

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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(Tel. Evesham 830343)

Church of St. James Badsey

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to draw your attention to the arrangements for Holy Week in both our parishes, and to comment on some aspects of our services.

Palm Sunday has traditionally been marked by the distribution of palms. In the past in this country the 'palms' were either sprigs of willow or box, but in recent years pieces of dried palm frond have been increasingly used. The palms will be blessed and distributed at the Evensong services in both parishes. The custom is to keep one's palm cross until Ash Wednesday the following year, and then to burn it.

Maundy Thursday, the day of Our Lord's Last Supper and his institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. 'Maundy' is a corruption of the Latin word 'Mandatum', meaning a command, and the reference is to Jesus' command to His disciples that 'you love one another, even as I have loved you'. At Wickhamford the service will be at 7-30 in the morning, and at Badsey there will be a sung celebration at 7-30 in the evening. At the conclusion of this service at Badsey the Sanctuary is stripped of all its ornaments, while the congregation recite the twenty second psalm. Finally the congregation leave the Church in silence. And so the scene is set for the Arrest, Trial and Crucifixion of Our Lord.

Good Friday. The day when we remember the Death of Jesus; the point in History when the powers of destruction were for all time overcome by the power of Love, and so we call this day 'Good'. It is most important that on this of all days in the Christian Calendar we should not allow the angry din of mankind to drown those quiet words spoken for all of us: 'Father, forgive them; they know not what they do'. At Wickhamford the service will be at 11-0. At Badsey there will be a Family Service at 10-0; the Hour's Devotion with hymns at 2-0, conducted by the Vicar of Bengeworth; and Evensong will be said at 7-30.

The Procession of Witness in Evesham. This has been organised by the Evesham Council of Churches, and it is hoped that people of all denominations and from all the neighbouring parishes will join the procession. The aim is to make a public demonstration of what Christians believe to be the great fact of history: that Christ died for all mankind. It is appropriate that we should do so in the middle of the town and at a time when there will be crowds of shoppers, for we need to resist the strong temptation to turn Good Friday into a hectic pre-Easter shopping spree, and to revive in ourselves and in our neighbourhood a greater awareness of the Cross. The Procession will start from the Methodist Church in Bridge Street, and will end up in the Car Park behind Mac Market at about 4-30. Before starting there will be a chance to practice some of the hymns which will be sung during the procession, and people will begin to assemble at the Methodist Church at 3-30.

In conclusion I should like to wish you all a Happy Easter, and I want to include in this greeting all those of you who through age or illness are confined to your homes or to hospital. Although separated from us in one sense, in the more important sense you will be united with the family of the Church as we celebrate Christ's Victory at Easter.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

Church Services in April

- 4 Lent 5. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 7 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.

Holy Week

- 11 Palm Sunday. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong and Distribution of Palms.
- 12 Monday. 7-30 p.m. Evensong (said).
- 13 Tuesday. 7-30 p.m. Evensong and Address.
- 14 Wednesday. 10 H.C.; 7-30 p.m. Evensong (said).
- 15 Maundy Thursday. 7-30 p.m. Sung Eucharist.
- 16 Good Friday. 10-0 Family Mattins; 2-0 Devotional Service (Preacher: the Revd. John Moxon); 7-30 p.m. Evensong (said).
- 17 Holy Saturday. 7-30 Evensong (said).
- 18 EASTER DAY. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 21 Wednesday. No Service.
- 25 Low Sunday. 8-0 H.C.; 10-15 Mattins (said); 6-30 Evensong, followed by the A.P.C.M.
- 27 St. Mark. 7-30 a.m. H.C.
- 28 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.

May

- 1 SS Philip & James. 8-0 H.C.
- 2 Easter 2. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

Servers' Rota - April

- 4 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 Paul Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 A. Betteridge.
- 11 8-0 A. Betteridge; 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements.
- 15 7-30 p.m. A. Watkin.
- 18 8-0 G. Toney; 10-45 T. Knight (S), A. Betteridge (C); 6-30 D. Barrand.
- 25 8-0 N. Bell; 6-30 C. Addis.

May

- 2 8-0 P. Gresty; 10-45 S. Dore (S), A. Watkin (C); 6-30 T. Knight.

Confession. The Vicar will be in Church after Evensong on Wednesday 14th to hear Confession and to administer the sacrament of Absolution, or at another time by appointment.

Flowers. The Church will be decorated and prepared for Easter on Holy Saturday morning from 9-30 onwards. Volunteers welcome.

Please Note that there will be no service on the Wednesday after Easter.

Holy Baptism

On March 21st:
David Scott Courtney; Adam Christopher Ealey.

Funerals

On March 9th:
Ivy Godwin (of Old Post Office Lane), age 78 years.

On March 11th:
Richard Hartwell, aged 80 years.

We regret to announce also the recent death of:
Mrs. Ellis (of Brewer's Lane); funeral elsewhere.
Mr. Woods (of Synehurst); funeral elsewhere.

Ivy Godwin

Mrs. Godwin, originally of London, came to Worcestershire with her husband and three daughters during the war, and settled in Badsey about ten years ago. She had been seriously ill before coming to Badsey, and during recent years had not enjoyed good health, but this did not prevent her attending Church. During the last six

months when she had become too weak to leave the house she received the Sacrament regularly at home. We send our deepest sympathy to Mr. Godwin and his family in their loss.

Dick Hartwell

He was born nearly eighty-one years ago at the Stone House, where his parents were then living, and after serving in the First World War he took up his lifelong work in Market Gardening. In the last few years illness compelled him to give up his land except for one small piece, and until only a few months ago he would cycle daily up to the ground. His wife, Ida, died three years ago, and the bereavement was keenly felt. However, he derived much comfort from the nearness of his three children and his grandchildren. A past member of the Church Council, a sidesman, and a member of the Sixty Plus Club, Dick Hartwell will be missed by a large number of friends in the village where he spent all his life. We send our deep condolences to his family in their loss.

The Harry and Evelyn Stewart Memorial

It is proposed to set up a Memorial to the late Mr. & Mrs. Harry Stewart in recognition of their great service over many years to the local community, and it has been suggested that the Memorial take the form of an Oak Door between the Transept and the Vestry in the Parish Church. Such a door would be of practical use as well as being a great improvement to that corner of the Church (at present the archway is obscured by an old curtain); it will be an expensive project, but the family and the Memorial Committee believe that it will be an appropriate tribute to two people who did much for their Church and the parish.

Harry Stewart's contribution to local life will be well known to most parishioners, and the brief obituary notice in the February issue of this magazine gave an indication of that contribution. His wife, Evelyn was a Church Councillor, a member of the W.I. and the M.U., a hospital visitor, and was active in the work of the Moral Welfare (the Church's work amongst broken homes, unmarried mothers, etc.).

If anyone wishes to contribute towards the Memorial Fund please will he, or she, give their donation to one of the committee mentioned below. (A letter to this effect will be distributed to parishioners during the next few weeks, with an envelope for donations). Cheques to be made payable to 'The Harry Stewart Memorial Fund'.

P. H. Sparrow, 22, Willersey Road.
Mrs. Audrey Sides, 63, Burford Road, Evesham.
H. Hatcher, 53, Bretforton Road.
D. A. Jelfs, Fairfield, Aldington.
T. C. Sparrow, 36, Brewer's Lane.
The Vicar, Badsey Vicarage.

The Church Fete

This will be held in the Vicarage Garden on Saturday, June 26th. Please mark this date down in your diaries. **Grand Draw** at the Fete. Tickets available soon from members of the P.C.C.

Folk Song at Evensong. On Sunday, March 7th we were joined at Evensong by an informal group of teen-agers and their two guitarists, who enlivened our worship with a number of modern hymns, and a 'folk' setting of the Lord's Prayer. We were delighted to have them with us, and hope that they will come again sometime. In the group were a number of our own parishioners, including Jane and Sandra Lashford, Philip, Richard and Katey Granger.

Evensong at Bretforton. On February 29th seven of the local parishes combined for one Service at Bretforton Parish Church. Over two hundred people packed the

Church and overflowed into the aisles. It was generally agreed that the experiment was a success, and that it should be repeated when there is next a fifth Sunday in the month (i.e. May 30th).

Sick and Convalescent (as on March 20th): Emily Ballard, Bernard Major, Bill and Ada Wright, Una Royle, Jim Taylor, Florence Knight, Cecil Harwood, Tom Harris, Sheila Burton.

Welcome to Mr. & Mrs. Cudd and their family, who have moved from Birmingham into 44 Seward Road.

The W.I. April 14th: Fashion Show at Broadway W.I.

Churchyard Mowing. We are glad to report that Mr. Clint Evans and his son Leslie have taken on the job of mowing the Churchyard, and gave it its first cut of the season early in March.

The Transept is having alterations made. At present the flooring has been extended so that the whole area is on one level, and the pews have been re-arranged. Two pews have been removed and are now in temporary storage until we decide about their future. Mr. Sears has kindly stored them for us, and for this we are most grateful as it is not easy to find a spare corner for two solid oak pews, twelve foot long! Soon we will have electric radiators in position so that the transept can be heated independently of the rest of the building. The work will be completed when the area is carpeted and a curtain put up across the wide arch, so that the transept can be closed off for meetings and small services when needed.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Sunday, April 25th in Church immediately after a shortened Evensong.

War Memorial Rota

April 18th, Mrs. F. Barnard; April 25th, Mrs. I. Jones.

Badsey Wives Meetings

April 5th: Skittles Match at the New Inn, Crophorne, 8-0 p.m. If you were not at the last meeting and wish to go please contact Sonya Ealey or Pauline Jackson as soon as possible.

April 13th (Tuesday): Service in Church 7-30 p.m.

April 19th: No Meeting.

April 23rd: Disco for 6 to 11 year olds at the Village Hall.

Mothers' Union

Wednesday 7th: 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Tuesday 13th: 7-30 Service in Church followed by short Business Meeting.

Tuesday 27th: 7-30 A.G.M. and Triennial Elections. Will all members try to attend at Mrs. Harvey's house 6, Chapel Street. Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Watkin, Ives and Owen.

Thursday 29th: 2-45 - 4-0 Deanery Quiet Afternoon at Church Lench led by Amebel Cuzner, Diocesan Prayer Group Representative. Coach leaves Badsey at 1-45. Please give names to me.

J.B.

Sixty Plus Club

Wednesday, April 21st at 2-30 p.m. in the Royal British Legion Club.

Hiring a coach to take members into Evesham, to the Operatic Show, proved a successful venture. We hope to repeat it on future occasions.

Christian Aid Week, May 17th - 22nd. Will anyone wishing to volunteer to help, in the house to house collection, please contact Mrs. P. Churchill.

P.C.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services in April

- 4 Lent 5. 9-30 H.C. (said).
11 Palm Sunday. 3-0 Evensong and Baptism. Distribution of Palms.
15 Maundy Thursday. 7-30 a.m. H.C.
16 Good Friday. 11-0 Family Service (Mattins).
18 EASTER DAY. 9-30 Family Eucharist; 3-0 Evensong.
25 Low Sunday. 11-0 Family Service.

May

- 2 Easter 2. 9-30 H.C. (said).

Servers' Rota

April 4th, T. Mobley; April 18th, J. Simmonds; May 2nd, D. Carter.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Sunday April 11th in the Memorial Hall immediately after Evensong; the meeting will begin at 3-45.

Welcome to Brian and Gill Redmond who have moved recently from Cheshire to Wickhamford.

Confirmation. Congratulations to **Mr. & Mrs. Simmonds** of Sally Close who were confirmed by the Bishop of Dudley at Norton Parish Church on March 28th. Two younger candidates are at present being prepared for confirmation; they are **Felicity Dunkerley** and **Helen Baker**.

Sunday School: Julie Simmonds is now helping Mrs. Poulter and Pauline Allchurch with the growing number of Sunday School children. We can always do with more help, and so if anyone would like to volunteer, she (or he) will be most welcome.

David William Hampton

We are sorry to report the death at the end of February of Mr. Hampton at the age of 91. Originally from Evesham, he moved into Wickhamford on his marriage in 1913. At first he lived on Pitcher's Hill where he worked on the ground for Mr. Snell. During recent years he has lived near Lower Field Farm with his daughter and son-in-law (Mr. and Mrs. Williams) and his grand daughter Julia. A fervent and loyal member of the Baptist Church, he retained to the end of his long years a firm trust in his Lord, and a cheerful attitude to life. May he rest in Peace.

Donations

£1 in memory of Norris Haines.
£1 from Mrs. Florence Haines in thanks for her 87th birthday (April 6th).

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