

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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

(Tel. Evesham 830343)

## Church of St. James Badsey

Churchwardens:

MR. R. J. TAYLOR,  
34, BADSEY FIELDS LANE,  
BADSEY.  
(Tel. 830250).

MR. G. A. S. WILLCOX,  
7, CHESTNUT CLOSE,  
ALDINGTON.  
(Tel. 830026).

## Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford.

Churchwardens:

MR. J. E. PARRY,  
WICKHAM HOUSE,  
WICKHAMFORD.  
(Tel. 830244).

MR. D. G. POULTER,  
5, LONGDON HILL ROAD,  
WICKHAMFORD.  
(Tel. 830505).

Clerk:

MR. C. H. WILLIS,  
35, PITCHERS HILL,  
WICKHAMFORD.

DECEMBER, 1977

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Dear Friends,

The trouble with Christmas is that it seems to go on, and on, and on. As I write this (in the last week of November) there are already signs that the 'Season of Goodwill' is about to burst upon us, with all its tinsel fantasy and sugar sentiment. Any moment now Santa Claus will make his first appearance in one of our department stores. A sprig of holly will creep into the design of the covers of the Radio Times and the TV Times. Soon, very soon, the professional Charities will switch into top gear, the parties will begin, and someone will say (someone **always** has to say it), 'Of course, Christmas is for the kiddies.' Not that one would want to carp about any of this (except at the nonsense about Christmas being for the children, which it isn't; it's for the whole human-race, and if only those silly grown-ups would stop repeating a lot of flummery about its being for the kiddies, the kiddies, bless them, would stand a slightly better chance of understanding what it is we are celebrating on December 25th). Anyway, that apart, one would not want to be a Dismal Desmond about the 'Season of Goodwill', if only we were not expected to evince festive cheer for such a long period of time. No one, unless he is a vinegary old sceptic, minds a measure of artificially induced bonhomie; a dose of contrived jollity never did anyone any harm, and probably does most of us some good. But most of us have a decidedly limited stock of festive cheer, and we face the risk of exhausting that supply long before the 25th arrives. Like the man who once told me that he would not come to Church on the 25th of December because he needed to rest on the 25th in order to recover from Christmas. 'Still,' he said, by way of reassuring me, 'I did take the children up to London to see the tree in Trafalgar Square.'

Having had my little moan, let me now remind you of our programme of Christmas Services in both the parishes. The Carol Service at Badsey will be on the Sunday before Christmas at 6-30; that at Wickhamford will also be on the Sunday before Christmas but at 3-0. We hope that both these Carol Services will be attended as well as usual, but a Carol Service is really only a preparation for the main celebration on the 25th, and is not a substitute. I warmly urge all our congregation both at Badsey and Wickhamford to make Worship at one or other of the services on Christmas Day their top priority. For the times of different services please look at the schedules printed below.

On Christmas Eve the Evesham Council of Churches will organise carol singing round the Christmas Tree in the High Street (Evesham) between three and four o'clock. If you are in the vicinity at that time please join them.

Meanwhile, when the time comes, have a happy Christmas!

With best wishes from us all at the Vicarage,

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

## CHRISTMAS

Somewhere amidst the scene of tinsel, fairy lights, cards and presents lies the real meaning of Christmas.

What is Christmas? It probably has many different meanings to different people. Here are a few ideas of what I think Christmas is.

Christmas is:—

Confirmation of the love of God for all mankind.

A time for renewing our faith in Christ.

A time for re-kindling the Spirit that may have been lost in the past year.

Remembering that Jesus Christ came into the world to save us all.

Remembering those who have the world yet have nothing.

Remembering the old, the sick, the disabled, the suffering, the poor, the starving, the homeless, the bereaved, the lonely.

Remembering that Christmas is for 365 days of the year and not just for the 25th December.

Remembering those who are suffering because of their Christian belief.

Remembering those in prison, who have stumbled on their way through life.

Remembering those who have lost faith, that they may return to the fold.

Remembering those who have yet to learn of God's love, that they may see the light.

Remembering to thank God too, for His mercy and loving kindness to us and to all men.

Remembering God, through His only Son, Jesus Christ.

Remembering to act on these things and not to just 'stand and stare'.

M. J. Moisey, Christmas 1977.

## BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER,

### BOWERS HILL NOTES

#### Church Services in December

- 4 Advent 2. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 7 Wednesday. 10-0 Holy Communion.
- 11 Advent 3. 8-0 Holy Communion; 6-30 Evensong.
- 14 Wednesday. 10-0 Holy Communion.
- 18 Advent 4. 8-0 Holy Communion; 6-30 Carol Service.
- 21 St. Thomas. 10-0 Holy Communion.

- 24 Christmas Eve. 6-30 Evensong (said):  
11-30 p.m. Midnight Mass.  
25 Christmas Day. 8-0 Holy Communion.  
10-45 Family Service.  
11-30 Holy Communion (said).  
28 Wednesday. No Service.

### January

- 1 Sunday after Christmas. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

### Holy Baptism

On November 20th: James Kenneth John Felton; Steven David Norman; Charlotte Rachel Ford; Sean Richard Churchill.

### Holy Matrimony

On October 22nd: Clifford Frederick John Blackman and Carol Anne Westgate.

### Confirmation

On October 23rd by the Rt. Revd. Nicholas Allenby, Assistant Bishop of Worcester:  
Adults: Sheila Burton, Christine Elliott, Anthea Smith.

Children: Adrian Smith, Ruth Anderson, Patricia Dore, Paulette Cale, Morag Carmichael, Nicola Waring, Dawn Hartwell.

On December 11th (6-30 p.m.) in Bretforton Church by the Bishop of Worcester: Ingrid Carmichael.

**Sunday School (under 8's).** There will be no Sunday School on December 25th or on January 1st, but we do hope many parents will try to bring their children to the special Family Service on Christmas Day at 10-45 a.m. D. Bell.

**Church Club for the over 7's.** We have been meeting on Thursday afternoons for half an hour immediately after school (3-45) during November, and will meet on the first Thursday in December, completing our winter series of meetings. An average of thirty children attended each session, when we had a Bible story, prayers and a team quiz. Many thanks to the volunteers from the M.U. who helped. A.S.L.

### Mothers' Union

Dec. 7th. Corporate Communion, 10-0 a.m.  
Dec. 13th. Christmas Symposium.  
No Meeting on the fourth Tuesday.  
The Committee wish all members a very happy Christmas. D. Bell.

### Parochial Church Council

The Council will meet on Tuesday, December 13th at 7-30 p.m., when the main item will be a discussion on the paper, 'Community Roots of Pastoral Reorganisation'. Members are asked to read this document beforehand; any member who has not yet received his copy, please ask the Vicar.

### Carol Singing round the Village

As in the past we hope to muster a band of hardy singers to sing carols and raise money for charity. We shall do this on Tuesday, Dec. 20th, meeting at the Church at 7-0 p.m. and setting out shortly after. Strong adult voices are needed, though, of course, we welcome the youngsters. Volunteers are advised to come warmly clad, and to bring a torch. We have found in the past that it is only possible to cover a fraction of the village, and so we try to change our route each year.

**Donation.** £18.65, from the collection at the funeral service of the late Mrs. Kathleen Tandy. Mrs. Tandy's family have kindly donated this to Church funds.

**Sixty Plus Club.** Wednesday, December 21st, 2-30 p.m., at the Royal British Legion Club. This will be a Christmas afternoon.

**Overseas Project Coffee Evening.** This was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Sears on November 18th and was a happy and successful evening. The profit was over £70; for which many thanks to all concerned.

### War Memorial Rota - December

4th, Mrs. N. Cooke; 11th, Mrs. K. Cole; 25th, Mrs. H. Hatcher.

### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

#### Church Services in December

- 4 Advent 2. 9-30 Holy Communion, Preacher: Capt. Barry Irons (Church Army).  
11 Advent 3. 3-0 Evensong.  
18 Advent 4. 9-30 Holy Communion (said). 3-0 Carol Service.  
25 Christmas Day. 9-30 Family Eucharist.

#### January

- 1 Sunday after Christmas. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).  
8 Epiphany 1. 3-0 Evensong.

### Holy Matrimony

On October 15th: Desmond Atkinson and Sally Carter.

On October 29th: John Underhill and Mary Hall.

### Confirmation

In Badsey Church on October 23rd by the Assistant Bishop of Worcester: Caroline Mitchell, Gary Webb, Alan Carter.

In Bretforton Church on December 11th (6-30 p.m.) by the Bishop of Worcester: Mrs. Hilda Mary Mason.

We congratulate them on becoming full members of the Church.

**Donation.** £3 from Mr. S. Nott as a thankoffering on the occasion of his 81st birthday (Nov. 28th).

**Friendship Club (for the over sixties).** December 7th, Wednesday, 2-30 to 4-30 p.m., in the Memorial Hall. All over sixties welcome.

### Wickhamford W.I.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 10th November.

The new President is Mrs. E. Litterick; Secretary is Mrs. T. Shannon-Garvey; Treasurer is Mrs. J. Roberts.

Mrs. Bell V.C.O. spoke about the method of choosing Resolutions for the Annual W.I. A.G.M. at the Albert Hall. She was thanked by Mrs. J. Coveney. Sick visitor was Mrs. J. Hustler. Next month the sick visitor is Mrs. E. Litterick. The monthly parcel was won by Mrs. A. Mitchell. A competition for a home-made card was won by Mrs. P. Hancock. Mrs. Keen won the "best flower from your garden" competition. Members were asked to bring Christmas gifts for Powick hospital to the next meeting which is on Thursday, 8th December. It is Members' night and Mrs.

Rickett from Winchcombe will talk about fans, and members are asked to exhibit their fans.

Visitors are welcome to this meeting, which is at Wickhamford Memorial Hall at 7-30 p.m.

**Christmas Bazaar.** This was a most successful and pleasant morning. The P.C.C. wishes to thank all those who helped in any way and those who came to support the event. £8.15 was taken at the door, the Tombola, organised by the Senior Residents, made £18. Cake Stall - the Women's Institute - £21.37. Christmas Decorations - the Play Group - £23.60. Plant Stall £13.48 and Raffle £12.60. All the refreshments were donated and the final profit was £94.70 - a really magnificent result.

### Wickhamford Gardening Club

The first meeting of 1978 will be on Wednesday, 4th January, 7-45 for 8 p.m.. Mr. Maurice Tyler of L.B.G. will be speaking on "Preparation and Cultivation of a small garden". The competition on this occasion will be: A Foliage Pot Plant. Old and new members are welcome so please come along and join us.

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