

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JULY, 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

6th June, 1971.

My dear People,

At the time when the Parish Review has to be prepared for the July number, Mrs. Braby and I will be (God willing) in Italy, on a pilgrimage 'in the steps of St. Francis and St. Benedict'. So I have asked Miss Sladden to edit this number, which she has kindly agreed to do.

Mrs. Churchill has given me the result of Christian Aid Week, which is as follows: Badsey £88.62, Aldington £5.64, Wickhamford £23.49. Total £117.75, an increase of £31.71 on last year. Well done, everyone concerned!

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

### CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

St. James, Badsey with Aldington.

The following article has been contributed by Mr. John Bailey, our Diocesan Stewardship Adviser, who is helping us with our forthcoming Stewardship Renewal Programme this autumn.

I am grateful for the opportunity of being able to contribute this article about Christian Stewardship in your Parish Review for two reasons. The first is to say publicly how much I have enjoyed working with your Stewardship Committee over the past few months and that I look forward to meeting more of you in the not too distant future, and the second is to write a few words on what your Committee is trying to do through this Christian Stewardship Programme.

First, is it necessary? The point is that all of us, with the best of wills, are apt to be forgetful in matters affecting our Christian duties and responsibilities. Thus it is a good thing if, from time to time, we remind ourselves of these and to use the occasion of a Stewardship Renewal Programme for a re-examination of what membership of the Church means and what we are doing about living our faith. It is also a chance for these matters to be brought to the attention of others who may be new to the congregation and so on.

Second, what is the meaning of Christian Stewardship? It is quite impossible to deal with the whole aspect of this subject in one article - more will be written and spoken about this in the next few months - so I will merely touch upon one important aspect which I feel should be the basis of our Stewardship thinking.

Christian Stewardship is concerned with life - it attempts to help us to try to answer the question "How can we live the Christian faith in the world?". It is a way in which ordinary men and women may find the practical means of expressing in thought, in word and in deed their thanks to God for all that they have been given of life.

This we can do if we take the time and the trouble to think out how we manage our Time, our Abilities and our Money; so that we are able to give, first, to God of our Time in Worship and Service, and of our Ability in dedication to Him and of our Money to finance His work in the world, before we think of what we use on ourselves.

Christian Stewardship is concerned with GIVING. The Christian Faith is concerned with GIVING; therefore if we practise the Stewardship of our Lives then we begin to live our Faith.

Not very long ago I came across these words, which sum up very well what I am trying to say:—

"The world asks how much we own - Christ asks how we use it.

The world thinks of getting - Christ teaches us to give.

The world asks what we give - Christ asks how we give.

The world is concerned with the amount - Christ is concerned with the motive."

Above all we should remember that Christian Stewardship is concerned with the **whole** of our lives and not solely that part of it which we call our money or material possessions. It is concerned with our Time, our abilities **and** our Money'.

John S. Bailey.

### THE DIOCESAN SYNOD

Members of the Diocesan Synod met on Friday, 11th June for an afternoon and evening conference in the Town Hall, Dudley.

The Lady Mayoress welcomed us all most warmly, after which the Bishop spoke of our meeting together like a large family, but one which is identified with the life of the whole community. He spoke of the desperate need for a new look at recruitment of ordinands and the whole system of use of the clergy. We need a hard core of fully committed men who will seek new avenues of service to the community at large. He told us that Bishop Allenby and a small committee were working hard, trying to recruit more young men for the Ministry in Worcestershire.

There were some lively discussions; one on the working expenses of the clergy and parochial responsibility in this matter. We heard of some younger clergy who often have to meet the cost of postage, telephone, clerical robes etc. from their already low stipends, without any assistance from their parish; this was felt by most members of the Synod to be unfair.

Canon G. C. B. Davies then gave a full and interesting summary of the Church and State Report, which will be discussed more fully at the autumn Synod, when views will be gathered from the parishes, via the Ruridecanal Synods.

The Rev. B. W. E. Banks introduced the proposal that a simple and cheap monthly diocesan Newsletter should be produced, and showed some sample sheets. Most members of the Synod welcomed the idea, as something was needed to replace the Diocesan Messenger and the proposed leaflet would be inexpensive and easily inserted into parish magazines. D.B.

### VILLAGE HISTORY

A most interesting Exhibition was held in May at the Meeting House, Badsey, depicting past and present life in Badsey and Aldington. The exhibits consisted of old documents and village maps; an excellent display of Victorian dresses and nursery items; photographs of some village personalities, local views, old farm and garden implements, together with many other items of interest. The exhibition was open for two days and was organised by the St. John Ambulance Brigade; it realised £12 for the Brigade's Badsey Division.

We are grateful to those who lent items displayed, illustrating as they did so many facets in the past and present history of our villages. We believe that there

must be further illustrative material which could be found if steps were taken to collect, preserve and document it. If any are interested in forming a society for this purpose, will they please contact David Brazier? With the help of such a group it should be possible to compile records in the form of a pamphlet or book, photograph albums, tape recordings, etc. as historical evidence to be held in trust for the interest of future generations.

There must be many people, particularly in the older generation, who have memories or have been told stories by their parents of past events and village history, or who may have some old photographs, maps, plans, documents, items connected with past village industries, in fact any interesting material tucked away and forgotten in some attic or drawer. If these could be preserved and lent or given to the society it would greatly assist us in compiling a 'History of Village Life in Badsey and Aldington'. D.H.B.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

#### July

- 4 **Trinity 4.** As for 1st Sun. 6-45 People's Service. Preacher: Dr. A. Ll. Spencer-Payne, "The Church in S. Africa".  
7 Wed. 10-0 H.C.  
11 **Trinity 5.** As for 2nd Sun.  
14 Wed. 10-0 H.C.  
18 **Trinity 6.** As for 3rd Sun.  
21 Wed. 10-0 H.C.  
25 **ST. JAMES, APOSTLE & MARTYR, PATRONAL FESTIVAL.** **Trinity 7.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Family Service and Holy Baptism. 6-45 Sung Eucharist.  
28 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 3-0 Pram Service.

#### Aug.

- 1 **Trinity 8.** Lammas Day. As for 1st Sun.

**P.C.C. Meeting.** Tues., 6th July, 7-15 p.m.

**Mothers' Union.** Wed. 7th, 10-0 Corporate Communion. There will be no Branch Meetings this month.

Tues. 20th we have an evening outing to Charlecote Park, followed by a meal at the Three Ways Hotel, Mickleton. The coach leaves Badsey at 6-30 p.m. Will all members please give me their names as soon as possible. J.B.

**Young Wives' Group.** July 5th. Talk on the National Trust by Mr. E. Ellis. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. M. Portman, Mrs. J. Millward, Mrs. R. Hartwell, Mrs. B. Hall. July 19th, Talk on First Aid in the Home, by Sister Davies. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. S. Freer, Mrs. J. Ives, Mrs. M. Davies, Mrs. U. Padfield.

No Young Wives meetings in August. D.M.B.

**Overseas Committee Coffee Evening.** As announced previously, this will be held on Friday, 2nd July, 7-30 to 9 p.m. at Seward House, Badsey. Admission 12½p. (2/6). Come and bring your friends. You will have the opportunity of meeting our guest, Dr. A. Ll. Spencer-Payne, who will give a short talk on the work of the Church in S. Africa and the many problems to be faced there.

### Holy Baptism

May 23 Lorraine Marshall.

### Holy Matrimony

June 5 Peter Leslie Moran and Susan Ann Harborne, of Bidford-on-Avon.

### Burials, R.I.P.

June 7 George Richards, aged 77.  
„ 16 Ruby Huxley, aged 52.

**Servers for July.** 4th, 8-0 M. Betteridge; 11-0 G. Toney; 6-45 M. Exon. 11th, 10-15 M. Clements (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 K. West. 18th, 8-0 T. Bell; 6-45 D. Barrand. 25th, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 A. Owen; 6-45 C. Tucker (Server), I. Hardwick (Crucifer).

**War Memorial Flowers.** July 4th, Mrs. G. Grove; 11th, Mrs. C. Crane; 18th, Mrs. L. Knight; 25th, Mrs. G. H. Stewart.

**Birthday Donation.** 25p. M.M.S.

## WICKHAMFORD NOTES

### Church Services

#### July

- 4 **Trinity 4.** As for 1st Sun. Preacher at 5-30: Dr. A. Ll. Spencer-Payne. "The Church in S. Africa".  
11 **Trinity 5.** As for 2nd Sun. 3-0 Family Service and Baptism.  
18 **Trinity 6.** FLOWER FESTIVAL. 11-0 Family Eucharist; 5-30 Evensong.  
25 **Trinity 7.** St. James, Ap. & M. 5-30 Evening Prayer (said, no sermon). 6-45 Badsey Patronal Festival Eucharist in St. James's Church. Cars will pick up at Sandys Arms, 6-20 to 6-30,

#### Aug.

- 1 **Trinity 8.** As for 1st Sun.

**P.C.C. Meeting.** Wed., 21st July, 7-30 p.m.

**Flower Festival.** The Committee would be grateful for any offers of cakes or scones, to be sold as refreshments during the Festival.

We would also welcome more volunteers, to help in serving the refreshments, particularly on Saturday, for either one or two hour periods.

Please notify Mrs. Parry.

Tickets will be available for Senior Residents of Wickhamford at 25p. for the 2½ days of the Festival.

B. Astley.

**Young Wives Group.** This will not be meeting again until October. A.S.

## LAW AND ORDER - OLD STYLE, 7

We have seen the Parish Constable, in the course of his duties, working very closely with other annually elected parochial officials - the churchwardens, overseers of the poor, highway surveyor (or waywarden).

What made the constable the key man in local government was that he was the parish officer directly responsible to the magistrates and to Shirehall.

Until the enclosure acts, there was another parochial officer with whom the constable co-operated: the surveyor of the field (or field steward), still sometimes called the hayward. This title went back to manorial times and has nothing to do with hay. His job was to look after the hedges (French 'haie'), and to have a general oversight of the common fields and their cultivation. The final enclosure awards were made in 1807 (Aldington) and 1811 (Badsey). Until then, although considerable enclosure had taken place, the greater part of the land was in the common fields.

There were three or four fields in each parish, each under a different crop by rotation every year, and each villager had a number of strips in the different fields. In fields under pasture today it is often easy to see the raised ridges (balks) and ditches which defined these strips in the open field. The sort of difficulties that could occur are shown by this presentation of the constable of Aldington at Quarter Sessions, Michaelmas 1704:

I pSENT John Booker for not making sufficient mounds between him & Edward Brookes & him & Francis Harward and him & Joseph Knight and for not scowering his Ditches, which causeth abundance of

Trespasses and a great deal of Difference amongst the Neighbours".

In the Badsey constables' accounts there are frequent items of expenditure on gunpowder. It might be thought that this was connected with the maintenance of the munitions of the militia. In most instances however we find that the powder was for the Hayward. What did this official need it for? Here it is:

1706 "for powder to fright ye Birds 0-6"  
In 1712 we find this item:

"paid to John Smyth for powder and wounttraps 6-8".

('Wount' or 'woont' was the Worcestershire name for a mole).

What an amazing variety of tasks was expected from the constable! Dogberry was the name of Shakespeare's famous constable. Perhaps 'dogsboddy' would have described the office even better. He seems to have done all the odd jobs for the village that did not come into any other official's terms of reference.

Considering they were unpaid, and only held office for one year, with no previous experience, Badsey and Aldington seem to have been served by a succession of very diligent and conscientious men.

(Concluded).

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