

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,

I want to write this month about Funeral Services . . . a gloomy subject you might think, but what I want to say can be said better in the context of a general letter such as this than in conversation with individual parishioners.

By an accident of history the service which is normally used at funerals in Anglican parish churches, is only one half of the ceremony originally prescribed, and because of this it tends to be an unbalanced and unnecessarily grim affair. Originally, the funeral rite comprised as well as the Burial Office, the Holy Eucharist (or Requiem Mass) in which the Victory of Christ over death was proclaimed and in which the faithful shared through the sacrament the Risen Life of Our Lord. By allowing the Requiem Mass to fall out of use, we retain in our funeral rite all the sorrow and grimness of death with very little of the Christian Hope of the Resurrection. Admittedly, there are in the prescribed readings and prayers references to that Hope, but the emphasis of our Burial Service is upon Man's mortality and 'the miseries of this sinful world'.

It is possible to redress this balance in two ways. One is by choosing appropriate hymns. It is not really necessary to choose gloomy hymns (of which there are distressingly many in our hymn books). There are many hymns, especially those which we sing at Easter, which are far more appropriate. I was at a Requiem Mass recently where the first hymn was the well known:

'Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird . . .'
Coming as it did at the beginning of the funeral of someone who died young, this hymn and the Eucharist which followed were an unmistakable acclamation of Hope, putting into correct perspective the sorrow of that occasion.

The other way of redressing the balance is to ask for a Celebration of the Eucharist at the funeral, for which our revised Book of Common Prayer makes provision. Indeed, this is something that all of us should seriously consider whilst we are alive and well. A clear indication of how we want our own funeral to be conducted is, like a properly drawn up will, the least we can do to help our relatives at a time which is bewildering enough without having to worry about which hymns to have and what service to ask for.

Is it morbid to make arrangements for one's own departure? I don't think so . . . not if one believes in the Christian Gospel. Besides, one is probably a far better judge of these things than one's relatives will be at the time of their bereavement. It's worth considering.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Services in October

- 6 Harvest Festival. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 9 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 13 Trinity 18. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C.; 6-30 Evensong.
- 16 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 18 St. Luke. 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 20 Trinity 19. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong.
- 23 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 27 Trinity 20. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 28 St. Simon and St. Jude. 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 30 Wednesday. No Service.

November

- 1 All Saints. 10-0 H.C.
- 2 All Souls. 8-0 H.C.
- 3 Trinity 21. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong, followed by an illustrated talk by Miss Flora Jones (see below).

Servers in October

- 6 8-0 P. Gresty; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 M. Exon.
- 13 8-0 D. Norden; 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements.
- 20 8-0 G. Toney; 10-45 S. Dore (S), P. Brazier (C).
- 27 8-0 N. Bell; 6-30 D. Barrand (S), T. Bell (C).

November

- 3 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 M. Exon.

Holy Baptism

On September 15th: David John Beasley; Tian Major; Joanne Louise Rogers.

Donation of £1 from Mrs. Philip Sparrow, in memory of Lilian Stratford whose anniversary falls on Oct. 4th.

Inside the Chancel

It is not many organists who can say they have at least two deputies.

In Badsey I am fortunate in having firstly the services of Mrs. Marshall who as you know was for many years resident organist of our church.

Secondly, Miss Linda Core, our newest recruit, who was recently somewhat "thrown into the midst of things" during my temporary "stay" in hospital.

I wish to express my grateful thanks to both these ladies for their valued help.

Several new members have recently joined the Choir; I will let you know their names later.

Although August and early September is a time when a lot of people are away on holiday. I am pleased to say our choir have maintained extremely good attendances at all services.

Practice has now resumed and we hope for renewed zeal in the Autumn.

R.W.K.

Mothers' Union—October

Wednesday, 2nd—10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tuesday, 8th—2-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Lissimore from Malvern who will talk on the New Second Object.

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Hartwell, Hall & Harwood.

Tuesday, 22nd—7-30 Branch Meeting. Speaker with Slides: Mrs. Pinder from Bengeworth. "Bengeworth Flower Festival".

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Watkin, Cleaver & Evans.

J.B.

Young Wives—October

Monday, 7th at 8 p.m. Beetle Drive.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Sonia Ealey, Mrs. Sheila Burton, Mrs. Bernice Sims.

Monday, 21st—Dinner for Members at the "Three Ways Hotel", Mickleton.

Sixty Plus Club

Wednesday, October 16th—Meeting as usual.

P.I.C.

War Memorial Rota—October

6th, Mrs. Philip Sparrow; 13th, Mrs. Sears; 20th, Mrs. K. Cleaver.

Women's Institute

October 9th—'Use of Man Made Fibres in Fashion and Home'. A talk by a representative of the British Man-made Fibres Federation.
Competition: The best made article in man-made fibre, including knitting.

November 13th—'Precious Stones and Antique Porcelain and China'. By Mr. A. N. Billingham.
Social Time: Bulb Planting.
Competition: Unusual China.

Overseas Project. Please remember that we shall be having a talk, illustrated by slides, in Church immediately after Evensong on November 3rd. Miss Flora Jones, who is Assistant to the Director of the South African Church Development Trust, has had many years experience in Africa and she will be able to give us a first hand account of the life and work of the Church there, with particular reference to Mozambique where, of course, our nurse, Saria Joel, is training. Some of us recently heard Miss Jones giving a very interesting talk in Worcester; we are looking forward to hearing her again, and we urge all of you not to miss this occasion (Sunday, November 3rd, 6-30 p.m.).

Chrysalis. The club for younger members of our congregation (11 to 14 year olds) meets every Thursday in the Meeting House, 7-0 to 8-45 p.m. More about this in next month's issue.

On the Sick List: Henry Merriman (in Ronkswood), Cicely Jones, Frank Reeves, Eric Jelfs (Briar Close), Sylvia Bird (Avonside), Martin Bent (Cheltenham).

Convalescent: Reg Kyte, who has made a rapid recovery after his eye operation in August. Ted Wheatley (operation in August). Barbara Hartwell, Bob Gregory, George Addis.

Brownies. The pack meets at Badsey School every Wednesday during term time, 6-0 p.m. to 7-0 p.m. **Urgently needed:** helper/s to assist with the pack. Also there is a great need in the village for a Guide Company . . . at present we haven't one in Badsey, though judging from the number of Brownies there would be no shortage of recruits. If you are an ex-guider, or know someone that is, and would be interested in forming a company, we would be pleased to hear from you. If you can help either with Guides or Brownies please contact Mrs. Chilver (Tel. Evesham 3173) or come to Badsey School any Wednesday between 6-0 p.m. and 7-0 p.m.

Welcome to the following who recently moved into Badsey: Mr. & Mrs. John Houlton and their young daughter (Badsey Road); Mr. & Mrs. Granger and their children (High Street); Mr. & Mrs. Clark and their children (School Lane).

Pamela Flecknell. Her many friends in Badsey were deeply saddened to hear of Pamela's death after a road accident recently. Her parents and brother have been much in our thoughts and prayers during these last weeks, and we send them our deepest sympathy in their loss.

Confirmation Preparation

During the next 12 months it is hoped to co-ordinate Confirmation preparation in the Evesham Deanery. Parochial clergy would still do the bulk of the teaching work - thus building up a personal relationship with the young people in their parishes. However - from time to time - young people from parishes in the deanery would meet for activities which would be hard to arrange on an individual basis. These activities would not be "teaching activities" - and so parochial clergy will be free to follow whatever confirmation course they find appropriate.

Apart from activities taking place every few weeks it is hoped to arrange a weekend away at Walsingham next May. A weekend away can do much to help people experience Christian fellowship and grow in the faith.

The programme for the next 12 months is as follows:—

Friday, October 25th, 7-30 - 9-30 p.m. at Church House, Evesham - role play game "Star Power".

Friday, November 29th - attendance at 8-0 p.m. Missionary Eucharist at Worcester Cathedral. Preacher: Archbishop George Appleton.

Friday, January 31st, 7-30 p.m. at Church House, Evesham - Film.

Friday, February 21st, 7-30 - 9-30 p.m. at Church House, Evesham - role play game "Coca Cola Game".

Friday, March 21st, 7-30 p.m. Passiontide Slides. Transcendental Meditation with pictures and music.

Sometime in May, 1975 - weekend away from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon - possibly at Walsingham.

Friday, June 27th, 7-30 p.m. Barbecue at Hampton Vicarage to raise money for Christian Aid.

Another activity will be arranged in September.

Confirmation mid October, 1975.

There will be breaks in the preparation over Christmas, Easter and during the summer holidays.

The minimum age for membership of the group will be 11.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services in October

6 Trinity 17. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).
13 Trinity 18. 3-0 Evensong and Baptism.
20 Trinity 19. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
27 Trinity 20. 3-0 Evensong.

November

3 Trinity 21. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).

Servers in October

6th, D. Carter; 20th, S. Noyes; Nov. 3rd, D. Carter.

Holy Baptism

On September 8th: Samantha Willies.

Holy Matrimony

On September 7th: Neil Sumner and Jacqueline Sturt. Neil and Jacki will be living near Worcester; our best wishes to them both in their new life together.

Sick List: Cyril Roberts; Bert Spenser; Eva Cooke; George Robbins.

Tuesday Open House. A.G.M. 22nd October in the Memorial Hall. Nominations for election to the offices of Leader, Secretary, Treasurer and four committee members are invited, names to be given to Mrs. Ann Sharp, 10, Manor Road. Following the A.G.M. there will be a display of examples of handicrafts, ideal for Christmas presents, including Woodturnings, Gem-stone Jewellery, Hand-made Ties, Vanda Cosmetics, Christmas Cards, etc. Exhibitors will be taking orders for Christmas delivery. ALL VILLAGERS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME.

Barn Dance at the Memorial Hall, October 5th, 8-0 to 11-0 p.m. Tickets at 60p. include a Fish and Chip supper. Music by Tex Blomfield. Organised by the Hall Committee.

Remembrance Sunday, November 10th. Service in Church at 3-0, at which a wreath of poppies will be

laid at the Memorial to those who lost their lives in the World Wars. Immediately following the service there will be a ceremony of Re-dedication at the Memorial Hall, when the new Memorial Plaque will be unveiled. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

Chrysalis: The club for younger members of the Church congregation (11 to 14 year olds) meets every Thursday, 7-0 to 8-45 p.m., at Badsey Meeting House. More about this in next month's issue.

Alms Plate. Mrs. E. Cooke of Robin Cottage has presented to the Church a fine 18th century pewter alms dish. This is to replace the two alms dishes which were recently stolen. We are most grateful for this generous gift, which will be dedicated and used as soon as we have had it inscribed.

Senior Residents: Outing to Coventry to see 'Good Old Days', Wednesday, November 20th. Depart 1-30, return approx. 9-30 p.m. Please let Mrs. Winkett or Mrs. Heritage know if you wish to go.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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