

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

JUNE, 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.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

17th May, 1972

My dear People,

Last month I quoted a prediction of mine which had happily proved to be wrong. This month I quote one which has unhappily turned out to be right.

Anglican-Methodist Proposals

In the August 1969 number of this Review, after the Convocations had failed to approve the Proposals by a sufficient majority, I wrote:

"The Archbishop of Canterbury, interviewed after the vote, said there seemed to be sufficient support for the present scheme to encourage them to put it forward again at a later date. One feels this would be a serious tactical error. There is a warning to be seen and heeded in the events of forty years ago. After the Prayer Book Measure had been rejected by Parliament in 1927, it was modified...and re-presented to Parliament in 1928. This time it was thrown out by a greater majority than in the previous year. One can see the same sort of thing happening to a revised edition of the present reunion proposals, even though it would not be the Convocations but the new General Synod which would have to decide."

In the event, the proposals were re-presented without even revision. Whereas in 1969 the majority in favour in the Convocations had been 69%, in 1972 in the General Synod it was only 65%.

Fatal delay

One of the lessons of history is that, in any democratic institution, reforms can only be carried out if introduced with the minimum of delay. Proposals which seem reasonable to most people when first set out can be made to appear radical and dangerous by a determined minority who are prepared to resist them. If lots of time is given for second thoughts, pressure groups can get to work on the timid conservatism and resistance to change which are innate in many (though not all) people over forty.

About 1965 there was a very good chance of the proposals being accepted by an overwhelming majority in the Church of England. I don't think it ever occurred to us at that time that they would fail to be approved. In 1963 the Report had been published of the Conversations that had been going on for ten years between Anglican and Methodist leaders. It was generally hailed by Anglicans and Methodists as providing a breakthrough in the cause of Christian unity. You will remember the very friendly discussions we had here between Anglicans and Methodists on this preliminary report.

Six years were allowed to elapse before the Scheme was finally put before the representative bodies for approval. In the C. of E. that sort of delay is fatal. The opponents of the Scheme were able to take advantage of the boredom which had set in.

No scheme is perfect. There were obviously some awkward snags in this one. But the Methodists were prepared to go ahead in faith, and we were not. We were palsied by indecision. God in his mercy does redeem our failures, if we are willing to put ourselves in his hands. Our prayer must be that He will show us some other way of attaining a visible unity, that the work of the Gospel be not hindered.

New Scale of Fees

By the Parochial Fees Order 1972, a new table of ecclesiastical fees comes into effect from 1st June. The fees for weddings, funerals, etc. are in most cases double those which have been in effect since 1962. This has not unnaturally aroused some publicity, generally adverse to the Church.

It is of course embarrassing to the clergy to have to charge increased fees, but it would be inequitable if

individual incumbents decided themselves on what fees they would like to charge, and there was competition between one parish and another in offering 'cut price' weddings and funerals.

Two things have to be taken into consideration.

1. The new scale brings the fees, in terms of real monetary value, to the same standards as in 1947, which the scale of 1962 did not.
2. The stipends of the clergy, in most parishes, cannot be brought up to the standard minimum, without the income from fees being taken into account. The combined endowments of Badsey and Wickhamford, for example, including rent from glebe land, do not provide sufficient income to reach the minimum stipend. The rest has to be found from the Diocesan Stipends Fund. This Fund, though assisted by grants from the Church Commissioners, consists mainly of money provided by the parishes through the Diocesan Quota. If any of the clergy on the diocesan minimum were to forego or reduce the fees due to them, the money would have to be made up, in the last resort, from the Quota. Fees could only be reduced or abolished if there was a very substantial increase of Quota contributions from the parishes, i.e. from the man or woman in the pew. I hope I have made the position clear.

As I have only just received the new Table of Fees, marriages which have already been arranged here for June will be charged fees at the old rate. Thereafter the new scale will be applied.

Cathedral Appeal

The contributions from the parishes will be received by the Bishop from parochial representatives at a special service in the Cathedral on Wednesday, 7th June, at 7 p.m. I shall be glad to hear of any who would like to come. The Appeal remains open for further contributions in these two parishes till that date.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

Christian Aid Week Collection. Badsey, £76.11 (increase on 1971, £5.49). Aldington, £7.16 (increase £1.52). Wickhamford £24.79 (increase £1.30). Total: £108.06. (Last year's total of £117.75 included a special donation of £20 from a Y.W. Coffee Evening).

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Notes: Holy Baptism this month 4th Sunday (June 25) 11-0 a.m. No evening Eucharist in Badsey Church on June 25, but at 5-30 Wickhamford Church.

May

31 Wed. 10-0 H.C. Thanksgiving for Holy Eucharist.

June

- 4 **Trinity 1.** As usual for 1st Sun. 6-45 p.m. People's Service by members of Pastoral Committee.
- 7 Wed. 10-0 H.C. 7-0 p.m. Worcester Cathedral Appeal Presentation Service.
- 11 **St. Barnabas, Apostle. Trinity 2.** As usual for 2nd Sun.
- 14 Wed. St. Basil, Bp. & Dr. 10-0 H.C.
- 18 **Trinity 3.** As usual for 3rd Sun. 8-0 H.C., 6-45 E.
- 20 Tues. 2-30 Prayer Meeting, 12 High Street.
- 21 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 24 Sat. **Nativity of St. John Baptist.** 10-0 H.C.
- 25 **Trinity 4.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins & Holy Baptism. **No Evening Service in Badsey Church.** 5-30 Wickhamford Patronal Festival Eucharist, Wickhamford Church. Anyone requiring transport from Badsey, be at churchyard entrance in Chapel Street not later than 5-15.

28 Wed. No H.C.
29 Thurs. St. Peter, Apostle & Martyr. 10-0 H.C.

July

2 **Trinity 5**, As usual for 1st Sun. The preacher at Evensong will be the Ven. P. C. Eliot, Archdeacon of Worcester.

HOLY BAPTISM - IMPORTANT NOTICE

From July Baptism of Infants will be administered during Evensong at 4-0 p.m. on the 3rd Sun.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tues., 6th June, 7-15 p.m., Vicarage.

Mothers' Union. June 7th, Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

20th, Tues. 2-30 Prayer Group Meeting at Mrs. Bell's, 12 High Street.

21st, Wed. 10-0 Corporate Communion. All members asked to pray for our Leaders on receiving the Report of the Commission.

27th, Tues. 7-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Ward A talk on Corsetry. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Watkin (Committee), Mesdames Holley, Major and Reed.

Advance notice of Outing on July 11th. Will all members wishing to go please contact me as soon as possible. J.B.

Young Wives' Group. June 5th. Evening Outing. Coach leaves Wheatshaf at 7-30 p.m.

19th, Mon. A talk by Mr. John Grindle, a local butcher. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Joyce Ruff, Mrs. Ann Maberley, Mrs. Brenda Hall. J.A.W.

Result of Coffee Evening for Cathedral Appeal

This was held at the Vicarage on May 16, and we were very pleased to welcome parishioners and friends to our new home at the first social gathering here since the blessing of the house. We are most grateful to all who helped and who gave goods for the stall. The total takings were £33.23, made up as follows:— Admission £14.50, Stall £15.20, Draw £3.53.

Letter from Miss Jean Dyke

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the children, parents and friends, who so kindly contributed towards the lovely gift I received upon resigning from teaching in Sunday School.

My time spent with the children was very happy, and I shall still continue to take a keen interest in them.

Thank you all very much
Jean Dyke.

Sixty Plus Club

At present there is a monthly meeting on the 3rd Wednesday beginning at 2-45, and this month's will be on June 21. It has been decided to have a monthly subscription of 5p. Any residents over sixty are very welcome. Meetings are at the Meeting House, Chapel Street.

Jottings. At the time of writing, we have just been informed of the death of Mr. T. W. Cook, of Aldington Parks. Our prayerful sympathy with Rowlatt, Derrick and the other members of the family.

Congratulations to Mrs. Howley, now living at Durott Lodge, on her 90th birthday on May 21.

It is good to see Miss Katherine Sladden, home on furlough from India.

In the choir, Nicholas Bell, who has been head chorister for some time, now leaves the trebles for the men's stalls.

Mr. George Crane had to undergo an operation in the Nuffield Hospital, and Mr. John Izod, Senior, in

Ronkswood Hospital. Both are now home. Melvyn Williams was taken to Ronkswood Hospital with meningitis, but we are glad to say he has made a very good recovery. Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hemming were injured in a motor accident, and Barry was at first in a serious condition, but is now convalescent. Mrs. Philpotts has been for some weeks in Ronkswood Hospital having treatment, but is now home, and Mr. Jim Harwood is home from Evesham Hospital. Mrs. Tom Harris has been in hospital again. Mr. Charles Hall has now moved to Avonside Hospital. Among home invalids, it is good to see Mr. Len Perkins, always plucky, making steady progress.

Servers for June. 4th, 8-0 D. Barrand; 11-0 P. Gresty; 6-45 N. Bell. 11th, 10-15 M. Clements (Server), N. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 P. Gresty. 18th, 8-0 A. Owen; 6-45 T. Bell. 25th, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 A. Owen.

War Memorial Flowers. June 4th, Mrs. L. Reeves; 11th, Mrs. G. Grove; 18th, Mrs. F. Betteridge; 25th, Mrs. Sears.

Donation. In loving memory of A. & P.E.B. £1.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

June

4 **Trinity 1**. 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.

11 **St. Barnabas, Apostle**. Trinity 2. 3-0 E.

18 **Trinity 3**. 11-0 Family Eucharist.

25 **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**. Sun. after St. John Baptist's Day. 5-30 p.m. **PARISH EUCHARIST**.

July

2 **Trinity 5**. As usual for 1st Sun. The Preacher at 5-30 will be the Ven. P. C. Eliot, Archdeacon of Worcester.

P.C.C. Meeting. Wednesday, 28th June, 7-30 p.m.

Holy Baptism

May 14 Joanna Ruth Heritage; Andrew James Arthur Simmonds.

Holy Matrimony

May 20 David Knight, of Smethwick, and Jennifer Wardle.

Jottings. At the time of going to press, we have heard of the sudden death of Mrs. Mabel Brotherton, of Whitfurrows Cottage. Our profound sympathy with her husband and family in their sad loss.

Mr. Frank Smith and Mr. J. Hodges have both been in hospital. Mr. Harry Walters has now left hospital and gone to reside at Heathlands, Pershore. Mrs. Folkes has now returned home from hospital. She unfortunately developed a thrombosis after her operation, which prolonged her stay.

REPORT OF ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING,

April 26th

Presentation to Miss Alice Cox

Sunday School to Re-open in September

This was a very happy meeting, and attendance was a good deal better than usual.

During the evening a presentation was made to Miss Alice Cox in recognition of her devoted service to the Sunday School, of which she had been superintendent for very many years, until her retirement a few months ago. Mr. J. Dunkerley, People's Warden, spoke of the great debt the parish owed to Miss Cox for her care of several generations of children. Then Miss Pauline Allchurch, a former pupil, on behalf of over 60 families in the village who had contributed, presented Miss Cox with a gilt-framed mirror for her home, a bouquet of flowers and a box of chocolates.

The Vicar, in paying his tribute to Miss Cox, spoke of the great disappointment they all had in being unable to find a successor to her. To the delight of all present, Mrs. Gerard Poulter then said that, after careful thought, she now felt able to accede to the Vicar's request and to offer her services as superintendent, so long as she could be assured of reasonably regular assistance in the teaching. So now we are preparing to re-open the Sunday School in September, after recruiting staff and making use of the training facilities provided by the Diocese. We shall be glad to hear of anyone, besides those who have offered, who is willing to help. At the present time a course in teaching methods is being held in Evesham on Wednesday evenings by Miss Hiscox, Diocesan Sunday School Adviser.

Now for the rest of the meeting. Mr. J. E. Parry and Mr. H. J. Dunkerley were re-elected churchwardens. It was decided to have a Deputy Churchwarden, and Mr. Gerard Poulter was elected. The Vicar, in his annual report, said there had been a further increase of communicant numbers in 1971. The Flower Festival last summer had been a most encouraging event which had drawn a large number of parishioners together in corporate service. Mr. John Sharp reported that the new Electoral Roll contained 117 names. The accounts, presented by Mrs. W. C. Astley after her first year as hon. treasurer, showed a good year financially, largely owing to Flower Festival receipts and a small increase in the Freewill Offering. It had been possible to increase giving to missions and charities. Miss Cox, reporting on the Freewill Offering Fund, appealed for more members. Mrs. Parry reported on the work of the P.C.C., Mr. Parry on the repairs carried out to the church, and Mr. Dunkerley on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod.

Elections then took place as follows.

P.C.C.: Mrs. W. C. Astley, Mrs. K. F. Bishop, Mrs. C. H. Brown, Miss A. L. Cox, Mrs. V. Johnson, Mrs. E. Parker, Mr. D. G. Poulter, Mr. J. Sharp, Mrs. N. J. Sutton, Mrs. H. P. Terry.

Sidesmen: Messrs. C. Beacon, R. Harman, D. G. Poulter, J. Sharp, C. H. Willis.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. R. T. Bradley.

At a meeting of the P.C.C. afterwards, the following officers were elected: Hon. Sec. Mrs. Parry; Hon. Treas. Mrs. Astley; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Dunkerley; Electoral Roll Officer, Mr. Sharp.

Letter from Miss Cox

It is difficult to find words in which to express my deep gratitude to all the kind people who contributed to the lovely gifts presented to me on my retirement from the Sunday School. The kindness and goodwill that lay behind the presentation have greatly touched me, and I would like everyone who was concerned in making it such a happy and heart-warming occasion to know how very much I appreciated it.

My work amongst the children gave me great happiness, and I was so loath to leave it, but felt it was time for younger hands to take over, if the future of the Sunday School were to be assured.

I hope that the young people who are planning to carry on will be assisted by all who have so greatly helped and encouraged me in the past. Let us pray that God's blessing may rest upon what has been very dear to my heart - Wickhamford Sunday School.

A. L. Cox.

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(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).
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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.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

Teignmouth

17th June, 1972.

My dear People,

"Will you buy some raffle tickets to help my daughter to become Carnival Queen?"

This was as we were sitting on the promenade. What struck us was not so much the brashness of the woman's request as the way people whom she thus accosted could be seen forking out from their pockets and handbags as if it might have been Poppy Day.

Our way of life

The unquestioning acceptance of the values of our money-mad, status-seeking society is profoundly disturbing. Many young people who do question these values either become avowed anarchists, or try to 'drop out' altogether into an aimless nonconformity. Thank God there are others who are looking for a sense of purpose, which they can find neither in the affluent society nor in the hippie cult. I admire one of our Badsey young men, Clifford Hartwell who has left a well-paid commercial job in London to go and work in a 'kibbutz' in Israel. This simple sort of communal life, in which the end-product of one's work can be seen, has naturally a great attraction. So also has Voluntary Service Overseas, and the International Voluntary Service, whose international work camps I used to find very fulfilling in my student days.

The whole climate of our society, whether conformist or non-conformist, is adverse to a sense of vocation. To call someone a 'dedicated' person is to sneer at him. 'Duty' is an outdated word. It is considered more blessed to claim one's rights than to do one's duty.

The Duke of Windsor

Public attitudes at the time of the Duke of Windsor's death were very revealing. A great deal of nonsense was talked about the Abdication crisis of 1936. To speak of the King as having been exiled by a stuffy Establishment (a word not invented in those days, except in a special ecclesiastical sense) is utterly false. In fact the whole nation (with very few exceptions) saw that it was impossible that Mrs. Simpson should be Queen (not because of her character but on account of her position; when the King announced his intention of marrying her she was still a married woman, having not yet had her second divorce.) The King himself soon realised it was impossible. That was why he abdicated and went into voluntary exile. It was his own choice. It was terribly sad for everybody, not least for us younger folk who had been looking forward to his reign. As Prince of Wales, he was a boyhood idol of mine. But his later published memoirs made it quite clear that he had no real vocation to kingship. All through his life he had been inwardly revolting against being what he had to be. He would far rather (in the later popular phrase) have been "doing his own thing".

His brother, King George VI, with far less obvious gifts, was never expecting to be called to kingship, yet when he had it more or less thrust upon him, he put duty before inclination, and accepted it as his vocation. His dedication was costly: the strain wore him out physically, and he died at a comparatively early age.

Uncommon values

This same sense of vocation is very strong, as we all know, in his daughter Queen Elizabeth II and in the present heir to the throne. However important the role of the monarchy in our constitutional system, its greatest blessing to our national life is the example of selfless dedication to God and his people.

A Christian monarch points to higher values from those commonly accepted by the community. You don't become a real Queen by selling raffle tickets; nor would

any Carnival Queen, however nice a girl, covet for one moment the sort of daily existence to which the real Queen is committed.

Perhaps the royal vocation is best summed up in some reputed words of King George V. When in the Navy he was asked by a brother-officer his favourite maxim. He is said to have replied: "Not doing what I like, but learning to like the things I have to do." Many people in this permissive age would consider this quite laughable. But to accept some sort of self-discipline in order to fulfil one's calling is surely the only way to real happiness.

Our own royal vocation

Hereditary monarchs do not choose their vocation. Only by abdication can they opt out of it. And none of us will ever be called to that kind of kingship. Yet all who have given themselves to Christ have the kingly vocation. He "that loved us and washed us from our sins... has made us kings and priests to God."

So we all share with our Christian Queen that vocation to the majesty of service which the King of Kings displayed in his acceptance of the Cross. No raffle tickets needed for a crown of thorns.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

July

- 2 **Trinity 5.** Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As for 1st Sun.
Preacher at 6-45 p.m. the Ven. P. C. Eliot, Archdeacon of Worcester.
- 5 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 9 **Trinity 6.** As for 2nd Sun.
- 12 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 16 **Trinity 7.** As for 3rd Sun. 8-0 H.C. 4-0 p.m. **Evensong and Holy Baptism.**
- 19 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 23 **Trinity 8.** 8-0 H.C. 6-45 Sung Eucharist: Rev. C. P. Johnson.
- 25 Tues. **ST. JAMES, APOSTLE. PATRONAL FESTIVAL.** 7-0 & 10-0 H.C. 7-30 p.m. Evensong (sung).
- 26 Wed. No H.C.
- 30 **Trinity 9. PATRONAL FESTIVAL.** 8-0 H.C. 10-15 Family Service. 6-45 Evensong.

HOLY BAPTISM - IMPORTANT NOTICE. From this month onwards until further notice, Baptism of Infants will be administered on the 3rd Sunday at Evensong at 4-0.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Our next parish Confirmation will be in March or April 1973, and I hope to start preparation classes about the middle of September. I shall be glad to hear of any intending candidates as soon as possible, whether children or adults. An essential part of preparation is to be coming to church regularly and joining one's fellow-Christians in worship. So anyone who is keen to be confirmed will be expected to be doing this, or, if not, to start now.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

We have many young people who are longing to have a youth club in Badsey, but so far we have not been able to find a leader of suitable age. The Vicar will be very pleased to hear of anyone, either a youngish man or married couple, who has the right sort of qual-

ifications and would be prepared to help our young people in this way. In fairness it must be said that it does mean quite a big commitment of one's leisure time, but it is creative and satisfying work.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 5th. 10-0 Corporate Communion.
Tues. 11th. Outing to Weston Park, Shropshire. Coach leaves at 1-30. Will members please contact me.

Tues. 25th. St. James's Day. 7-30 p.m. Evensong in church, followed by notices and tea at Meeting House.
Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Harwood (Committee), Mesdames Dale, Harvey, Hatcher. J.B.

Young Wives' Group. July 3rd. A demonstration of sweet-making by Mrs. I. G. Jones. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Sandra Hedges, Mrs. Ann Harris, Mrs. Sheila Heeks.

July 17th. Mrs. Walker will demonstrate an interesting method of jewellery making. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Valerie Padfield, Mrs. Maureen Davies, Mrs. Linda Knight.

No meetings in August.

J.A.W.

Overseas Committee

COFFEE EVENING, 5th JULY

A Coffee Evening has been arranged for Wednesday, 5th July, from 7-30 to 9-0 p.m. at Seward House, kindly lent by Miss J. Sladden. Gift and General Stall, Bring and Buy, Competitions. Admission (including refreshments) 15p.

Dr. Spencer-Payne is coming to give an illustrated talk at the People's Service on 1st October, and, as a follow-up to his visit, Mrs. Sears has kindly offered her home for a Coffee Evening on 15th November.

Please support these functions, as your interest and help is very much needed in our project of helping to train the young African nurse, Saria Joel. In a further letter from St. Monica's Hospital, Maciene, Mozambique, the Sister in charge refers again to the good progress being made by Saria. She also expresses the hope that for our July 5th Coffee Evening "the weather will be fine and plenty of people will come." H.B.C.

WHO CARES?

This was the title of eight talks and discussions arranged by the Prison Chaplain and the Evesham Council of Churches and held at H.M. Prison, Long Lartin. The purpose of the evening seminars was to give information on the problems of offenders during their sentence and after leaving prison.

Talks were given by the Governor and Deputy Governor, prison officers, probation officers, magistrates, a psychologist, an educationalist, chaplains, and prisoners themselves, who attended some of the seminars.

Problems particularly stressed by the prisoners were those of keeping the family together and of getting a job on leaving prison - they said that the non-stamping of insurance cards while serving indicated that they had been in prison and that no benefits could be secured for a year after release. In general they did not appear to have complaints about treatment in prison, but thought that society did not give them a fair deal and the general public are not willing to help them when they come out.

Prison officers and others with responsibility for the men were clearly doing their best to assist in their rehabilitation, but it was pointed that they can only assist, not reform them, as that is something which the individual must achieve for himself, and the first step is for him to recognise his own responsibility for making good. Many offenders were in prison because of some inadequacy in their personality or background which makes them easily led astray. The number of really criminally-minded men was small.

All present at the course, speakers and students, shared a real concern for the right kind of welfare and rehabilitation of prisoners, and in particular, for their after-care, a field in which there is a great shortage of probation officers. Church members could play an important part in providing some voluntary help and in promoting a better understanding of the problems of offenders. Openings for service in a variety of ways exist: by membership of a prayer group - the Guild of St. Leonard; by visiting in prison; by befriending men at the critical period after discharge, and by helping their families.

It is possible that this course will be repeated in the near future for the sake of some who did not hear of the first one and who are interested. If so, it would be well worth the effort of attending.

B.E.O. & F.F.I.

Holy Baptism

May 28 Francis Richard Meadows; Neil Bassett.

Holy Matrimony

June 3 Derrick Roger Crane, of Badsey, and Jennifer Ann Groves, of Fairfield, Evesham.

June 17 Michael John Hall, of Bengeworth, and Susan Joyce Hewlett, of Badsey.

Burials. R.I.P.

June 14 Elsie Bedenham, aged 81.

Mrs. Bedenham, who had a sweet and gentle disposition, was a strong Christian believer and a devout member of Aldington Chapel.

Mrs. Kate Taylor died in hospital on 11th June, aged 74, after a long illness which had affected the brain. This was sad for all who knew her, yet she was always bright and cheerful with visitors. The funeral was at Cheltenham Crematorium. Mrs. Taylor had been very active in the social life of the village, and for many years was secretary and treasurer of the Women's Institute.

At the time of going to press we are sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Martha Ellen Whitford.

Our sincere sympathy with the relatives of the departed.

The Sick. Mrs. Annette Bufton has had a major operation in Cheltenham Hospital and we understand she is now making some progress. In the Worcester hospitals are Mr. George Dixon and Mr. Fred Cleaver. Mrs. Kathleen Walker had a serious setback after an operation and was rushed to Ronkswood Hospital in the middle of the night, but is now at home recovering well. Others who have been in Evesham Hospital are Mr. C. Horton and Megan Richards. Mr. Frank Chamberlain has been poorly for some weeks Mrs. Agnes Webb is making steady progress after a stroke. Mr. George Crane came home from hospital in time for Derrick's wedding.

Servers for July. 2nd, 8-0 S. Gresty; 11-0 G. Toney; 6-45 A. Owen. 9th, 10-15 T. Bell (Server), N. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 P. Gresty. 16th, 8-0 P. Gresty; 4-0 M. Clements. 23rd, 8-0 A. Owen; 6-45 D. Barrand (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer). 30th, 8-0 M. Clements; 10-15 D. Barrand; 6-45 A. Owen.

War Memorial Flowers. July 2nd, Mrs. N. Cook; 9th, Mrs. C. Crane; 16th, Mrs. Sears; 23rd, Mrs. G. H. Stewart.

Birthday Thankofferings. Mrs. A. W. Sparrow, 25p. Rev. P. Braby, 25p.

Cathedral Appeal. The Vicar and Mr. Ralph Taylor represented the parish at the Presentation of Gifts on 7th June with a contribution of £40.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

July

- 2 Trinity 5. Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary. 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E. Preacher: the Ven. P. C. Eliot, Archdeacon of Worcester.
9 Trinity 6. As for 2nd Sun.
16 Trinity 7. As for 3rd Sun.
23 Trinity 8. 5-30 E. Mr. H. E. Collins, Diocesan Reader.
30 Trinity 9. 9-0 H.C. No Evening Service at Wickhamford. Badsey Patronal Festival Evensong at 6-45. Anyone needing transport to Badsey, please tell Vicar beforehand.

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PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

The Vicar will be starting preparation classes for the next parish Confirmation, about the middle of September. He would like to know about any intending candidates, either children or adults, as soon as possible. An essential part of preparation is to be coming to church regularly and joining one's fellow-Christians in worship. So anyone who is keen to be confirmed will be expected to be doing this, or, if not, to start now.

Burial. R.I.P.

May 24 Mabel Doreen Brotherton, aged 42.

We are all saddened by this death of a wife and mother at such an early age, and the Brotherton and Webb families are assured of our prayerful concern.

Cathedral Appeal. The Vicar and Mr. Ted Parry represented the parish at the Service of Presentation of Gifts on 7th June, with a contribution of £40.

Birthday Thankoffering. Rev. P. Braby, 25p.

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BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

AUGUST, 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.

16th July, 1972.

My dear People,

Clergymen tend to talk and write too much. It is not their fault. They are always being expected to "say a few words", or write an exhortation to support something or other. Mr. Harold MacMillan, in his memoirs, quotes Winston Churchill as saying of Mr. Dulles, the American Secretary of State: "Mr. Dulles makes a speech every day; has a press conference every other day; and preaches on Sundays. All this tends to rob his utterances of real significance."

How truly this applies to clergymen as well as politicians! So it is good for you and me that I should not always write an editorial letter. A famous Speaker of the House of Representatives said of a certain Congressman: "He never opens his mouth without subtracting from the sum of human knowledge." Lest my taking up my pen should have the same effect, I gladly lay it down immediately, and hand over the editing of this number (apart from the Parochial Notes) to the capable hands of Miss Sladden.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

August

- 2 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 **Transfiguration of Our Lord. Trinity 10.** 8-0 & 11-0 H.C. 6-45 Evensong.
- 9 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 13 **Trinity 11.** 10-15 Family Eucharist. 6-45 Evensong. Preacher: Revd. Hamish Deakin, M.A., Vicar of Charlton Kings.
- 16 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 20 **Trinity 12.** 8-0 H.C. 4 p.m. Evensong and Holy Baptism.
- 23 Wed. No H.C.
- 24 Thurs. **St. Bartholomew, Apostle.** 10-0 H.C.
- 27 **Trinity 13.** 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins (said). 6-45 Sung Eucharist.
- 30 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

Sunday School is closed in August. Classes will be resumed on Sunday, Sept. 17. Parents are asked to bring children to the regular Sunday services.

P.C.C. Meeting, Tuesday, 1st August, 7-15 p.m. at the Vicarage.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Our next parish Confirmation will be in March or April, 1973. I hope to start preparation classes about mid-September and shall be glad to hear of any intending candidates as soon as possible, whether children or adults. An essential part of preparation is to be coming to church regularly and joining one's fellow-Christians in worship. So anyone who is keen to be confirmed will be expected to be doing this, or if not, to start now.

Mothers' Union. On July 11th, in rather indifferent weather, 25 members of the M.U. and friends set off to visit Weston Park, Shropshire, home of the Earl and Countess of Bradford. We went by the quickest route, the motorway, which although interesting was far from beautiful. By the time we got to the Park, the sun was shining and all were in good spirits. The Countryside looked so green and although there were other parties there, the place is so vast that it made no difference at all. We were told that they had 500 children there that day! It was a lovely house and so beautifully decorated

and well kept. We were able to walk round at leisure and there was much history to digest and many beautiful things to see. There were also many places of interest to see in the grounds, and as there are thousands of acres of parkland and lakes it was a pity we could not spend more time there. We did not have time to see everything, but in Badsey today are many plants growing, bought at the garden shop. After tea we reluctantly made our way back to Worcester; it proved a most enjoyable drive through beautiful country bathed in sunshine. We arrived at the Pack Horse at 8-0 p.m. and what could be a nicer way to end a delightful outing than to enjoy a meal, served well, amongst good friends. We arrived back at Badsey at 10-20 p.m.

There will be no branch meeting in August, so I hope to see you all in September, refreshed by the holidays and all set for a new session. J.B.

Sixty Plus Club. Meeting on Wed., Aug. 16, Meeting House, 2-45.

Overseas Committee's Coffee Evening. After much trepidation about the weather, July 5th turned out to be the one fine evening of the week which was warm enough for the Coffee Evening at Seward House to be held in the garden. Between 60 and 70 people attended and £45 was raised from sale of tickets, raffles, stalls and competitions. The money goes to help Saria Joel of Mozambique in her education and preliminary training for nursing. We reported this young African girl's good progress in last month's issue.

Warm thanks are due to our willing Committee organisers and other helpers who contributed so much to the success of the evening. J.E.S.

Holy Baptism

July 16 Matthew John Newman; Justin Robert John Welch; Sally Ann Wilkes.

Holy Matrimony

July 1 Jonathan Francis Braby, of Badsey, and Pauline Anne Ralphs, of Snowhill.

Burials. R.I.P.

June 24 Martha Ellen Whitford, aged 71.

The death of Mrs. Whitford from a coronary thrombosis came as a shock to us all. She had suffered injuries from a fall a little while before, but this had not seemed very serious. We extend our sincere condolences to Mr. Whitford and the other members of the family. The large congregation at the funeral was evidence of the affection in which Mrs. Whitford was held in Badsey, where she had lived for most of her life.

July 12 Arthur James Harwood, aged 61.

Jim Harwood had been suffering for months from a tumour on the brain. An active, hard-working man, his illness must have been a sore trial to him, but he always remained cheerful and uncomplaining. He had one of the most delightful smiles of anyone I have ever known. The devoted nursing care by his wife Nell has been an inspiration to us all. She and the other members of the family may be assured of our prayerful sympathy.

Jottings. A tonic for drooping spirits is the sheer vitality of some of our older parishioners. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Edith Smith, who celebrated her 90th birthday last month. She has since then been ill and in Ronkswood Hospital, but has returned as lively and hard-working as ever, making toys and other goods for the next sale of work!

Mr. J. T. Batchelor had his 93rd birthday on 29th June, and walks to church twice on Sunday.

Mrs. Florence March, 95, has not been so well lately, but is in good spirits and always ready for a laugh.

Thinking now of younger people, congratulations to Christopher Izod, who has been accepted for service in the Grenadier Guards.

It is great that we look like having once again a Badsey Band of Ringers. For some years we have depended largely on ringers from other villages to give their services here, and we owe them a great deal. Now we have some very keen new ringers who have been having tuition from Mr. Tony Brazier. They are Mr. Clinton Evans, Mr. Eric Hall, Mr. Henry Merriman, and Mr. Malcolm Stewart. With these and the ringers we already have - Mr. Tony Brazier himself and his wife Phyllis, Mr. Bert Spencer, Mr. Archie Reed, Mr. Laurence Bindoff and Mr. Derek Barrand - we shall have a team of which Badsey will be proud.

Your prayers are asked for the sick. Mrs. Annette Bufton is making slow but steady progress after her serious operation. Others who have had operations are Mrs. Roberta Addis and Mrs. Joyce Burford. Also in hospital have been Mr. William Merriman, Junior, Mr. Fred Cleaver, Mrs. Florence Bearcroft, Mr. Hector Smith.

We sympathise deeply with Iris and Ron Perry in the loss of twin babies at birth.

Servers for August. 6th, 8-0 D. Norden; 11-0 A. Clements; 6-45 P. Gresty. 13th, 10-15 P. Gresty (Server), T. Bell (Crucifer); 6-45 D. Barrand. 20th, 8-0 N. Bell; 4-0 A. Owen. 27th, 8-0 G. Toney; 6-45 T. Bell (Server), M. Clements (Crucifer).

War Memorial Flowers. Aug. 6th, Mrs. Sears; Aug. 13th, Mrs. D. Hartwell; Aug. 20th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow; Aug. 27th, Mrs. G. Marshall.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services

August

- 6 **Transfiguration of Our Lord. Trinity 10.** 9-0 H.C. 5-30 E.
13 **Trinity 11.** 3-0 Evensong and Holy Baptism.
20 **Trinity 12.** 11-0 Parish Eucharist.
27 **Trinity 13.** 5-30 Evensong.

RE-OPENING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are very glad to be able to announce the re-opening of the Sunday School on Sunday, 10th September, under the supervision of Mrs. Anne Poulter, with a small staff of keen teachers. As before, the Sunday School will be held in the Memorial Hall at 11-0 a.m. Children of all ages from 3½ upwards will be welcome.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

The Vicar will be starting preparation classes for the next parish Confirmation about the middle of September. He would like to know about any intending candidates, either children or adults, as soon as possible. An essential part of preparation is to be coming to church regularly and joining one's fellow-Christians in worship. So anyone who is keen to be confirmed will be expected to be doing this, or if not, to start now.

Holy Baptism

July 9 Stephen Major.

Burial. R.I.P.

July 12 Frank Southern, aged 58.

We extend our very sincere sympathy, and the assurance of our prayers, to Mrs. Southern and Trevor and the other members of the family. Frank's death at such a comparatively early age is a sad loss to the community, and the very large attendance at the funeral service showed how much he was liked by his colleagues and neighbours. He had faced his illness with courage and patience.

We also offer our condolences to Mrs. Smith of Washington Road, whose husband Eric Frank died suddenly on 26th June, aged 78, while they were staying with their daughter and son-in-law at St. Albans. The funeral took place there.

The Sick. Mrs. Louisa Crump has been in hospital, and is bravely convalescent, though still in some pain. Mrs. Diston is in hospital at the time of writing, a cheerful patient.

THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL

This long-established and important musical event will be held in Worcester Cathedral this year, from Saturday, 26th August until Friday, 1st September, inclusive. Music lovers from all over the country attend, many spending the week in the city. Arrangements are made to provide a club for these visitors which they may join and use during the week, and where they may get light refreshments. College Hall and the Old Palace will both be in use for that purpose. Some parishes in the diocese are undertaking this year, as at previous Festivals, to provide a group to be responsible for flower decoration and our parishes are joining in giving help.

A team of eight ladies, including representatives from Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford are undertaking College Hall and they have already visited Worcester to see the hall and to meet Lady Alethea Eliot, wife of the Archdeacon of Worcester, who is in overall charge of arrangements for the Festival Club, and learn from her what the flower groups are asked to do. The actual decoration will take place on Friday, 25th August, on the eve of the Festival's opening. Gifts of flowers are needed, so if any readers have some garden flowers which they could offer, we shall be most grateful if they could get into touch earlier in the week with Mrs. Terry, The Manor House, Wickhamford (phone 830296) or Miss Sladden, Seward House, Badsey (phone 830363) to let them know what they have available. J.E.S.

ON CEASING TO BE AN ANGLICAN

I wonder what answer most English Christians would give if they were asked how many Anglicans there are in India. The answer is very simple! There is **no** Anglican Church in India. On November 29th, 1970 all the Anglicans left their mother church, not as an unhappy dissenting group but to enter joyfully into long-awaited union with several other churches to form the new Church of North India which is in full communion with Anglicans in other lands and with the Church of South India. Union took place in South India in 1949, but without a complete unification of the clergy so that there are still a few presbyters who have not been episcopally ordained. In the Church of North India this difficulty was avoided as all the clergy received the laying-on of hands by the bishops a few weeks after the service of reconciliation.

For some congregations the union will have made little obvious difference as each is free to worship in its own accustomed way. A visitor entering St. Mary's, Poona on a Sunday would see the presbyter (as the clergy are now called) wearing Eucharistic vestments and celebrating Communion, using the former Anglican Church of India's liturgy and possibly singing it to the musical setting of Merbecke or the Martin Shaw Folk Mass but, if he went into the churchyard after the service and joined the crowd round the coffee urn, he would discover that the presbyter is a missionary sent by the Church of Scotland Mission and that several members of the congregation are of Presbyterian origin. If the Bishop happened to be in Poona our visitor might be impressed by his ability to combine the qualities of a true Father-in-God with a clear insight into the administrative needs of his diocese, but he would be surprised to learn that this very efficient bishop was formerly a member of the Disciples of Christ, a rather small non-episcopal Protestant Church.

Although some of the C.N.I. dioceses have local problems and small pockets of disunity, my general impression is that most of the uniting Christians were ready to go into the new Church with faith and allow the Holy Spirit to help them to grow in unity. We have not yet a special C.N.I. liturgy or hymn book, and even the use of the C.N.I. lectionary is optional, but the way is open for the Church to make its own liturgy when it feels the need for one. It will always be necessary to allow for the use of many languages and many traditions in worship, and it is amazing that this union of churches has been achieved in a country of such size and such diversity of cultures.

If you can imagine most of Europe under one government with its capital at Vienna, and German as its

national language, you will have some idea of what it is like to live in India, which uses Hindi as its national language but recognises thirteen other major languages and has a host of local languages and dialects, each expressing a distinctive culture. One important difference between India and Europe is that Indian thought has been influenced by at least four great religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam, and nearly all Indians are religious; it is rare to meet an agnostic or atheist. Only about 1% of the population are Christians and most of these are Roman Catholics. In recent years there has been considerable co-operation between Roman Catholics and Protestants and it seems that Christians in India are really seeing the need to act as one body in meeting social needs even where they are still not united in doctrine and order. In my own experience I have worked alongside Roman Catholics and others, even in the once-sensitive sphere of Religious Education.

The evening before I left India I attended a service of Holy Communion in the C.M.S. guesthouse in Bombay. The chapel is furnished in Indian style and we sat on the floor round the low table. The celebrant was ex-Anglican and the communicants were of various origins but now all within C.N.I. As we left the chapel I spoke with a friend from the Church of Scotland Mission who was retiring to Scotland after thirty years' work in India. She said, "How sad that we are going back to churches that are still separated! It's been such a joy to belong to the same Church."

K. Sladden.

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BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW

SEPTEMBER, 1972

PRICE 20p. PER ANNUM

Vicar (& Rural Dean): REV. P. BRABY, M.A.

(Tel. Evesham 830343)

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SUNDAY SERVICES:

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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.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

19th August, 1972

My dear People,

Later in this issue is a list of furniture and effects of a fairly well-to-do yeoman who lived in Wickhamford about 400 years ago. His household goods would be considered far from adequate by our standards. Yet we cannot help feeling a bit envious of the simplicity of these people's lives, which were full and rewarding.

Living Standards

We live in what has come to be called the Consumer Society, "rich in goods but poor in soul", as one of the new hymns puts it. We are under relentless and almost irresistible pressure to keep adding to our stock of possessions (or continually replacing them with more up-to-date models). Nothing is made to last these days, purposely, so as to keep the wheels of industry turning and provide people with jobs, so that they can have the wherewithal to buy still more goods. None of us, I think, can take up a superior attitude over this. We know how true are the words of Christ: "A man's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses". We are uncomfortable about it. Yet we cannot immunise ourselves against the pressures of modern society, and we cannot put back the clock. Short of an economic catastrophe, the simplicity of our ancestors' way of living will not return.

Prize Day

What we can do is to put first things first. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you". It is a case of pricing things at their proper value. That is the significance of the word "praise" in its original meaning as used in this inventory of 1601. When St. Paul wrote of judgement day, "then shall every man have his praise from God" (Authorised Version), he did not mean that God was going to congratulate everybody. He means that on that day everyone will be assessed by God at his true worth.

The words "praise", "price", "prize", all come from the same original. When we praise God or worship Him, we declare his price or worth-ship, i.e. that we prize Him above all else. Praising Him in this way, not only with our lips but in our lives, we are giving Him priority, and everything else will be praised or priced by us in relationship to God the supreme treasure. Then we can expect our lives to be full and free - not packaged with our consumer goods, but using them to God's glory.

Acquisitiveness is not limited to our own age, of course. It is as old as Adam and Eve. As a tailpiece I give you this epitaph I came across recently in a country church. It is about a naval lieutenant of Nelson's day. It positively extols group avarice as a Christian virtue! Or is it a cautionary tale?

"This gallant officer and amiable and excellent young man fell a victim to the baleful effects of the West Indian climate. Having distinguished himself in many engagements in Europe, he afterwards when at Jamaica, took so active a part in defending the claims of his Crew to their Prize money, that he received the thanks of the Judge from the Bench, but owing to his exertions on that occasion, he alas! was seized with the yellow fever and died, the 10th May, 1808, aged 23, and is buried in Kingston, Jamaica. Be ye also ready."

For what prize?

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER BRABY.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

These will begin before the end of this month, and candidates will be personally notified. The date of the Confirmation is 28th March, 1973. If there are any others who would like to be prepared, and have not yet given me their names, will they please do so by Sept. 17th. An essential part of the preparation is to be coming to church regularly and joining one's fellow Christians in worship. So anyone who is keen to be confirmed will be expected to be doing this.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services

Sept.

- 3 **Trinity 14.** As for 1st Sunday.
- 6 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 7 Thurs. M.U. Wave of Prayer 2-45 - 3-0.
- 10 **Trinity 15.** As for 2nd Sunday.
- 12 Tues. 9-0 H.C. (Evesham Deanery Chapter).
- 13 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 17 **Trinity 16.** 8-0 H.C. 10-0 Sunday School classes start again. 4-0 E. and Holy Baptism.
- 19 Tues. 2-30 Prayer Meeting at Vicarage.
- 20 Wed. Ember Day. No H.C. (see 21st).
- 21 Thurs. **St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist.** 10-0 H.C.
- 24 **Trinity 17.** As for 4th Sunday. 8-0 H.C. 11-0 Mattins (said). 6-45 Sung Eucharist.
- 27 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 29 Fri. **St. Michael & All Angels.** 7-0 H.C.

Oct.

- 1 **Trinity 18.** As for 1st Sun. 5-45 Talk on S. African Church with pictures by Dr. A. Ll. Spencer-Payne.

Sunday School. Re-opens after summer holidays: Sun., 10th, 10-15 Family Eucharist; Sun., 17th, Classes in Church and Meeting House, 10-0.

P.C.C. Meeting, Oct. 3rd, at Seward House. Finance Committee, Tues., Sept. 12th, 7-15 p.m. at the Vicarage.

Mothers' Union. Wed. 6th. 10-0 Corporate Communion. Thurs. 7th. Wave of Prayer, in church, 2-45 to 3-0.

Tues. 12th. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Talk on Report of Commission. Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Bell, Sladden, Thompson and Wilkins.

Tues. 19th. 2-30 Prayer Group Meeting at the Vicarage.

Tues. 26th. 7-30 Branch Meeting. Further talk and discussion on the Report. Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Richards, Parry, Allen, and Stewart. J.B.

Young Wives' Group. Sept. 4th. Miss S. Picton-James will give a talk and show slides about the use of Solid Fuel, entitled "Gracious Living". Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Valerie Padfield, Mrs. Linda Knight, Mrs. Maureen Davies.

Sept. 18th. A talk on Crime Prevention by an officer of the West Mercia Police. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Shirley Goodwin, Mrs. Sandra Wood, Mrs. Pamela Robbins.

As a result of the **Coffee Evening** held by the Group on May 1st, which raised £45, they were able to purchase two geriatric chairs for Avonside Hospital. Eight members went to Avonside on July 27th and presented the chairs to Worcester Ward. The Matron expressed her thanks, as did Mr. W. G. Carney the Hospital Secretary. Afterwards members were entertained to tea.

The Group wish to thank everyone who helped and supported them at the Coffee Evening.

J.A.W.