

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JANUARY, 1971

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 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

15th December, 1970

My dear People,

Whatever the hardships and inconveniences caused by the electricity cuts, they helped us to realise how much we owe to modern technology for our daily comfort and smooth running of our life and work. When we moan about the dreadful times we live in, we are inclined to forget these things, which we do not notice till we are temporarily deprived of them. Thanks be to God for all the modern discoveries and inventions that save us from so much of the drudgery and insecurity our forefathers had to put up with.

At the same time, it is rather frightening to consider how dependent our complex way of living is on the technical knowledge of a few individuals. Mercifully the emergency has shown that British people are still good at improvising and adapting to awkward situations, as in war-time.

Taking it out of the innocent

It is sad, however, that many work off their frustrations on the wrong people. Engineers, who were doing their best to keep things going, and even show-room staffs and meter readers, who could not possibly have had anything to do with the 'go-slow', were ignorantly attacked or threatened, sometimes viciously.

Here is another example of the same sort of thing. Christian Aid report that many people have returned Christian Aid appeal literature (even Christmas cards) and cancelled covenants, under the mistaken impression that Christian Aid subscribes to the World Council of Churches controversial grants "to combat racism".

The deputy clerk to the Christian Aid Board said: "I have been informing them that we do not give a penny towards these grants and that the only people to suffer by their decision to withhold donations are the poor and hungry overseas".

Anti-apartheid apartheid

One more example, out of many, of protests being laid at the wrong door. In a recent edition of the BBC television programme "The Question Why", Professor Christian Barnard, the South African heart surgeon, was shouted down by other speakers in a discussion on anti-apartheid demonstrations. Peter Hain, leader of the Stop the 70 Tour campaign, demanded: "I want to know: does Dr. Barnard believe in apartheid?". Dr. Barnard retorted: "Do you believe in God, Mr. Hain?" "I don't, no" was the reply. "Then", said Dr. Barnard, "I am very sorry for you, because you can't see my point of view. For I do believe in God and I cannot love my neighbour as myself and believe in apartheid at the same time".

I think this was splendid, as also have been many of the wise things the Archbishop of Canterbury has been saying about the situation in S. Africa, during his tour and since. Dr. Ramsey has been perfectly consistent in being opposed both to WCC support for armed insurrectionary organisations, and to the British Government supplying arms to the S. African Government. I do not see how it is possible to read into the Gospels any kind of resort to armed violence, even against unjust oppression. At the same time, whatever Government spokesmen may say, I cannot see that it is a British "interest" to identify our country, in the eyes of the world, with the repressive regime of Dr. Vorster by supplying it with weapons of war (whatever these weapons may be). The fact that we trade with S. Africa in other commodities has nothing to do with it. As Africans see it (and not only Africans but our other friends in the Commonwealth such as Canada), we are the declared allies of the oppressor, and therefore indifferent to the cry of the oppressed. In the 19th century, British "interests" were traditionally identified with standing up for the underdog, not handing out sticks for his masters to beat him with.

Sending Springboks to Coventry

But none of this justifies the sort of apartheid which anti-apartheid protesters in this country want to impose on white South Africans themselves. It is all so illogical. In their blindness they try to lump all white S. Africans together as having the mark of the Beast. This kind of segregationism is completely self-defeating. As Christian Barnard said in the programme already referred to: "Surely it would be impossible to save a sinner unless you made contact with him". In fact, as Dr. Ramsey has pointed out, the only hope of a change for the better in the S. African situation is a change of heart in South Africans. There are signs that this really is happening, and that the humanising influence of liberal-minded South Africans is gaining ground. Our S. African friends who feel as we do about apartheid are not going to be helped by an ignorant and stupid cold-shouldering of all and sundry.

This brings me back to where I began. Most of these angry protests at other people's behaviour, often directed against the wrong individuals, are a working off of personal frustrations and inadequacies. Is our most prominent national characteristic now to be impotent indignation? Did Mr. Kapewwe get it right about the toothless bulldog, or should it have been the stingless wasp?

Prince of Peace

When Christian 'action' is demanded, the portrait of Christ which is the most popular in these times is the denouncer of Pharisees and upsetter of money-changers. This is indeed part of the whole Gospel picture. But there is another portrait, so often ignored today, yet always central in the total Christian composition. It is that of the crucified Saviour, disarming all the fury of men's malevolence and selfishness by defenceless yet unconquerable love, and pleading, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do".

Here is the ground of all our hope, whatever darkness and danger the future may hold in store.

It is in this confident assurance of God's victorious love that Mrs. Braby and I wish you all a blessed New Year.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Confirmation Classes will be resumed on Monday, 11th January, at 6-30 p.m.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Jan.

- 1 Fri. Circumcision of Our Lord. 10-0 H.C.
- 3 Christmas 2. As for 1st Sun. 6-45 Service of Readings and Carols. Offenham Handbell Ringers.
- 6 Wed. EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD. 10-0 H.C.
- 10 Epiphany 1. As for 2nd Sun.
- 13 Wed. St. Hilary, Bp. & Dr. 10-0 H.C.
- 17 Epiphany 2. As for 3rd Sun.
- 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- 20 Wed. St. Fabian, Bp. & M. 10-0 H.C.
- 24 Epiphany 3. As for 4th Sun.
- 25 Mon. Conversion of St. Paul. 7-30 a.m. H.C. 7-45 p.m. United Prayer Meeting in Church.
- 27 Wed. St. John Chrysostom, Bp. & Dr. 10-0 H.C.; 3-0 Pram Service.
- 31 Epiphany 4. As for 5th Sun. 10-15 Family Service.

Feb.

- 2 Tues. Presentation of Christ in the Temple. 10-0 H.C.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., Jan. 5, 7-15 p.m.

Sunday School Parties. The annual parties will take place in the Meeting House, Chapel Street, as follows:- Under 8, Sat., Jan. 9, 3-0 to 5-30 p.m.

8 and over, Sat., Jan. 16, 4-30 to 7-30 p.m.

As usual, donations in money towards the cost of the parties will be very acceptable, and may be given to the Vicar. We are not asking for gifts of food, as it makes catering difficult when it is not known in advance what is going to be given.

Senior Residents' Party. This will be held, as last year, in Blackminster School. The date is Saturday, 23rd January, at 6 p.m. All persons residing in Badsey, Aldington, Blackminster & Bowers Hill, who are 65 years of age and over, are invited, and transport is arranged where necessary. If you think you have been missed out of an invitation, please let the Committee know.

The Choir. On Sunday, 29th November, the following new choristers were admitted: Paul Brazier, Stephen Dore, Richard Portman, Andrew Watkin. There are still several vacancies for boys, and we have a great need of tenors and basses.

On 30th December the choir are going to Cheltenham for the pantomime "Dick Whittington".

Electoral Roll. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be on Feb. 16. Please make a note of the date. Enrolment forms are available at the church, for the Church Electoral Roll. Any baptised member of the Church of England of 17 years of age or over is eligible. Completed forms should be returned by Jan. 31 to the Electoral Roll Officer, Miss Linda Core, 7, Old Post Office Lane.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 6th (Epiphany) 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tues., 12th. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Rev. C. P. Johnson, "Care of the Elderly". Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Richards (Committee), Mesdames Kinchin, Reed and Sparrow.

Tues., 26th. 7-30 Branch Meeting. Mrs. D. Bell will take us on a Sentimental Journey. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Cole (Committee), Mesdames Evans, Harvey & Perkins. J.B.

YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

A Young Wives' Group for Badsey & Aldington is being started under the leadership of Mrs. Berwick. The first meeting is to be on **Monday, 18th January, at 8 p.m. in the Meeting House, Chapel Street.** Any married woman under 40 in Badsey or Aldington is welcome to come. Please bring your ideas.

Church Clock. The day this is being written, the repairs have been completed, and the clock is chiming again. Furthermore, thanks to the wonderful response in the village, the whole of the £219 required to pay for the repairs (and the printing of the appeal) has now been raised. (This does not include the balance of interest from the C. A. Binyon Memorial Fund, which, as explained in the last issue, has been paid into a new permanent Repair Fund for the Clock and Bells). Our thanks are due also to Mr. A. W. Eyre for his work as hon. treasurer, 3 of the donations received have been memorial gifts: in memory of Thomas and Ellen Knight, Grace Danks, Olga Perry.

Home & Overseas Missions. The P.C.C. has increased its grants to the Missionary Societies in 1970, recognising that to give the same amount in nominal monetary value as the previous year is really to give less. The following grants were made at the last meeting (1969 figure in brackets): C.M.S. £30 (£25); S.P.C.K. £30 (£25); B. & F.B.S. £30 (£25); Homes for Retired Clergy £10 (£5). These grants are, of course, in addition to the amounts raised during the year by special efforts, as for our U.S.P.G. project in India. The U.S.P.G. boxes (with a few still to come in) have yielded £54-16-0, a drop of about £7 on the year before. This is disappointing. A good way to be regular in giving to a missionary society is by having a box at home and putting in a regular amount each week. The Children's Society boxes show a very slight decrease over last year's record figure: £27-13-11 (£28-15-0). Our thanks are due to Mrs. Crisp for her work as box secretary. She is now giving up, and Mrs. B. Owen is taking her place. Next month you will be told about the Leprosy Mission 'phials', and the Christmas appeal for Christian Aid.

From the Sunday School collections £12 has been sent for the U.S.P.G. Scholarship at Manoharpur, and £5 given to the Church Clock Fund.

Holy Matrimony

Dec. 12 Ian Robert Ross, of Hampton, and Janet June Anderson, of Badsey.

Burial, R.I.P.

Dec. 9 Harry Robinson, aged 69.

Our sincere condolences with the family. Harry Robinson passed to his rest after months of distressing weakness and suffering, as a result of a stroke which deprived him of the power of speech. He had never been the same man since the death of his wife Marion 3½ years ago. As a memorial to her he gave the church the splendid set of silver Communion cruets, wafer box and bowl.

A Yorkshireman in origin, he became a familiar figure in Badsey through the dairy business, turkey farm (and at one time a mink farm) which he carried on from the Manor House. In buying the Manor and successfully converting it into two dwellings, he probably saved it for the village. May God grant him peace and light.

Jottings. We are so glad that some of our parishioners who have long been waiting to be re-housed have now moved into their new homes in Manor Close, and we look forward to the speedy completion of the whole estate.

Mrs. March, with her fine courage and strong faith, is slowly getting the better of her multiple injuries. Mrs. Vera Sadler has undergone a major operation. Mr. George Crisp is slowly making progress. Mr. Charlie Haines is away staying with his son and is rather ill. Invalids making good progress include Mrs. Evelyn Stewart, Alan Reeves, Miss Daisy Addis. Mr. Peter Cook has been ill with pneumonia. Mrs. Elsie Jelfs of Bowers Hill, and Mrs. Kate Taylor, have been unwell. Mr. Leslie Exon is still suffering with his back, and Mr. Woodedd now has shingles. Returned from hospital and doing well are Mr. George Crane (after a big operation in the Radcliffe Hospital). Mr. Charles Baker, Mr. Ron Keen, Mrs. Merriman of Bowers Hill, Mrs. Louisa Tomkins, Mrs. Margaret Portman, Mr. Edgar Smith.

Servers for January. 3rd, 8-0 S. Gresty; 11-0 C. Tucker; 6-45 K. West, 10th, 10-15 T. Bell (Server), M. Exon (Crucifer); 6-45 D. Barrand, 17th, 8-0 A. Owen; 6-45 N. Wild, 24th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 11-0 M. Exon; 6-45 G. Toney (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer). 31st, 8-0 N. Wild; 10-15 K. West; 6-45 M. Exon.

War Memorial Flowers. Jan. 3rd, Mrs. Sears; 10th, Mrs. K. Cleaver; 17th, Mrs. D. Sparrow; 24th, Mrs. N. Grinnell.

Anniversary Donations. Birthday 4/-: Mrs. F. Knight; In memory of Charlie Tutton 10/-.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

Jan. 3 (Christmas 2), 10 (Epiph. 1), 17 (Epiph. 2), 24 (Epiph 3), 31 (Epiph 4). As for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Suns. (see cover).

Jan. 18 to 25. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Electoral Roll. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be on 3rd March. Please make a note of the date. Enrolment forms are available at the church, for the Church Electoral Roll. Any baptised member of the Church of England of 17 years and over is eligible. Completed forms should be returned by 7th February to the Electoral Roll Officer, Mr. J. Sharp, 10, Manor Road.

Young Wives. The subject for the meeting on Jan. 6 is "Cooking for Entertainment": Speaker, Mrs. Harrison.

The meeting on Feb. 3 is to be at 10 Manor Road. It is hoped that members are all busy knitting squares. Please also bring children's clothes, for the Save the Children Fund. If anyone has any spare wool, please let Ann Sharp have it now.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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WICKHAMFORD PLAYSCHOOL

The Spring term will be starting on January 18, and Playschool will be open on Tuesday and Friday each week from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. We look forward to registering 3-5 year olds as soon as possible. Please apply to Mrs. A. Poulter, Green Pastures, Evesham Road, Wickhamford (Tel. Evesham 830505).

The nett profit raised at the Christmas Fair was £110 at time of going to press, a most encouraging sum which will be invested in Playschool expenses and equipment. We would like to thank most sincerely all those who contributed to this effort and who have not since received letters thanking them for their support.

Patricia Poulter—for the "Action Group".

Burial

Dec. 7 Sarah Ruth Heritage, aged 4½ hours.

Our very sincere sympathy with Meryl and Tony Heritage on their sad disappointment and loss.

Jottings. We are sorry to say goodbye to Mr. & Mrs. P. Harrison and family, who have gone to live at Worcester.

Mr. A. Wardle and Mrs. D. Allchurch are at present in hospital, and making good progress. Returned recently from hospital are Mrs. E. Brotherton, Mr. Spencer, Mrs. Kingham. Mrs. R. Franklin, in Avonside Hospital, was seriously ill last month, but is making a good recovery.

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