. Crisp will also be glad to have Children's Society boxes returned at this time, and Miss Core any Leprosy Mission phials.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Nov. 3rd, 7-15 p.m. Special Meeting on Stewardship, Tues., Nov. 17th, 7-15 p.m.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 4th 10-0 Corporate Communion. Tues. 10th 2-30, Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mr. Maquinness of Worcester, on "A Matter of Life and Death". Tea hostesses: Mrs. Ives (Committee), Mesdames Hall, Hatcher & Holley.

Tues. 17th, 10-30 to 12 noon. Coffee Morning in aid of M.U. Funds, at Mrs. Berwick's home, 6, Old Post Office Lane. Bring all your friends and neighbours. Bring & Buy Stall. Tickets for sale at 2/6.

Tues., 24th, 7-30 p.m. Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. P. Churchill will talk about her visit to Oberammergau and will show us slides. Tea hostesses: Mrs. Watkin (Committee), Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Cleaver, Miss Davies.

J.B.

Church Clock Appeal. The Fund now stands at £175 at the time of writing. Besides a number of private donations in the last few weeks, we have had a gift of £20 from the proceeds of Badsey School's Harvest Thanksgiving offerings.

The total needed to pay for present repairs and the painting of the dial is £213. Repairs to the chiming mechanism (included in this figure) are still to be completed. Some of the parts have been removed to Messrs. John Smith's workshops at Derby.

Holy Baptism

Sept. 27 Susan Anne Pritchard.

Burials, R.I.P.

Oct. 12 (service followed by cremation) Grace Eliza Danks, aged 89.

We are most grateful for all the expressions of sympathy we have received.

When Mrs. Grace Danks came from N. London with her husband, who had just retired, to live with their daughter and son-in-law at Badsey Vicarage, she was not at all sure that she was going to like country life. Deafness was also a real handicap to social intercourse. But by the time she died she was known and loved by a great many people in the village; for she entered, with a wonderful zest for her age, into the life of the community, and certainly added grace and flavour to it. What helped and cheered people was the warmth of her gaiety, which was undimmed by adverse circumstance, and her sensitive sympathy. Underlying these was a deep devotion to Our Lord and lifelong loyalty to his Church.

Oct. 19 Elsie Mary Pethard, aged 79.

Our prayerful sympathy with all the family, especially her sister Emily Ballard and her brother William Hardiman.

This gallant soul, who helped many by her indomitable faith and cheerful courage, has now passed, we believe, to the realm of light where pain and sorrow are no more. The loss of her son Douglas, drowned on holiday in Austria in the 1930s, left an indelible mark of suffering on her life. Her husband Jack, churchwarden for many years, also died comparatively young, and she was left alone, though not without many friends, and was much beloved by her nephews and nieces. An energetic worker for the Church in earlier days, she became crippled with arthritis, but would not allow herself to give way. Sacrament and prayer sustained her strong confidence in God.

Jottings. Our prayerful sympathy with Mrs. B. Brazier in the loss of her sister Mrs. Doris Andrews, who died last month. Mrs. Andrews, a member of Hampton P.C.C. and a keen worker for that parish, had recently come to live with the Braziers in Badsey, and many of us had been so happy to meet her and were looking forward to knowing her better.

Your prayers are asked for the sick, especially in hospital at this time Mrs. Merriman of Bowers Hill, Mr. George Crisp, Christopher Tucker, Mrs. Crump, Mr. H. Robinson, as well as others in Avonside Hospital. Recently returned from hospital are Mr. A. Woodedd, Mr. A. Oliver, Mr. F. Haynes, Mr. M. Chapman, Alan Reeves. The last two are facing cheerfully a fairly long convalescence.

Servers for November. 1st, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 N. Wild; 6-45 K. West. 8th (Remembrance Sun.) 8-0 G. Toney; 10-50 D. Barrand; 6-45 M. Exon. 15th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 6-45 N. Wild. 22nd, 8-0 A. Owen; 11-0 M. Exon; 6-45 M. Clements (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer). 29th, 8-0 T. Bell; 10-15 K. West; 6-45 D. Barrand.

War Memorial Flowers. Nov. 8th, Mrs. Sears; 15th, Mrs. D. Littlewood; 22nd, Mrs. Guise; 29th, Mrs. N. Cook.

Birthday Half-crown. Miss K. Tizard.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

(Please note that from November to February inclusive Sunday Evensong is at 3 p.m.)

Nov.

- 1 **ALL SAINTS' DAY.** Trin. 23. 9-0 H.C. (Names for remembrance to be given to the Vicar in writing by Sat. evening., 3-0 Evensong.
- 8 **Remembrance Sunday.** Trin. 24. Saints of England. 3-0 Service of Remembrance. 4-0 Holy Baptism.
- 15 **Trin. 25.** 11-0 H.C. No Evensong.
- 22 **(Sun. next before Advent), 29, (Advent I)** As for 4th & 5th Suns. See cover.

P.C.C. Meeting. Wed., Nov. 11th, 7-30 p.m.

Holy Baptism

Oct. 11 Caroline Emma Beacon; Sarah Ann Harman; Dene Suzanne Elliott; Sara Ellen Sweeting; Alison Marie Dore.

Burial, R.I.P.

Sept. 24 (service followed by cremation) Julia Gaskell, aged 60.

Our deep and prayerful sympathy for Mr. Gaskell, who had only just returned from hospital for convalescence at home, when his wife died suddenly. Mrs. Gaskell was very much liked and had made many friends here since they came from Cumberland a few years ago. May she rest in peace.

Jottings. Your prayers are asked for parishioners in hospital at the time of writing: Mrs. Pamela Spragg, Mrs. F. Pitman, Mr. P. Bastow, Mrs. R. Franklin. Mr. Ted Roberts was unfortunately taken ill while he and Mrs. Roberts were on holiday at Bournemouth and had to remain down there for the time being. We wish him a speedy recovery.

WICKHAMFORD VILLAGE PLAYSCHOOL

We were pleased to receive notification that Worcestershire County Council Health Authority has approved our application for registration under the Nursery and Child Minders Regulation Act.

A Jumble Sale held in Evesham on Oct. 17th raised £40: an encouraging and very satisfactory boost to our much needed funds. The "action group" members are now working hard making and collecting goods for a **Christmas Fair** to be held in the **Village Hall on Sat., 21st November, at 3 p.m.** There will be a wide variety of unusual and attractive gifts on the stalls, selling produce and cakes, knitted toys, Christmas decorations, shrubs and plants. We would welcome contributions for sale at the Fair, and would also welcome any interested support and help for our efforts.

Pat Poulter, for the "action group".

LAW AND ORDER - OLD STYLE, 2

It must not be supposed, from the extracts given in our last article on the Badsey constable's accounts, that this parish officer spent most of his time in haling poor widows to court for infringing the poor law regulations, bringing the mothers of bastard children before the magistrates, or presenting parishioners for not attending church. Sometimes he was concerned with

real miscreants and breakers of the peace, e.g.
 1704 "for takeing a fellow to Worcester 12-11".

If he was unable, single-handed, to prevent a felony or apprehend a criminal, he might raise the Hue and Cry, and everyone within hearing must stop what he was doing and come to the constable's assistance. If his man escaped, he usually had to seek the aid of neighbouring parishes. He would take copies of a written Hue and Cry, with a description of the wanted man, to other parish constables round about. Thus:

1700 "for a hue and cry to Wickhamford 0-2"

1701 "for three Hues and Crys 6-0"

1705 "pd for carrying 3 hews & cries - on to Littleton on to Wickhamford & on to Ald. 0-4". (Why was there such a big difference in cost between the last 2 items?)

Certain classes of people were always suspect to the authorities, and the constable had to account from time to time as to the number of them in his parish.

1706 "for a list concerning Papishes 1-4"

And the constable of Aldington: "November ye 30 & December ye 1 1715 ye charg for a horsis hier & expence when I gave ye returne about ye papis reputed papist & non jurors 6-8" (the return would almost certainly have been a 'nil' for all three categories).

Inquests were of course the constable's duty to arrange and attend:

1707 "At Broadway upon two Inquests 13-0"

1709 "Fees & Charges of ye Coroners Inquest 17-6".

One of the most unpopular duties of the constable was the enforcement of taxation, local and national. He had to collect and pay to the chief constable the county "quarter rate", and go annually to Worcester with a list of freeholders. There were also items like these:

1701 "for Mr. Shewards & my charge going to Worcester Concerning the Asst. (assessment) in 98 6-0"

"for a warrant for ye Collectne of ye window Tax 1-0-0"

1707 "for taking in the Assessors for the Land tax 2-3" in what sense did he take them in?)

1716 "spent when ye Comisioners sat for ye land tax 2-0"

Sometimes he was prepared to brave the consequences for non-collection of unpopular taxes. Charles I's Ship Money for the maintenance of the Navy was unacceptable in many inland places, and it was the levying of this tax without the authority of Parliament which provoked John Hampden's famous protest. It is good to know that the Vale of Evesham had its "village Hampdens". Among the State papers in the Public Record Office is a report of Sept. 1640 to Mr. Secretary Nicholas from the sheriff of Worcestershire that certain constables, including John George of Badsey and Francis Mickleton of Wickhamford, were negligent in collecting Ship Money. Maybe they were not heroes of resistance. More probably they could not get anybody to pay.

(to be continued)

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