

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



Vicar: **THE REVD. A. S. LEAK,† M.A.**

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Church of St. James Badsey

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

The New Year is traditionally a time for making good resolutions, and though the cynics tell us that the road to hell is paved with good intentions, I still believe the practice to be worthwhile. After all, even if we fail annually in our attempts to raise ourselves an inch or two above our usual level of performance, it is surely better to have tried and lost than never to have tried at all.

When the very young Princess Victoria was told that on the death of her Uncle William she would succeed to the throne, she is said to have made the Resolution: "I will be good". It seems to have stood her in good stead, but I doubt if such a general intention would be of much use to you and me.

What we need are specific targets, not vague intentions. "I suppose I ought to get on with some of those jobs that need doing in the house this Spring", is the sort of half hearted approach that practically guarantees you will be saying exactly the same thing next year. "I will fix the towel rail in the bathroom tomorrow" is, as of us reluctant D.I.Y. men know, the only way of getting anything done at all.

The business of maintaining one's spiritual house in good repair needs a similar policy: specific short-term targets, not grandiose long-term schemes. Let me suggest three areas which might need looking at in our lives: Prayer. Bible reading, and church attendance.

If on examination we find that one or other of these rooms of our spiritual house needs repair and redecoration, then we need to set ourself a practical task, and waste no time in getting on with the job. And then (who knows?) perhaps in three months time, say at the beginning of Lent, we will have achieved our objective, and will then be in a position to set our sights a little higher on to another target.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Church Services in January

- 2 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 Epiphany. 8-0 H.C., 10-45 Family Eucharist, Preacher: Capt. Barry Newman, C.A.; 6-30 Evensong.
- 9 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 13 Epiphany 1. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C.; 6-30 Evensong.
- 16 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 20 Epiphany 2. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist: 4-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 23 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

- 25 Conversion of S. Paul. 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 27 Epiphany 3. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 30 Wed. 10-0 H.C.

February

- 2 Sat. Presentation of Christ in the Temple. 8-0 H.C.
- 3 Epiphany 4. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

Baptism

On December 16th Dawn Carole Bryant.

Confirmation

On Advent Sunday in Bretforton Parish Church: three adult members of our congregation were confirmed by the Bishop of Worcester: John Gander, Mary Knight and Jean Milward. It is always a happy occasion when one sees adult Christians proclaiming their own commitment to Our Lord, and receiving Confirmation, and it is a significant reminder to others who missed confirmation during their adolescence that it is never too late to put yourself forward for this sacrament; the vicar is only too pleased to prepare adults for full membership of the Church.

Funerals

- On Nov. 26th at Chipping Campden Parish Church Francis Collett aged 71 years, of 89 Bretforton Road.
- On Dec. 12th, Edith Ford aged 72 years, of 19 High Street.
- On Dec. 17th, William Knight, 9 Chapel Street. Our deepest sympathy to the bereaved families.

Mothers' Union—January

- Wed. 2nd, 10-0 Corporate Communion.
- Tues. 8th, 2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: The Rev. A. Leak. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Reed (Comm.), Mrs. Major, and Mrs. Sladden.
- Tues. 22nd. Deanery Party at Bengeworth Church House for all members and their will be a coach. Give your names to me.
- Wed. 30th. Trip to Cheltenham Theatre followed by a Meal. Give your names to me as soon as possible. J.B.

Young Wives

- Mon. Jan. 7th, at 8 p.m. **Annual General Meeting.** Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Ann Perks, Mrs. Carla Price, Mrs. Frances Cull.
- Mon. Jan. 21st, at 8 p.m. Mr. L. Bennett of Eve-sham Travel Centre with Holiday Film Show. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. June Barrand, Mrs. Susan Hall, Mrs. Marina Dore.

War Memorial Rota

- Jan. 6th, Mrs. K. Cleaver; Jan. 13th, Mrs. W. Sparrow; Jan. 20th, Mrs. N. Grinnell; Jan. 27th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Sixty Plus Club

Wednesday, January 16th at the Meeting House.

Mrs. Bent hopes to come and talk about her report from the "Meals Service".

Special Date - Monday, January 14th. Our trip to Cheltenham Pantomime. Coach will leave the Meeting House at 3-0 p.m. P.J.C.

Coming Events.

Jan. 2nd & 3rd. 'The NEW YEAR SHOW' presented by the Youth Club in the Village Hall, at 7-30 p.m. Adults 30 p. Children 15p.

Jan. 2nd. Choir Outing to the Pantomime at Cheltenham.

Jan. 3rd. 2-30 Sunday School Teachers meeting at 18 Seward Road.

7-00 Pastoral Committee at 30 Willersey Road.

Jan. 8th. 7-15 P.C.C.

Jan. 12th. Sunday School and Choir Party:

3-00 to 5-00 Under Eights.

5-30 to 7-30 Older Children.

Jan. 27th, 3-0. Deanery Synod at Evesham, All Saints Church.

Are we proud of our Village?

Surely we should be; the people are friendly and co-operative; There is a beautiful church and some fine old houses; the gardens are notable for being well kept, with gay displays of flowers.

But there is one bad blot on the village which we should all be ashamed of, which could be remedied if everybody tried to cure it - that is LITTER. All kinds of litter is dropped on pavements and in gutters, particularly near the shops; sticky sweet-wrappings, cigarette boxes, bits of newspaper, etc., not to speak of empty bottles, tins and cartons thrown over garden fences and walls or thrust into hedges. If you pick up some of these nasty bits and pieces and put them in a bin, what do you find? On returning in a few minutes there is another disgusting handful to scoop up. Nor is the churchyard exempt; though some confetti outside the exit after a wedding is excusable, a mess of sticky, dirty and sodden papers is not. What are the refuse bins near both gates for? I have even seen a scrunpled up piece of newspaper containing a messy remnant of fried fish. Really, what are we all coming to in the way of carelessness and irresponsibility?

Are you saying, "oh, it is the children and you can't stop them". I do not believe that; do children throw away empty beer or milk bottles, cigarette boxes and tobacco wrappings? Anyway, where do they pick up these dirty habits? That kind of thing should be checked at an early age by the parents. I am sure that children from homes where tidiness is insisted on do not grow up into litter-bugs. Teachers do their best to give good training, but it is the homes that count most. If we need more litter-bins, ask the Parish Council to secure more - and USE THEM.

What about a New Year resolution to try and stop this disfigurement of the village? Badsey once won an award in the Tidy Village Competition; it seems in a fair way now to win one for the most Untidy Village!

J.E.S.

Jottings

The Brownies held a Bazaar in the Meeting House on November 24th, and raised the handsome sum of £50 for the Sixty Plus Club . . . well done girls.

The Scouts and Cubs also had an extremely successful Bazaar in the Village Hall on December 1st, when they raised about £200 for the Scout Hut fund. One of the most overworked people on that occasion must have been Father Christmas who interviewed scores of children. During recent weeks **the Youth Club** have been working like beavers, preparing their New Year Show, which they will perform on the 2nd and 3rd of January at 7-30 in the Village Hall . . . Don't miss it, it should be good. Welcome back to Badsey **Mrs. Annie Porter** of 17 Brewer's Lane. Mrs. Porter (nee Vincent) was born and bred in the village, and is known to many of the older generation of Badsey people. Congratulations to **Penny Cooke**, a black sheep-dog from Knowle Hill on her recent happy event . . mother and ten babies are doing fine.

The Sick List. Please remember the following in your prayers: Lilian Wheatley, Edith Smith, Desmond Watkin, Bernard Major, Arthur Shooter, Doris Keyte, William Hardiman, Iris Brazier, Vic Wasley, Brian Vann.

The Old. If the weather turns cold again, this is going to be a dangerous time for the elderly who are living on their own, what with fuel shortages and possible electricity cuts. Those of us who have elderly relatives living nearby, or elderly neighbours, are asked to be aware of the risks these people may be facing, to keep an eye open for ways in which we can help, and to check daily that all is well.

The Confirmation Class

On Saturday, December 1st fifteen youngsters from Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford took a minibus to Worcester to investigate the work of the Cathedral and of the modern Methodist Church in Pump Street. At the Old Palace we were joined by the Vicar of Hampton and a group of young people from his parish. After a brief tour of the palace, parts of which date back to the middle ages, and which is now the administrative centre of the Diocese, we went across to the Cathedral where, dividing into groups, we did a survey of its history, music, and worship. Two of the groups tested public attitudes to the building by interviewing sightseers in the Cathedral and passers-by outside. We went into the Chapter house, where the new Precentor, the Rev. Michael Smith, talked

to us about the work and the running of a Cathedral . . . I think that some of our members were rather daunted by the hours of singing which the choir put in each week!

The second half of our programme took place in the new Church of St. Andrew, in Pump Street. We were greeted there by the Minister, the Rev. Derrick Greeves, who took us up to the canteen on the first floor where we had our soup and sandwiches. After lunch we explored the three floors of this modern building, with its church on the top floor above Clark's shoe shop. Some of us were surprised by the novel idea of going up to Church in a lift . . . but then, on reflection, we recalled that the idea of going upstairs to church is not so new. After all, it all began in a room upstairs in Jerusalem. We were most grateful to Mr. Greeves for the glimpse he gave us of the way in which the Church can minister to people in a busy city.

A.S.L.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Services in January

- 6 The Epiphany, 9-30 Holy Communion (said).
- 13 Epiphany 1. 3-0 Evensong.
- 20 Epiphany 2. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
- 27 Epiphany 3. 3-0 Evensong, Preacher: Capt. Barry Irons, C.A.

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February

3 Epiphany 4. 9-30 Holy Communion (said). Please note Capt. Irons' visit on the 27th. For some years now we have supported his work in the Church Army hostel in Birmingham, and it will be interesting to have him here again in Wickhamford.

Sick List. Please remember the sick in your prayers including: Fred Smith, Jim Hodges, Elizabeth Pethard.

N.B. If you should know of any parishioner who is ill and should be included in our prayers at church on Sunday, please tell me . . . never assume that I already know.

The Senior Residents Committee have arranged a trip to Coventry on Wednesday, January 30th to see Dick Emery in the Pantomime 'Dick Whittington'. Any over 65's who would like to go, please give their names in at the post office, as soon as possible.

Tuesday Open House

January 9th—Dinner - Dance.

January 29th—Yoga.

P.C.C. Meeting: January 9th, 7-30 p.m.

Flower Festival Committee: January 15th, 8 p.m. at Wickham House.

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