

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JUNE, 1971

PRICE 20p. 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 Family Service and Holy Baptism 3 p.m. (all the year).
Third Sunday Family Eucharist 11 a.m.
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

20th May, 1971

My dear People,

"Sexploitation" is one of the newly minted words of our time, and how descriptive it is! Sex has become a major industry, in which our country is competing on quite favourable terms with the most permissive of its neighbours. London is the 'abortion capital of Europe', the Birmingham film "Growing Up" is selling well in Holland, yesterday a question was asked in Parliament about planning permissions for 'Sex Supermarkets'.

Pornography versus Romance

Commercial exploitation trivialises sex. Pornography is evil not only because it inflames lust, but because it treats human bodies as commodities or things. A human body cannot be considered apart from the personality of which it is the organ. This is just what pornography tries to do. Anybody's body (provided it is not old or ugly) will do for a lewd picture. But God made men and women for love, not for lust. And love is a relationship of personalities - body, mind and spirit.

But the greatest danger to a responsible attitude to sex does not lie in pornography. There are signs that a reaction in public taste is setting in. (I refuse to use this silly word "backlash"). I read the other day that cinemas in the United States are beginning to find that sexy films are no longer good box office. People are hankering for romance again, and pornography is the enemy of romance.

Sex Instruction versus Sexual Education

No, the commercial exploiters of sex are not the only menace. Probably more dangerous are the educational pundits who are plugging the sort of sex instruction in schools which is mere biological mechanics. If young people are going to grow up regarding sex as just an animal function, divorced from the love and tenderness and personal consecration of the marriage partnership, it will end in the de-humanising of humanity.

These people are perfectly sincere. They are not exploiters of sex for financial gain. They honestly believe that people should be educated to fulfil themselves by giving expression to their desires without any kind of restraint built-in by external moral standards. If these people have their way, children in this country are no longer to learn at the feet of Christ, but of Freud. Christ tells his followers to learn of him by taking upon them the yoke of his discipline, and so to find rest to their souls. Freud teaches his pupils that repression of the Ego is what is to be most avoided. There is a sense in which much of Freud's teaching can be reconciled with the way of Christ. But there are modern educators who deliberately stress the elements of Freudian psychology which are in conflict with the Christian ethic.

The general effect of these educational ideas is to encourage the young, as soon as they have reached puberty, to have 'instant sex'. No time for the pleasures of ordinary friendships, with either sex; for the joyous adventure of courtship; for the gradual flowering of personal intimacy and understanding of each other, alongside the maturing of outlook which can prepare them for commitment to one another in marriage. The encouragement of 'instant sex' is surely the greatest dis-service of all to the enjoyment of youth and to the sheer delight of love between men and women that God has designed us for. If their bodies are already all too familiar to each other (or even to other parties as well), while their souls are still an unknown quantity, what is there to look forward to in the honeymoon and the years that lie ahead?

The new barbarianism

The fact is that this bestial attitude to sex is all part and parcel of the 'pop' cult of the primitive - the gen-

eral revolt against civilised standards in human art and behaviour. Sexual promiscuity and vandalism are both by-products of this. The inevitable conclusion of exalting savagery is to downgrade man himself, and put him on the level of the beasts. Some popular books have come out with the idea that man is no more than a naked ape. All that the poets and artists and lovers of hundreds of years of human civilisation have expressed, of the wonder and mystery of man whom God has made in his own likeness - all this counts for nothing in the new Dark Age that seems to lie before us.

The glory of the New Man

Yet I am full of hope, because I am writing this on Ascension Day. Christ has taken our humanity into God. However low we sink sometimes towards bestiality, we have in the Lord Jesus the vision of what man is designed to be, and what he can be when his individual will is surrendered to God's will and his desires consecrated to God's glory. If anyone is in Christ, he becomes a new creature. He is dead to all the cravings which degrade his true nature and drag him down to sub-human levels. In Christ we are raised up to the heights of human fulfilment.

All the more urgency for us to dedicate ourselves each day to the extension of his Kingdom, by all that we do or say or think. The future of mankind depends upon it.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

June

- 2 Wed. Ember Day. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 **Trinity Sunday.** As usual for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service. (Envelopes for Trin. Sun. Ordinands' Appeal).
- 8 Wed. St. Columba, Abbot. 10-0 H.C.
- 13 **Trinity I.** As for 2nd Sunday.
- 15 Tues. 2-30 Prayer Meeting, 37, Badsey Fields Lane.
- 16 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 20 **Trinity 2.** As for 3rd Sun. 6-45 Rev. J. C. Harvey, British & Foreign Bible Society.
- 23 Wed. No H.C. Pram Service transferred to 30th.
- 24 Thurs. **Nativity of St. John, Baptist.** 10-0 H.C.
- 27 **Trinity 3.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins & Holy Baptism. **5-30 Wickhamford Patronal Festival Eucharist.** No evening service at Badsey. Anyone requiring transport to Wickhamford, please be at Badsey lych-gate not later than 5-20.
- 29 Tues. **St. Peter, Apostle & M.** 10-0 H.C.
- 30 Wed. No H.C. 3-0 Pram Service (instead of 23rd).

As last year, Badsey people are invited to attend Wickhamford Patronal evening Eucharist at 5-30 on the Sunday after St. John Baptist's Day. There will be no evening service in Badsey Church that Sunday.

Mothers' Union. June 2nd Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tues., 15th, 2-30. Prayer Group Meeting at Mrs. Betteridge's, 37, Badsey Fields Lane.

Tues., 22nd, 7-30 p.m. Branch Meeting. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Harwood (Committee), Mesdames Eyre, Floyd and Franklin. J.B.

Young Wives' Group. June 7th, Beauty Demonstration, by Rimmel. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. D. Cleaver, Mrs. M. Knight, Mrs. B. Benfield, Mrs. B. Smith.

June 21st Evening Outing.

D.M.B.

People who attended have spoken very warmly of the Coffee Evening held by the Y.W. on 17th May. at which £40 was made for Christian Aid and Y.W. funds. It was felt to be a very happy social occasion. Congratulations to the Y.W. Group on the success of their first open social evening. P.B.

A Morning Market is being held by the British and Foreign Bible Society, Evesham Auxiliary, in the **Town Hall, Evesham, on Saturday, 19th June from 10-0 to 12-30.** St. James, Badsey will be holding a **Toy Stall.** Any clean toys will be welcome for stocking this stall. Please bring them to Mrs. Berwick, 6, Old Post Office Lane, by Friday morning, June 18. Do come also to the Market on Saturday morning. Admission is free.

A Coffee Evening organised by the Overseas Committee will be held on **Friday, 2nd July,** in the garden of **Seward House** (indoors if wet) in aid of the parish's overseas funds. Tickets, price 12½p. (2/6) may be obtained from members of the committee. There will be stalls for Needlework, Cakes and Produce, and Bring and Buy. A short talk will be given by Dr. A. L. Spencer-Payne, Director of the South African Church Development Trust.

Christian Stewardship. Helpers in the Christian Stewardship Renewal Campaign are now being recruited, and some of them will meet with the Committee on Thursday, 3rd June. On 30th June the Committee meets again to continue its work of preparing for the autumn programme.

Holy Baptism

April 25 Louise Anne Bufton.

Confirmation

May 11 by the Assistant Bishop, the Right Rev. Nicholas Allenby, in St. James's Church, Badsey.

Nicholas Bell, Martin Burford, David Goldstraw, Philip Gresty, Ian Hardwick, Philip Hartwell, Christopher Izod, Martin Osborne, Martin Smith, Andrew Watt; Trudy Begley, Susan Brazier, Christine Brazier, Jane Charlwood, Margaret Charlwood, Jane Goldstraw, Rebecca New, Jullian Perkins, Wendy Reeves, Shirley Stewart, Wendy Stewart, Anne Wheatley.

Burials, R.I.P.

April 26 Elsie Annie Jeffs, aged 77.

Our prayerful condolences with all members of the family. It was sad that Mrs. Jeffs died so soon after her move into her new bungalow. She had lived many years in Bowers Hill, and had made a brave recovery after a stroke about three years ago but had never been quite herself since. She will be remembered as a cheerful, friendly Christian soul. For some years she had been receiving Holy Communion regularly at home.

May 6 (cremation at Worcester).

Florence Sarah Smith, aged 83.

Our warm sympathy and prayers for her devoted husband, Mr. Sidney Smith. She was a very sweet person who had ailed a good deal in recent years. May God grant her peace. Two years ago she and her husband were confirmed and have received the Sacrament regularly, mostly at home.

May 14 Jane Elizabeth Blake, aged 75.

During her illness Mrs. Blake had been wonderful in her prayerful acceptance and quiet preparation for death. This is just what anyone who knew her would have expected. In her work of many years in the Badsey

Friends' Meeting and all the Christian activities associated with it, Mrs. Blake's example and influence touched many lives for Christ in this village. Our prayerful sympathy with the family.

Jottings. We are very sorry to lose the services of Mr. Michael King at the organ. He has had to give up owing to increased business commitments. During the 12 months that he has been with us, we have greatly appreciated his talent and instrumental skill.

At the time of writing, Mr. George Crisp is seriously ill after two strokes. Mr. William Wheatley is making progress after severe heart attacks. Mr. Arthur Shooter is also recovering after a stroke. Others who are ill in hospital or at home include Mr. Edgar Kinchin, Mrs. Hilda Watson, Mrs. Joan Enstone, Mrs. Kathleen Brailsford. Mrs. Joan Harman is about to go to hospital for a course of treatment and probably surgery, which we pray will be beneficial. Mr. Gordon King has been ill at home for some months. Mrs. Florence Bearcroft has now returned home from hospital: she still has her leg in plaster. Mr. Albert Jeffs is also home from hospital.

Servers for June. 6th, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 T. Bell; 6-45 I. Hardwick. 13th, 10-15 D. Barrand (Server), M. Exon (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Owen. 20th, 8-0 A. Owen; 6-45 D. Barrand. 27th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 11-0 K. West.

War Memorial Flowers. June 6th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 13th, Mrs. N. Cook; 20th, Mrs. F. Betteridge; 27th, Mrs. Sears.

Anniversary Donation £1. Mr. William Bennett (90th birthday).

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

June

- 6 **Trinity Sunday.** As for 1st Sun. (Envelopes for Trinity Sun. Ordinands' Appeal).
13 **Trinity 1.** 3-0 Family Service. Rev. E. P. Crowther-Green.
20 **Trinity 2.** 11-0 Parish Eucharist. Rev. M. Riddell, Chaplain at Long Lartin Prison. No Evensong.
27 **Trinity 3. Sun. after Nativity of St. John Baptist.** **PATRONAL FESTIVAL.** 5-30 p.m. Parish Eucharist.

Holy Baptism

May 9 Sally Claire Stratton.

Confirmation

May 11 by the Assistant Bishop, the Right Rev. Nicholas Allenby, in St. James's Church, Badsey:

Shirley Camden, Jacqueline Sturt, Linda Turley.

The Sick. Your prayers are asked for Mrs. Lily Smith, Miss E. Evans, both in Evesham Hospital. Mrs. E. Walters had a nasty fall, but seems to have quite recovered we are thankful to say. We are sorry that Mr. John Poulter has lost his right index finger in an accident on the farm.

Young Wives' Group. At our meeting on Wednesday, 2nd June, at 8 p.m. the speaker will be Mr. W. Perrie, Governor of Long Lartin Prison.

We shall be glad to hear of any other couples who want to join us in the Skittles Evening at the Hobnails. A.S.

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Friday, 16th July, 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday, 17th July, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday, 18th July, 12 noon - 8 p.m.

The members of the Committee are pleased to report that plans are well ahead for the Festival.

We do want to make this a truly Parish effort.

The response to open gardens has been good, but we should like to hear of anyone else willing to open their garden to visitors.

Help is needed to complete a rota for serving refreshments and for stewards to supervise visitors to the Church and Hall, and with car parking. Will volunteers please contact Mrs. Parry, Wickham House. Tel. Evesham 830244. We shall also be glad to hear of more people willing to lend articles (including old photographs and pictures) for the Exhibition of Wickhamford history.

Admission to the gardens and exhibition is 25p. and refreshments will be on sale in the Memorial Hall.

Leaflets to advertise the Festival are available from Committee members.
Bessie Astley.

LAW AND ORDER - OLD STYLE 6

We have seen how the Parish Constable had to enforce the law about the upkeep of highways and bridges in the parish by the inhabitants. Our last entry was about Blackminster Bridge in 1700. Our next quo-

tation is from a later period. The Vestry Minutes of 1841 record: "It was determined that a Notice should be sent to the Proprietors & occupier of the Silk Mill to inform them that unless the Bridges constructed by them when they turned that road into a pond are forthwith put into good and safe repair that they will be indicted by the Parish".

At the same meeting "it was resolved unanimously that all Cattle found trespassing on the highways in the said Parish shall be impounded by the Parish Surveyor according to the act of Parliament".

This reminds us that the waywarden and constable were concerned with animal as well as human vagrants on the roads. One of the constable's duties was to maintain the village pound, a small enclosure for the 'impounding' of stray beasts. Apparently Badsey pound was in constant need of repair. Almost every year in the early 1700's the constable had to spend sums ranging from 2d. to 6s. on "mending ye pound gate".

In 1702 there were more extensive repairs:
"for posts and rails and thimbles for the pound 2-4
for 3 - load of ston and fecking (fetching) them 7-6
paid for laying them up on the pound wall 1-10".

Looking after the village green was also the constable's concern.

1709 "For a head of a Gate at ye Green 0-6".

Two years later:
"for 5 poles and 4 poast and nailes for the gates at the green 1-6".

(To be continued)

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