

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

MAY, 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 and Holy Baptism 4 p.m.  
Fourth Sunday ... .. Holy Communion 8 a.m. Mattins (said) 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 3rd 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 ... .. Mr. D. W. Hartwell, 35, Willersey Road.  
Mr. R. J. Taylor, 34, Badsey Fields Lane. (Evesham 830250).

## 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).

### 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.  
(Evesham 830395).  
Clerk ... .. Mr. C. H. Willis, 35, Pitchers Hill.

My dear People,

It is amusing the number of people who tell me I have got the date of Whitsunday wrong this year.

This will, I think, be the sixth year since the Spring Bank Holiday has been held on the last Monday in May, irrespective of what Sunday in the Christian year precedes it. It has so happened that, in three out of the five years since this came in, the Bank Holiday has actually been the Monday in Whitsun week. This year it will fall on the day after Trinity Sunday. As far as most of the public and press are concerned, it is "Whit Sunday". I suppose "Spring Bank Holiday Sunday" would be too much of a mouthful!

#### Holidays and Holy Days

Is it a good thing or not that public holidays should be dissociated from their Christian origins? "Holiday" comes from "holy day", until comparatively recent times the only non-working days were Sundays and other Church festivals. No one had several weeks off at a time. There were just the odd days in the year, the "red-letter days", so-called because the more important holy days were printed in red in the Church Calendar. And people did not go away for holidays. No driving to Blackpool or flying to Majorca. They kept holiday by going to church and then joining in local sports and junketings on the village green. Such is the secularisation of modern life that most people have never even heard of these festivals, unless they happen to be quarter days like Lady Day and Michaelmas, associated with the payment of rents.

#### Date of Whitsun

When the new Spring Bank Holiday became law, I welcomed it, and wrote in the Parish Review for May 1967 as follows: "I am hopeful, now that the Bank Holiday weekend does not coincide with Whitsuntide, that we may at last see a better observance of the great festival of the Holy Spirit, the birthday of the Church. We are told in the Acts of the Apostles that on this day the first disciples were 'all with one accord in one place'. Of recent years one could be reasonably certain that on this day parishioners would be all with one accord dispersed in different places. What should be the second best Sunday in the year for church attendance has been one of the worst of all".

I was wrong. Attendances at Whitsun services have not been noticeably better when the festival has not coincided with the public holiday. Indeed last year, when it did coincide, the number of communicants was distinctly higher than in 1970, when it did not.

I shall not attempt to analyse the causes, as I might well be wrong again! Instead, I shall remind you of the importance of this great Festival, and invite you to come and share in the joy of corporate worship in the communion of the Holy Spirit on 21st May.

#### Why have special days?

Of course there are some who will say: Why make a fuss about a particular festival of the Holy Spirit? If there is a Holy Spirit, his activity is not confined to appointed times and seasons. "The wind bloweth where it listeth". This is indeed true, and we must never forget it. But the Christian Church has found that she needs to have an annual cycle of seasons and special days. There are two reasons for this. One is that we cannot always live at the same level of spiritual intensity. We ought to be full of the Spirit every day, wholly dedicated to the work of God each hour we live. But we are not angelic beings. We are members of a sinful race. We need helps, reminders, proddings, rousings from sleep. Christian activity in the world is dependent on the regular assembling together of the faithful to renew their commitment and receive grace. And indeed the early Christians kept only one festival,

the weekly commemoration of Our Lord's Resurrection on the first day of the week. But the stimulus of special seasons and extra-ordinary days was found to be necessary. Dedicated humanity cannot always thrive in a "dim religious light". It needs highlights, and the occasional sparkle. It cannot forever trudge the plain without wearying. It needs to climb peaks and breathe enchanted air.

We also need such days because the Christian religion is not based on a philosophy or on edifying myths. It is based on a series of historical events in which the Divine broke into our earthly existence and revolutionised humanity. The Church Calendar keeps these basic truths of our faith in our minds. Its seasons move rhythmically round these poles of our redemption in Christ and the release of his Spirit to transform us into his likeness.

#### The Christian Calendar

The formation of the Christian Calendar began when two Sundays came to be set apart for special commemorations: Easter, corresponding to the Jewish Passover; and Whitsunday, exactly seven weeks later, corresponding to Pentecost. Although every Sunday is a festival of Our Lord's Resurrection and the Descent of the Spirit, there came to be these special annual commemorations, observed with great solemnity.

Unfortunately there came to be different traditions of calculating the date of Easter, in various areas of Christendom, and to this day the Eastern Orthodox Churches keep Easter at a different time from the Churches of the West. There were divergences even in our own country in the early days of English Christianity. While King Oswy of Northumbria, who had been converted by Scottish missionaries, was celebrating Easter festivities, his Queen, who had learned the faith from European teachers, was keeping her Holy Week fast. A few years later the decision was made to "go into Europe" and adopt the Roman date for Easter.

#### A fixed Easter?

It is generally agreed now that we ought to have a fixed Easter, not dependent on the phases of the moon, and I believe the second Sunday in April is the most favoured date. Parliament is ready to introduce this, as soon as the main Christian bodies can agree. As far as the Church of England is concerned, and the Roman Catholics and most others, we would raise no objection, but it is no good going it alone in one country until there is agreement all round.

"Agreement all round". That brings us back to the Feast of Pentecost, when the disciples were "all with one accord in one place", and filled with the one Spirit. At every Eucharist we say "We are the Body of Christ. By one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Endeavour to keep the unity of Spirit in the bond of peace". St. Luke, who wrote the Acts of the Apostles, saw the first Whitsunday as a foretaste of the integration of all mankind through possession of the one Spirit. On 21st May let us come together and experience (in the words of a Whitsun hymn) "the wonders of this sacred day".

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

**Christian Aid Week, May 15 to 20.** We still need plenty of volunteers for collecting, from both parishes. If you have not already done so, please give your name as soon as possible to Mrs. P. Churchill, 14 Chapel Street, Badsey (Evesham 830502), or Mrs. Elliott, 7 Sally Close, Wickhamford (Evesham 830573). Last year Christian Aid spent well over £3 million in aid projects all over the world, including the emergency in Bangladesh. Nearly £1½ million was collected in Christian Aid Week. So it can be seen how depen-

dent the work is on the success of Christian Aid Week. This year the calls on Christian Aid for help are greater than ever, apart from keeping existing projects going, with ever rising costs. In Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford we must make a really big effort to improve on our record last year of £117.75. There is to be a service for helpers on Tuesday, 9th May, in the Methodist Church, Evesham at 7-30 p.m.

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

### Church Services

See Notes below concerning Holy Baptism, and Pram Service. Also note special Whitsunday services.

#### May

- 1 Mon. SS. Philip & James, Apostles. 7-0 H.C.
- 3 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 7 **Easter 5. Rogation Sunday.** As usual for 1st Sunday.
- 9 Tues. 7-30 p.m. Christian Aid Service at Evesham Methodist Church.
- 10 Wed. **Eve of Ascension.** 2-0 p.m. Decoration of church: flowers and helpers welcome. 8-0 p.m. Choral Evensong.
- 11 Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY.** 6-30 & 10-0 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 14 **Sun. after Ascension.** As usual for 2nd Sunday.
- 17 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 20 Sat. **Whitsun Eve.** 9-30 a.m. Decoration of church: flowers and helpers welcome.
21. **WHITSUNDAY. 8-0 H.C. 10-15 Parish Eucharist.** 6-45 Evensong.
- 24 Ember Day. 10-0 H.C. No Pram Service. 7-30p.m. M.U. Diocesan Festival service, Worcester Cathedral.
- 28 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins & Holy Baptism. 6-45 Sung Eucharist. (Envelopes for Ordination Candidates' Fund).
- 31 Wed. No H.C.

#### June

- 1 Thurs. **Corpus Christi.** 10-0 H.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTE - HOLY BAPTISM

The new arrangement agreed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, whereby Baptism of Infants will be administered at Evensong at 4-0 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday in the month, will not now take effect till **July**. In May and June, Baptism at 11 a.m. on the 4th Sunday, as before.

### PRAM SERVICE

During the summer months the pram service on the 4th. Wednesday afternoon will be discontinued.

### COFFEE EVENING

in aid of

### WORCESTER CATHEDRAL APPEAL

at the Vicarage

Tuesday, 16th May - 7-30 to 9-30 p.m.

**Admission 10p. Cakes :: Bring and Buy**

**P.C.C. Officers and Committees.** At the first meeting after the A.P.C.M. the following elections took place. Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. L. Hatcher. Hon. Treas.: Mr. J. M. Wood. Vice-Chairman: Miss J. E. Sladden. Electoral Roll Officer: Miss L. D. Core.

Finance and Gen. Purposes Committee: Messrs. D. W. Hartwell, R. J. Taylor, H. L. Hatcher, J. M. Wood, A. J. Eyre, Mr. P. S. Tucker (who, at the 1st meeting of the Committee, has been elected Chairman). Co-opted: Mr. M. L. Gorham.

Pastoral Committee: Mrs. A. Bell, Miss Core, Mrs. G. Floyd, Mrs. D. Hartwell, Mrs. A. Owen. Co-opted: Sister R. M. Davies.

Overseas Committee: Mr. J. E. Bartlett, Mrs. F. Betteridge, Mrs. P. Braby, Miss Sladden. Co-opted: Mr. H. B. Chaplin, Mrs. A. C. Sears, Miss N. E. Smith. Meeting House Management Committee: Mr. Hartwell, Mr. A. V. C. Owen, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Tucker, Mrs. Betteridge, Mrs. Floyd.

**Mothers' Union.** May 3rd Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

There will be no Branch meeting this month.

Wed. 24th. 7-30 p.m. Diocesan Festival Service in Worcester Cathedral. Will members give me names for the coach as soon as possible. J.B.

**Young Wives' Group.** May 1st **COFFEE EVENING,** 7-30 p.m. in the Meeting House. Details were announced in the April number. Admission 10p.

May 15th. "Have I time to be a Christian?" The speaker is Mrs. Rolt. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. D. Bratt, Mrs. S. Clements, Mrs. K. Price, Mrs. J. Handy. J.A.W.

### OUR OVERSEAS PROJECT - SARIA JOEL

We have received some recent information about Saria Joel, the young African girl whom the parish is helping to take her full nursing training at St. Monica's Hospital, Maciene, Mozambique.

Saria lives near the hospital; her father works at home growing ground nuts, cassava, beans, sweet corn and some banana trees. There are three daughters: the eldest is a trained nurse, married to a male nurse and living at a distance; the second is a teacher in Maciene School and a Youth Club leader, she is unmarried which is unusual for an African girl as they usually marry very young. Saria, the youngest, is small and rather light skinned for a Shangaan. She finished primary school education at 12, which is exceptionally young for an African, and as there was then no secondary education available at Maciene and her parents felt she was too young to go away to school, she became nursemaid to the child of a missionary couple. When they returned to England in 1968, Saria was fifteen and began work at the hospital, as a ward orderly and later as a Junior Nurse, attending Matron's classes in First Aid, Hygiene, Anatomy, simple Pharmacy and First Year Nursing.

There is now an official training course provided by the Protestant Churches of Mozambique which includes general education and practical training in the wards of three Mission hospitals, leading to exams qualifying candidates as Assistant Nurses. The Matron at Maciene felt that Saria should if possible take advantage of this course - hence the need for financial help. She has done well during her six years at Maciene; Maths is her best school subject and she is good at Anatomy and in practical nursing work; also, she now Works in the laboratory, using a microscope. J.E.S.

### Holy Baptism

March 26 Joanne Marie McLennan.

### Holy Matrimony

April 1 Antoine Pierre Michel, of Severn Beach, Glos., and Angela Joy Dallimore, of Badsey.  
 " 8 Roger Ian Hartwell and Trudi Valerie Bagley, both of Badsey.

### Burials. R.I.P.

March 28 William George Moisey, aged 72.

A very hard-working man of independent character, son of the former sexton and parish clerk. He had lived and worked for some years in Canada. An interesting and agreeable man to know. Our sincere sympathy with the family.

The ashes of Ellen Louisa Walters, who died at Barton-on-Sea on 1st April, aged 72, and was cremated at Bournemouth, were deposited in the Garden of Rest, Badsey. Mrs. Walters was a member of the Badsey family of Roberts.

**Jottings.** Mr. Jim Harwood is now back in Evesham Hospital. Others who have been in hospital are Mr. D. Watkin, Mrs. B. A. Hughes, Mr. J. Collett, Mr. E. Lardner. Mr. J. Ford is making slow recovery after his fall. Mr. T. Maberley has returned to hospital, this time for appendicitis. Mr. Charles Hall is still in Evesham Hospital. Mr. Sidney Smith is happily settled at Durcott Lodge.

**SIXTY PLUS CLUB**

At the inaugural meeting on 19th April, it was decided to hold a monthly meeting on the 3rd Wednesday in the Meeting House, at 2-45 p.m. The meeting this month will be on **Wednesday, 17th May**. Any residents over 60 are very welcome.

**Servers for May.** 7th, 8-0 G. Toney; 11-0 M. Clements; 6-45 P. Gresty. 14th, 10-15 D. Barrand (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 A. Owen. 21st, (Whitsun), 8-0 D. Norden; 10-15 A. Owen (Server), P. Gresty (Crucifer); 6-45 T. Bell. 28th, 8-0 S. Gresty; 11-0 P. Gresty; 6-45 T. Bell (Server), M. Clements (Crucifer).

**War Memorial Flowers.** May 7th, Mrs. M. Hay. 14th, Mrs. L. Spencer. 21st, Mrs. T. Keen. 28th, Mrs. Sears.

**Donations:** In memory of Raymond Frank Stewart, £5. Birthday Memories of E.D. & P.G., £1. Thanks for services through the Pastoral Committee, 50p.

**WICKHAMFORD NOTES**  
**Church Services**

Note services for Whitsunday, 21st different from normal 3rd Sunday.

**May**

- 7 **Easter 5. Rogation Sun.** As usual for 1st Sun.
  - 11 Thurs. **ASCENSION DAY.** 7-30 a.m. Holy Communion.
  - 14 **Sun. after Ascension.** 3-0 Evensong and Holy Baptism.
  - 21 **WHITSUNDAY.** 9-0 Holy Communion (with hymns). 5-30 Evensong.
  - 28 **TRINITY SUNDAY.** 5-30 Evensong. (Envelopes for Ordination Candidates' Fund).
- Christian Aid Week.** See Notes after Vicar's Letter.

**Burial. R.I.P.**

March 24 John William Spragg, aged 39.  
A notice of his death was given last month.

**Jottings.** We are sorry to have to say goodbye to Mr. & Mrs. Carter and family, who will be leaving the Sandys Arms this month to return to Offenham. We also offer our condolences to them on the death of Mrs. Carter's father, who was very popular with visitors to the Sandys.

We are glad that Mrs. Ted Roberts is now recovering from her illness. Mrs. Folkes has now had her hip operation in Worcester Royal Infirmary. Others who have been in hospital are Mr. Fred Taylor, Mr. Victor Cull, Mr. Arthur Webb, Mr. Harry Walters is still in Evesham Hospital, but is getting much better, we are glad to say. Mrs. Howells is in Avonside Hospital.

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