

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JANUARY, 1972

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

15th December, 1971

My dear People,

For most people a new year brings hopes of new beginnings. We know that the world goes on in exactly the same way on 1st January as on 31st December. Popes and premiers give New Year messages, but they do not expect the results to be so immediate as when they press a switch to open a dam or launch a ship. Outwardly the world continues the same - violence, lust, oppression, crime still claiming their daily victims. So they did the day after Christ was born, no less than the day before.

Outwardly the world goes on as before. But the thoughtful commemoration of an anniversary can bring about an inward revolution in a person's life which may in time alter the course of the world's history.

The turn of the year comes during the twelve-day festival of Christ's Nativity. Christmas will have meant very little to us unless the Birth of Christ takes place anew in our lives. "You must be born again" was the startling thing Jesus said to a middle-aged enquirer. I don't expect any of us enjoyed being born. No doubt it would have been nicer to stay in the warm, dark, comfy womb. But we had no choice in the matter. We had to come out into the light.

It is different with spiritual re-birth. We can choose to remain where we are - an undeveloped embryo, cosily secure but in the dark. A new birth means also a death - an end to accepted ideas, easy ways, lazy habits of mind or body. No one who has come to find the new-born King can be at ease in the old kingdom where Self has reigned.

Without delay

The Wise Men reached their goal because they obeyed immediately the divine impulse to follow the guiding star.

"True love can brook no dull delay:
Through toils and dangers lie their way;
And yet their homes, their friends, their all,
They leave at once, at God's high call."

So too with the Shepherds: "Let us go even now unto Bethlehem ... And they came with haste." Towards the end of the month we celebrate the Conversion of St. Paul, a reminder that we all need spiritual conversion. "Get up", he was told, "and go into the city, and you will be told what you have to do." "Whereupon", as he told King Agrippa many years later, "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision."

Another thought comes from the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The old man Simeon had longed to see the promised Christ before he died. One day he felt an inward urge from God to go into the Temple to pray. He obeyed at once, and there was the Desire of all nations waiting for him. Suppose he had put off his visit to the Temple, just by a few minutes. Christ would have come, but Simeon would have missed his chance.

Today

Looking back on your own life, do you not regret the many opportunities lost through not responding at once to some inward urge which you knew to be holy? Something that struck home once when you were hearing one of the lessons read in church, perhaps. You knew God was speaking to you. When you got home, you let other voices crowd in, other interests, concerns and pleasures, and God was not allowed to resume his conversation with you. The thing to have done was to make a definite appointment for renewing the encounter: a resolution to set aside a particular time, before that day had become yesterday.

"Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." We just do not know what we have missed in

the past through our sloth. If you are making New Year resolutions, ask yourself this. Is there something which God has been urging and prodding me to do, but which I have put off? If I put it off any longer, can I be sure that I shall have the urge again? What does my commitment to Christ mean, if I am not prepared to listen to Him or do what He asks in the immediate matters of today?

These New Year resolutions must be decisions for today, not vague aspirations towards doing something in the course of the twelvemonth.

Happy New Year then! "Happy", says our Lord, "is that servant who is found at his task when his master comes."

God bless you always.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Jan. 18 to 25. Join in this with your fellow-Christians of all denominations all over the world, in your personal prayers and in corporate worship.

The Bishop's Visit. The Bishop of Worcester is visiting the different Rural Deaneries in turn, to get to know clergy and people at firsthand as early as possible. He will be coming to Evesham the weekend January 21 to 24. Obviously he cannot visit all the parishes at this time, but on the Friday he will meet the churchwardens and their wives at an informal gathering, the clergy and their wives on the Monday. On Sunday evening, 23rd January, he will preach at a united service at All Saints, Evesham, in connection with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

January

- 1 Sat. Circumcision of Christ. 10-0 H.C.
- 2 Christmas 2. As for 1st Sun. 6-45 Service of Readings and Carols.
- 5 Wed. No H.C.
- 6 Thurs. EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD. 10-0 H.C.
- 9 Epiphany 1. As for 2nd Sun.
- 12 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 16 Epiphany 2. As for 3rd Sun.
- 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- 18 Tues. 7-45 p.m. United Prayer Meeting in Church.
- 19 Wed. St. Wulstan, Bp. of Worcester. 10-0 H.C.
- 23 Epiphany 3. As for 4th Sun.
- 25 Tues. Conversion of St. Paul. 10-0 H.C.
- 26 Wed. No H.C. 2-45 Pram Service.
- 30 Septuagesima. As for 5th Sun. 10-15 Family Service.

February

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

P.C.C. Meeting. Tues., Jan. 4, the Vicarage, 7-15 p.m.

Evesham Deanery Synod. Mon., Jan. 24, Evesham High School, 7-30 p.m.

Parish Social. Advance Notice that this will be held on Shrove Tuesday, February 15th.

Sunday School Party. This year there will be one party for all the children, on Sat., Jan. 15th in the Meeting House.

The under 8's will start their games at 3 p.m. and should be called for at 5-30, after tea.

Older children are asked to come at 4-30. Their party will go on till 7-30.

Senior Residents' Party. This will be held in Blackminster County Secondary School on Saturday, Jan. 22nd, at 6 p.m. All persons living in Badsey, Aldington, and Bowers Hill over 65 years of age are eligible for this Party. If anyone is accidentally missed by the Committee, please advise Mr. H. L. Hatcher, 53, Breforton Road, Badsey, or the Vicar. Transport provided where necessary.

Mothers' Union. Jan. 6th Thurs. Epiphany 10-0 Corporate Communion.

11th Tues. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Miss A. Bullock, from Malvern, who will talk about her 35 years in India. Tea Ladies: Mrs. Bell (Committee), Mesdames Sharp, Berwick and Wilkins.

25th Tues. 7-0 Social Evening. You are invited to music and entertainment, and to welcome the Young Wives who will join us. J.B.

Young Wives' Group. Jan. 3rd. "The Fight against Cancer in Worcestershire", a talk by Mrs. Joan Taylor, Area Organiser. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. B. Simms, Mrs. P. Johnson, Mrs. V. Padfield, Mrs. M. Davies.

17th Annual General Meeting. Tea Hostesses: The Committee.

Feb. 7th. "Feeding the Family", a lecture by the Flour Advisory Bureau. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. M. Close, Mrs. P. Robbins, Mrs. A. Wilson, Mrs. J. Lashford. D.M.B.

ELECTORAL ROLL

In 1972 a completely new Church Electoral Roll has to be drawn up for every parish in the country. No names from the old Roll will be automatically kept on. Everyone who wishes to be on the Electoral Roll must apply. The date for Badsey and Aldington before which application must be made is Feb. 22nd.

The application forms may be obtained at the church, or from the Vicar, or from the Electoral Roll Officer, Miss L. D. Core, 7, Old Post Office Lane, Badsey. When completed, they should be returned to her, or placed in the box in the church for this purpose.

It is sincerely to be hoped that all regular communicants and church members over the age of 17 will apply to be enrolled.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year is to be on Tuesday, 14th March.

Home and Overseas Missions. The money sent to U.S.P.G. from the boxes in 1971 amounted to £62.26, an improvement on last year. A good way of giving regularly to help the Church Overseas is by having such a box at home, and putting in a regular amount each week. Boxes can be obtained at the church, or from Miss N. E. Smith. There are also the Children's Society boxes, from Mrs. A. Owen. Report of proceeds from these in 1971 and Christmas collections in next issue.

Grants from P.C.C. funds were made as follows: C.M.S. £30; S.P.C.K. £30; B. & F. Bible Soc. £30; Homes for Retired Clergy £10. It is hoped to increase these grants next year, when the results of increased giving from the Stewardship Renewal are seen. The Sunday School, from the children's collections, have given £10 towards the nursing training of Saria Joel at St. Monica's Hospital, Maciene, and £10 to the Worcester Cathedral Appeal.

What is a Christingle? On Sat., 11th December two children from Badsey Sunday School presented purses containing a total of £12.50 at a Christingle Service at Worcester Cathedral. The money had been raised at a Coffee Morning organised by Mrs. Owen in aid of the Church of England Children's Society.

This service at which children are presented with a "Christingle" - that is, an orange with a candle in the top, decorated with fruits and nuts and bound with red ribbon - is a revival of a Moravian Church custom. The orange represents the world, the candle the Light of the World, the fruits and nuts the fruits of the earth, and the red ribbon the Blood of Christ.

Every child in the Cathedral received a "Christingle" after the presentation of purses, and carried them lighted in a colourful procession. The candles were put out after the Blessing, to be re-lit on Christmas Day.

J.I.

Holy Baptism

Nov. 28 Douglas John Wood.

Holy Matrimony

Dec. 4 Garry Philip Rogerson, of Wickhamford, and Sally Rosalind Hewlett, of Badsey.

„ 18 Donald Evan Griffiths, of Fladbury, and Julie Elizabeth Brown, of Badsey.

Burials R.I.P.

Nov. 25 Charles Edwin Stewart, aged 65 (cremation).

„ 26 Louisa Jane Tomkins, aged 68.

Dec. 11 Maisie Jean Reed, aged 51 (cremation).

We offer our prayerful condolences with the spouses and families of the above.

'Chas' is mourned by a host of friends and associates, as was shown by the large gathering at the funeral. His activities were wide, and although not a great talker or prominent leader, he was an active worker with a quiet and steady influence for good in the village life. The mainspring was his strong Christian faith and sense of duty, nourished by sacramental worship. His counsel and friendship will be greatly missed - as sidesman and former Parochial Church Councillor, as Parish Councillor, president of the Cricket Club, vice-president of the Darts League, member of the Flower Show Committee. He was not just a committee man but a hard worker who gave practical service. It is not easy, for example, to imagine a church fete without Charlie Stewart helping. A warm-hearted man whom it was good to know.

Mrs. Tomkins was another faithful communicant, a hard-working wife and mother, who suffered much pain and ill-health with uncomplaining cheerfulness and Christian fortitude. Her death was sudden and unexpected, but she had for some time been house-bound and her infirmities were increasing. She set a fine example of loving care.

Mrs. Reed had been a sick woman for some time, but her death at so comparatively young an age is a sad loss. She was beloved by her family, and much liked by those who came to know her well.

Jottings. We shall be sorry to say goodbye to Mrs. A. Wright, who will be leaving Badsey later this month to live near her daughter Deaconess Caroline. Since making her home in Badsey, she has made many friends and entered fully into the life of the church and village.

Hearty congratulations to Pilot Officer Glyn Lewis on getting his 'wings'.

Hearty congratulations also to Mrs. March, who will celebrate her 95th birthday on 21st January.

Your prayers are asked for the sick. At the time of writing, Mr. H. Floyd is recovering from an operation in Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, Mr. H. Stewart, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. P. Baker are in Evesham Hospital. Mrs. Ann Harris and Mr. D. Latham are in Rooks-

wood. Mr. and Mrs. F. Reeves have both been rather poorly, also Mr. T. Wilson. Home from hospital are Mr. G. King, Mrs. Hay, Mrs. A. M. Porter, Mrs. E. Perkins, Mr. A. Bufton, Mr. W. Hardiman.

Servers for January. 2nd, 8-0 C. Tucker; 11-0 P. Gresty; 6-45 D. Barrand. 9th, 10-15 A. Owen (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 M. Clements. 16th, 8-0 D. Norden; 6-45 M. Exon. 23rd, 8-0 M. Clements; 11-0 A. Owen; 6-45 S. Gresty (Server), P. Gresty (Crucifer). 30th, 8-0 T. Bell; 10-15 D. Barrand; 6-45 P. Gresty.

War Memorial Flowers. Jan. 2, Mrs. A. C. Sears. 9, Mrs. K. Cleaver. 16, Mrs. D. Sparrow. 23, Mrs. N. Grinnell.

Birthday Thank-offering. Mrs. F. Knight, 15p.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES Church Services

Jan.

2 **Christmas 2.** 9-0 H.C. 3-0 Service of Readings and Carols.

9 **(Epiphany 1), 16 (Epiphany 2), 23 (Epiphany 3), 30 (Septuagesima).** As for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Suns. See Cover.

18 to 25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

P.C.C. Meeting. Wed., Jan. 19, 7-30 p.m.

Evesham Deanery Synod. Mon., Jan. 24, Evesham High School, 7-30 p.m.

Repairs to the church by Messrs. A. C. Hughes & Sons have now been completed and minor restoration of the

Sandys monuments by Messrs. R. Bridgeman & Sons of Lichfield.

Home and Overseas Missions. The P.C.C. has been able to increase its grants in 1971, thanks largely to the improved position this year as a result of the Flower Festival. This can only be maintained in future if there is an increase in regular direct giving. Grants from P.C.C. funds were made as follows:— U.S.P.G. £30; Missions to Seamen £20; Leprosy Mission £10 (plus £10 from phials); Church Army £10; Homes for Retired Clergy £10.

The Sick. At the time of writing Mrs. Gertrude Harrison is recovering from an emergency operation in Ronswood Hospital. Mr. Frank Southern has been undergoing hospital treatment.

ELECTORAL ROLL

In 1972 a completely new Electoral Roll has to be prepared for every parish in the country. No names from the old Roll will be automatically retained. All who wish to be on the Electoral Roll must apply. The date for Wickhamford before which application has to be made is April 5th.

The application forms may be obtained at the church, or from the Vicar, or from the Electoral Roll Officer, Mr. J. Sharp, 10, Manor Road, Wickhamford. When completed, they should be returned to him, or placed in the box in the church for this purpose.

It is greatly to be hoped that all regular communicants and church members over the age of 17 will apply to be enrolled.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year is to be on Wednesday, 26th April.

Phones : (Shop) 2020. (Nurseries) 2130

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