

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

November is traditionally a month of Remembrance. On the 2nd of the month the Church keeps All Souls' Day, time for commemorating our friends and relations who have died in the recent and distant past. On the 11th the Nation commemorates the victims of war in a corporate act of Remembrance. The theme of remembering is in tune with the season of the year, when we look back a little wistfully at the sunny days of summer, and prepare ourselves for the stark days of winter.

It is not only natural, but absolutely right that we should pray for those whom we love and care for, and that we should continue to do so after they have died. As Christians we believe that death has lost its power to remove them from our care and prayerful concern.

But praying for the departed is not simply a matter of reviving memories of the past. It is a natural error for us to think of those who have died, as remaining forever at the same stage of growth or decline which they had reached when death intervened. Rather as if their spiritual development which had continued throughout their lifetime on Earth were suddenly checked, and suspended for all eternity.

If we believe that life after death really is **life**, and not some sort of shadowy existence, then we must not imagine it to be static or dull, a sort of spiritual deep freeze, but we must think of it as a continuation of our progress towards the heart of God, our ultimate fulfilment as personal beings.

I read recently a letter written to a couple whose teenage son had died. The writer asked the parents to try over the coming years to think of their son not as a child whose development had been arrested forever at the age of thirteen, but as someone who would continue to grow towards his ultimate fulfilment, albeit in a different sphere of being from this earthly life. The advice did not dispel their sense of loss (what advice ever can?), but it did help them to overcome the feeling that their son's life had been wasted, a life cut short and for ever incomplete.

I suppose that our lives are never complete . . . even if we should die in a ripe old age. Our 'completion' lies beyond this temporal existence. Whether death comes in our teens, in our forties, or in our eighties, we are still only at the start of our spiritual progress towards God. How the path continues after this life is over, we do not know, though Our Lord's words that 'in My Father's house there are many rooms' suggest that it will be an experience more varied and more unexpected than our restricted minds can possibly imagine.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services in November

- 1 Thursday. All Saints. 10-0 H.C.
- 2 Friday, All Souls. 8-0 H.C.
- 4 Trinity 20. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 7 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 11 Trinity 21. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Remembrance Day Service; 6-30 Evensong, preacher: The Revd. A. Webb, Rural Dean.
- 14 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 18 Trinity 22. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 21 Wed. H.C.
- 25 Sunday before Advent. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Matins; 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 28 Wed. 8-0 H.C.

Dec.

- 2 Advent Sunday. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

Servers Rota

- 4 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 D. Barrand (S), P. Brazier (C); 6-30 M. Exon.
- 11 8-0 D. Norden; 6-30 M. Clements
- 18 8-0 G. Toney; 10-45 T. Bell (S), S. Dore (C).
- 25 8-0 N. Bell; 6-30 A. Owen (S), D. Barrand (C).

Dec.

- 2 8-0 P. Gresty; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 M. Exon.

Baptism

On Oct. 21st: Karen Ann Carter, John Zach Harris, Michael Dennick.

Matrimony

On Oct. 6th: Wendy Wild and Barrie Such. Margaret Bent and John Dennison.

On Oct. 20th: Rosalind Bowley and Ronald Green

Funeral

On Sept. 25th: Edward Evans, aged 74 years, of 24, Synehurst. Our sympathy to the family.

Mr. Evans was a Badsey man, born and bred, and for many years before his retirement had worked at the B.B.C. establishment at Wood Norton. He was a founder member of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, and a member of the Evesham War Veterans Association. R.I.P.

Jottings

Back home from Hospital: **Mr. Eddy Kinchin** of Badsey Fields Lane, **Mrs. Valerie Taylor** of Sands Lane, **Mr. Dennis Knight** of School Lane, **Mrs. Beatrice Dale** of Bretforton Road, **Mrs. Grove** of Synehurst Avenue. Also on the Sick List is **Mr. Walter Major** of Blackminster.

Mr. & Mrs. Barrie Such whose marriage is reported above, are to live in Badsey Fields Lane (in a converted Barn, which sounds intriguing). They are both keen Baden-Powellites, working with the Evesham Cub pack, and so it was most fitting that a fellow scouting enthusiast, the Revd. Frank Hillebrand, should have taken the wedding.

On the same day as Barrie and Wendy's wedding, **Margaret Bent** and **John Dennison** were married. As this was the day before Harvest Festival, both couples found themselves surrounded not only by the customary flowers, but also by vegetable marrows, onions and Brussels Sprouts . . . a sight which must have reminded the brides of the kitchen chores that lay ahead. Margaret is a Social Worker and her husband is in the Police Force . . . an interesting partnership between the two professions.

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Green, married on October 20th, will be living in Sedgeberrow.

Karen Carter, whose Baptism is reported above, lives in Synehurst. Her parents moved here from Aldington a year or so ago, where Mr. Carter worked. **John Harris** and **Michael Dennick** are both sons of the Army, so to speak, as well as being Badsey boys. John's father is in the Paratroopers, stationed at Aldershot, and Michael's father is in the Worcesters, stationed in Berlin. They are both grandsons of Mrs. Philips of St. James' Close.

The Youth Club came in large numbers to the Harvest Festival Evensong, and very good it was to have them there. They are busy at present preparing a Variety Show which they will be producing in the New Year . . . Best of luck to all concerned. At a recent Swimming Gala at Kidderminster, their members got through to Finals in two events.

Congratulations to the Badsey Recreation Club on the opening of its new Clubhouse, and best wishes for its future.

Harvest Festival was kept on October 7th. The church was decorated in the traditional manner, with a superabundance of fruit and vegetables and flowers. Many thanks to all of you who gave, who helped to decorate and to distribute the gifts to the sick and elderly on the Monday. The services were all well attended . . . at Evensong we had to use the Aldington Chapel (North Transept), which is a rare occurrence these days. I hope people noticed the two sheafs of corn, which Mr. Malcolm Stewart got for us . . . a rare sight.

Harvest Supper was a riotous success, both gastronomically and athletically. Messieurs **Derek Barrand** and **Selwyn Gresty** gallantly led the company through a series of exhausting and hilarious games. Memorable sights of the evening: **Mrs. Sparrow** (senior) parading round the Hall in an outfit that defies description, and **Philip Brazier** (much to his embarrassment) in headscarf and shawl, reminiscent of a Russian peasant woman of sixty years ago. **Paul Brazier** celebrated his eleventh birthday that day, and had to undergo the cruel ritual of the Bumps. **Mrs. Bell** and her band of helpers in the kitchen worked hard through the afternoon and evening to provide us with a delicious buffet.

Coming Events

Tues. 13th. P.C.C. 7-15 p.m. at the Vicarage.

Fri. 16th. COFFEE EVENING at 21, Badsey Fields Lane, 7-30 to 9-0. In aid of the Overseas Project. Bring and Buy Stall. Gift Stall. Tickets (or pay at the door) 10p.

Young Wives

Saturday, November 3rd at 2-30 p.m.

A RUMMAGE SALE

in the Meeting House.

Admission 3p.

Proceeds for Children's Christmas Party.

Monday, November 19th at 8 p.m.

A Demonstration of Cake Icing by Mrs. Baster. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Wendy Beasley, Mrs. Susan Simmonds, Mrs. Brenda Hall.

Royal British Legion (Women's Section)

I would like to thank Mr. Masters for making such an excellent job of remoulding the old Memorial Vases. He would not accept any payment for doing this. I would also like to thank Mr. Simmonds for making and fixing the new container. I do hope people will find it easier to arrange flowers than in the old vases.

Remembrance Day Service is on November 11th at 10-45 a.m. I do hope as many members as possible will be present. P.S.

War Memorial Rota—November

4th, Mrs. Hurman; 11th, Mrs. Sears; 18th, Mrs. A. Syril; 25th, Mrs. Guise.

Mothers' Union—November

Wed., 7th. 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tues., 13th. 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Pagnamento, Elmley Castle.

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Harwood, Sewell, Hall and Owen.

Tues., 27th. 7-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Wensley, W.R.V.S.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Reed (Com.), Mesdames J. Sparrow, Cleaver and Marshall.

J.B.

Inside the Chancel

The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were well attended by the Choir and everyone gave of their best. I was, on this occasion very pleased to welcome two ladies into our Choir - Mrs. Reid and Miss L. Core - both of whom are well known to you all. It was a delight to hear their voices helping to swell the volume at Evensong. I do hope they will sing with us again at other festivals.

Another gentleman has expressed a wish to join us - we welcome Mr. Selwyn Gresty. He too is well known, a prominent church worker and at one time a choir boy in our church.

Due to the lateness of my having taken over as Organist the Annual Choir Outing was somewhat shelved. This I admit was my fault. However I am hoping that a trip to a pantomime will be arranged early in the New Year. R.W.K.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services in November

- 4 Trinity 20. 9-30 a.m. Holy Communion (said).
11 Trinity 21. (Remembrance Sunday) Evensong
3 p.m.
18 Trinity 22. Family Eucharist 9-30 a.m.
25 Sunday before Advent. Evensong 3 p.m.

Dec.

- 2 Advent Sunday. 9-30 a.m. Holy Communion (said).

Baptism

On Oct. 14th: Suzanne Marie Smith.

Funeral

On Oct. 10, followed by burial in Wickhamford cemetery, Hilda May Kingham.

Mrs. Kingham had been ill for many months both at home in Manor Close where she lived with her daughter (Mrs. Stanley) and in Evesham Hospital. Although not born in Wickhamford, she had been in the village for most of her life, and was well known to many, and will be remembered by many. Our condolences to the family, in particular to Mrs. Stanley.

Jottings

Those who have been on the sick list recently include: **Mrs. Dorothy Brotherton** who had a spell in hospital; **Mrs. Melvia Stanley** who has had the double burden of illness and bereavement; **Mr. Fred Taylor**; **Mr. L. Poulter**, who is getting on well after his recent op.;

Mr. & Mrs. C. Willis were recently involved in a car crash, but fortunately were not hurt.

Harvest Festival: we kept the festival on the last Sunday in September, and the church really looked very pretty with its decoration of harvest produce. The service followed the same pattern as last year, and was largely devised and led by **Mrs. Ann Poulter** and children and helpers from the Sunday School. I think all were impressed by the simplicity and the meaning of the service. On the day following a band of helpers made up the gift parcels and delivered them to the elderly.

Harvest Supper was held on Saturday, October 13th. About sixty of us, adults and children, sat down to a magnificent three course meal of soup, cold meat and salad, and apple pie. This was prepared by Mrs. Ann Poulter and her assistants, **Mrs. Bridget Brown**, and **Sally Carter**, **Susan** and **Linda Jefferies**. The barrel of cider was given by **Mr. Dunkerley**, and the games were organised by **Mr. John Sharp**.

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