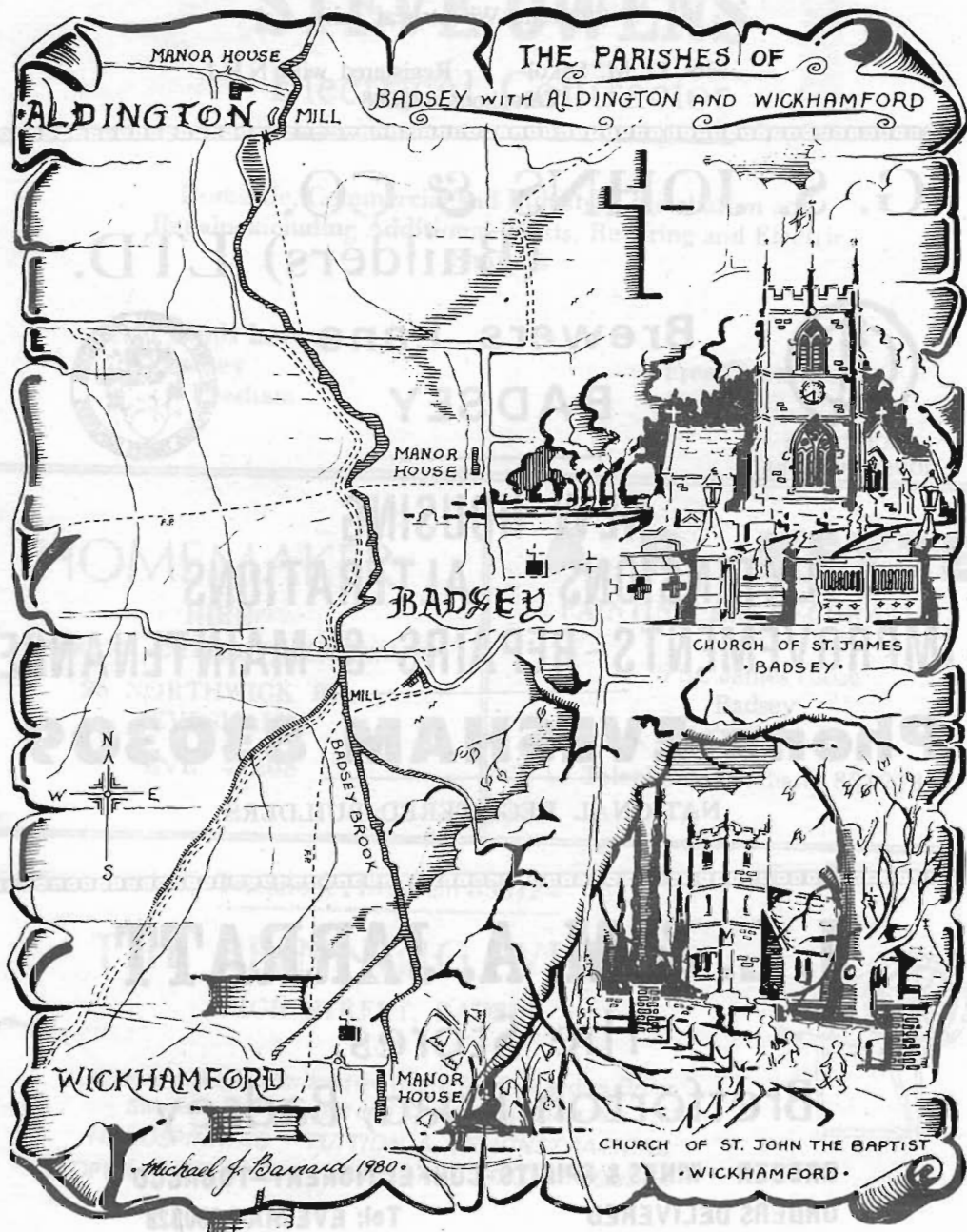


PARISH REVIEW

AUGUST 1986



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

August 1986

My dear Friends,

In their recent report, 'The Nature of Christian Belief' the House of Bishops of the General Synod of the Church of England unanimously re-affirmed the Church of England's belief in the historical foundations of the Christian faith, in particular the miraculous nature of the birth of Jesus Christ and his resurrection from the dead. This is the Church's first formal reply to the Durham controversy about which so much has already been said and written. At first, it may seem that the report, like so many others, is of little interest or concern to the average parishioner or church-goer. But I believe this is to take a too superficial view of its underlying implications and consequences. For to say that the miraculous birth of Jesus and his equally miraculous resurrection from the dead has no basis in historical fact is to undermine the whole basis of the Gospels as being historical. First it is to deny the divine nature of Christ, and second and equally serious, it is to say the Gospel writers were lying. That the Gospels themselves are based upon a lie. There are those who would say that this is not what the words really mean. It is the divine truths about God and Jesus the words convey that are most important, not their historical reality. But to say this is to start on a very slippery and dangerous downward slope. It is to enter into the Humpty Dumpty world of Alice through the Looking Glass, where, like Humpty Dumpty, we can make words mean whatever we choose them to mean. The danger of such an approach is obvious, for people can then be tempted to take this into other areas of life as well, not least in relationships with others. So that eventually, we begin to lose faith in anything we might read or be told. We no longer trust what we have read or heard simply because we cannot be completely sure of what the words really mean. Conversely people begin to feel they

can say what they like, because it doesn't really matter, one way or the other, whether it is true or not. In a university debating society or tutorial this might be acceptable. In human relationships it can be disastrous. Trust breaks down and so does faith.

The divine nature of Christ and the miraculous events surrounding his birth and resurrection will always remain a great mystery. They are of God and not of Man. But that they have their foundation in historical reality there can be no doubt. Nothing else suffices to explain the Gospels themselves or the birth of the Christian Church. As we read in the second letter of Peter, "We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty," and in the letter to the Hebrews, "For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every way has been tempted as we are yet without sinning" We worship the divine Christ, Son of the living God, as one who came from God, to share fully and completely in our earthly life, that we might share with him in the life that is eternal.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

SONGS of PRAISE - Choose your own hymns

In place of the usual Evensong on Sunday, 7th September, at 6.30 p.m. a Service of Songs of Praise will be held in Badsey Church. This will follow a mini-Flower Festival to be organised by the Appeals Committee in the church on Sunday afternoon.

Parishioners are invited to choose their favourite hymns and come forward during the service and say why they have made a particular choice. Those willing to take part are asked to send their choice of hymn (with an alternative) in writing please together with their name and address and telephone number to the Vicarage by Saturday 23rd August. The final selection will be made from those received. This is a new venture for Badsey Church, please help make it a success.

In Deepest Sympathy

On behalf of the P.C.C. and the congregation may I extend to our Treasurer, Mr. Bob Gregory our deepest sympathy on the recent sad loss of his wife, Joyce, and to Mrs. Win Harrison, a member of our choir, on the sad loss of her husband, Dick, who was also a loyal member of our choir. Mrs. Gregory and Mr. Harrison will be very much missed.

P.D.M.

CHURCH SERVICES - AUGUST

St. James', Badsey

3rd Pentecost 11	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
6th The Transfigura Transfiguration	10.00 am Holy Communion	
10th Pentecost 12	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
17th Pentecost 13	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
24th St Bartholomew Apostle	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
31st Pentecost 15	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Combined Evensong - Badsey Church

September

7th Pentecost 16	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Service of Songs of Praise
14th Pentecost 17	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong

Mid week communions - Wednesdays 10.00 am (except 13, 20 & 27 August)

St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

3rd Pentecost 11	9.30 am The Eucharist
10th Pentecost 12	9.30 am The Eucharist
17th Pentecost 13	9.30 am The Eucharist
24th St Bartholomew Apostle	11.00 am Childrens' & Family Service
September	
7th Pentecost 16	9.30 am The Eucharist
14th Pentecost 17	9.30 am The Eucharist

Lectionary

3rd Pentecost 11	Philippians 1 1-11 Matthew 20 1-16	Isaiah 42 1-12 John 13 21-end
10th Pentecost 12	Acts 17 22-end Matthew 5 13-16	Isaiah 49 1-13 2 Cor. 5 11- 6.2
17th Pentecost 13	Acts 20 17-35 Matthew 10 16-22	Isaiah 50 4-9a I Peter 4
24th St Bartholomew	Acts 5 12b-16 Luke 22 24-30	Deut 18 15-19 Matthew 10 16-22
31st Pentecost 15	I Tim 2 1-7 Matthew 14 1-12	Isaiah 45 1-13 Matthew 22 1-33

September		
7th Pentecost 16	I John 4 15-end Luke 16 19-end	Lev. 19 1-4, 9-18 Luke 10 25-37
14th Pentecost 17	Gal. 2.15-3.9 Luke 7 1-10	Joshua 14 6-14 Acts 19 21-end

Sunday Themes

Pentecost 11	The Serving Community
Pentecost 12	The Witnessing Community
Pentecost 13	The Suffering Community
Pentecost 14	St. Bartholomew and The Family
Pentecost 15	Those in Authority
Pentecost 16	The Neighbour
Pentecost 17	The Proof of Faith

PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings: "God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them."

Badsey
28th June Mark Antony Hunt and Ruth Joan Anderson

Funerals "I am the Resurrection and the Life" saith the Lord.

Badsey
9th July William John Goodall of Havenstone, Offenham Road, Blackminster aged 79 years (at Badsey)

Joyce Helen Gregory of 37 Willersey Road, Badsey aged 60 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)

11th July Richard Henry Harrison of Osbourne Cottage, Bretforton Road, Badsey aged 73 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)

14th July John Henry Biddle of 53 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey aged 58 years (at Badsey)

Wickhamford
1st July Edith Jane Spragg of 5 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford aged 77 years (at Wickhamford)

24th July Florence Mary Newitt of Seward House Nursing Home, Badsey aged 85 years (at Wickhamford)

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wed. Aug. 6th	Badsey Standing Committee - The Vicarage 7.30 pm
Sat. Aug. 9th	Badsey Flower Show
Fri. Aug. 29th	Cheese and Wine Evening - The Vicarage, 7 pm - 9.30 pm
Tues. Sept. 2nd	Badsey PCC
Wed. Sept. 10th	Wickhamford PCC

September Parish Review - latest date for copy - Wednesday 20th August please.

MOTHERS UNION

On the 24th June Mrs Daphne Pagnamenta gave us an interesting and informative talk about Australia, which she knew well. She gave us an amusing description of her first flight there and spoke of her impressions of its cities, their varying characteristics and the vast distances between. She spoke of the bird life, the animals, the outback, a little of Australia's history and of its robust people. Mrs. Pagnamenta's talk took us a long way from our quiet English countryside to a "stimulating country of red, brown and orange", a country of which she was obviously very fond and which she highly recommended.

We enjoyed a bright dry evening for our garden meeting on 22nd July and this proved, as always, a very happy occasion. Our grateful thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Betteridge for once again allowing us the use of their lovely garden, to Mrs. D. Bell who kindly provided the wine, and to our committee members who prepared the lovely buffet.

On behalf of us all may I offer to our member, Mrs. Win Harrison, our deepest sympathy in her recent sad bereavement.

For Your Diaries

Tues. 5th August 2.15 pm Visit to Mrs. I. Leigh. Cars will collect at
the Lych Gate

Wed. 6th August 10.00 am Corporate Communion

No meetings during August.

Pat Mitchell

BADSEY W.I.

Miss Liz Beavon of St. Richard's Hospice captivated our July meeting. Her talk on the work of the St. Richard's Hospice which visits the terminally ill in their homes was thoroughly enjoyed by all. This motivated us into discussing how we could raise funds for such a worthwhile cause. Mrs. Daphne Bell gave the vote of thanks.

Sue Pike then followed with a résumé of her three days in "Drawing for Beginners at Denman College.

A commendable second place was gained by our float entitled "Viva La W.I." in Evesham Round Table Carnival, although we were not quite so fortunate at the Evesham High School Fun Day where the combined efforts of members in staging "A Tea for Two" went unrewarded. Many thanks to all who supported our efforts.

Our members will be going on a trip to Ironbridge on July 16th.

The monthly competition was won by Mrs. H. Jarratt, second was Mrs. B. Osbourne, monthly raffle was won by Mrs. C. Print.

Our next meeting will be in September, when the speaker will be discussing Microwaves.

Dates for your Diaries

Sat. Aug. 9th Badsey Flower Show - Please Ladies don't forget your cakes. Also any help on the day will be very much appreciated.

Wed. Aug. 13th Evening Trip to the Newent Vineyards, anyone interested please ring Mrs. W. Smith.

Sept. 8th Please support Anna Tucker and Carol Gutchter on their sponsored swim at Pershore Baths between 10 am - 12 noon.

BADSEY SIXTY PLUS CLUB

We were entertained at the July meeting by Mr. Trevor Jones and the Avonside Hospital Choir. The music and singing were greatly enjoyed by us all, thanks to the enthusiasm and humour of the choir. It is always nice to see them. The raffle was won by Mr. Williams. The next meeting on August 6th will be an evening mystery tour and supper. The coach will leave the British Legion Club at 6 pm and return at 10 pm. There is no afternoon meeting in August. On September 3rd we shall meet again at the Badsey Legion Club when officers of our local police will be speaking to us. At this stage they have not given details of their subject but I know it is sure to be interesting and of value to us. Please come and support them.

Our thoughts and best wishes are sent to all our members who are ill, both at home and in hospital. We hope they will soon be better.

Mary Callaghan

RESTORATION FUND

The Restoration Appeal Committee held their third annual Garden Party at Cherry Orchard, Aldington, on 18th July. Once again this turned out to be a very enjoyable occasion and about £300 was raised. We are most grateful to Mrs. Iris Brazier for her hospitality.

WICKHAMFORD W.I.

"The Icing on the Cake" was the theme for our speaker, Miss Janet Melillo, at the July meeting. Members were shown how to decorate cakes using the Australian method of fondant icing.

Refreshments were provided by Mrs K. Wadams, Mrs. J. Aston, and Mrs A. Rapley. The monthly parcel was won by Mrs. P. Hancock and Mrs. J. Tweney grew the flower of the month.

Arrangements were made for an evening trip to Burford.

There is to be an inter-group skittles match and an evening at the Malvern Festival Theatre.

The next meeting will be an Open Meeting to be held at Wickhamford Memorial Hall on Thursday 14th August at 7.30 pm.

P. Bell

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Yet again a most successful Summer outing enjoyed by 50+ members and friends. This year on June 25th the destination was Stoke and its Garden Festival. A most enjoyable trip with plenty of walking for the energetic and plenty of pottering areas for the less so inclined, some very good ideas displayed for any gardeners with a keen eye also enough expert displays to make us green with envy. Interesting sidelights too, such as the recreating of formal beds on a sloping face, and the planning of three perfect but different gardens in a minute area. Such abundance, all on reclaimed disused pottery workings was most impressive. A cool and pleasant day added to our enjoyment but alas! no balloon.

W. Holland

At the July meeting on Wednesday 2nd members were privileged to hear Mr. Taylor, the Chairman of the Iris Society, talking on growing and showing these beautiful flowers. It was most interesting to learn how new strains are produced and developed and how the process of trials is carried out at Wisley Horticultural Gardens. The talk was accompanied by a series of beautiful slides showing many of the rarer Irises.

Competition for three Roses. 1 Mrs Stacey, 2 Mr. Tayler, 3. Miss Holland Raffle won by Mr Freeman and Mrs Lines.

Important date : August 13th. 10th Annual Show. Open to all.

Next meeting September 3rd. Talk on Winemaking.

W. Holland.