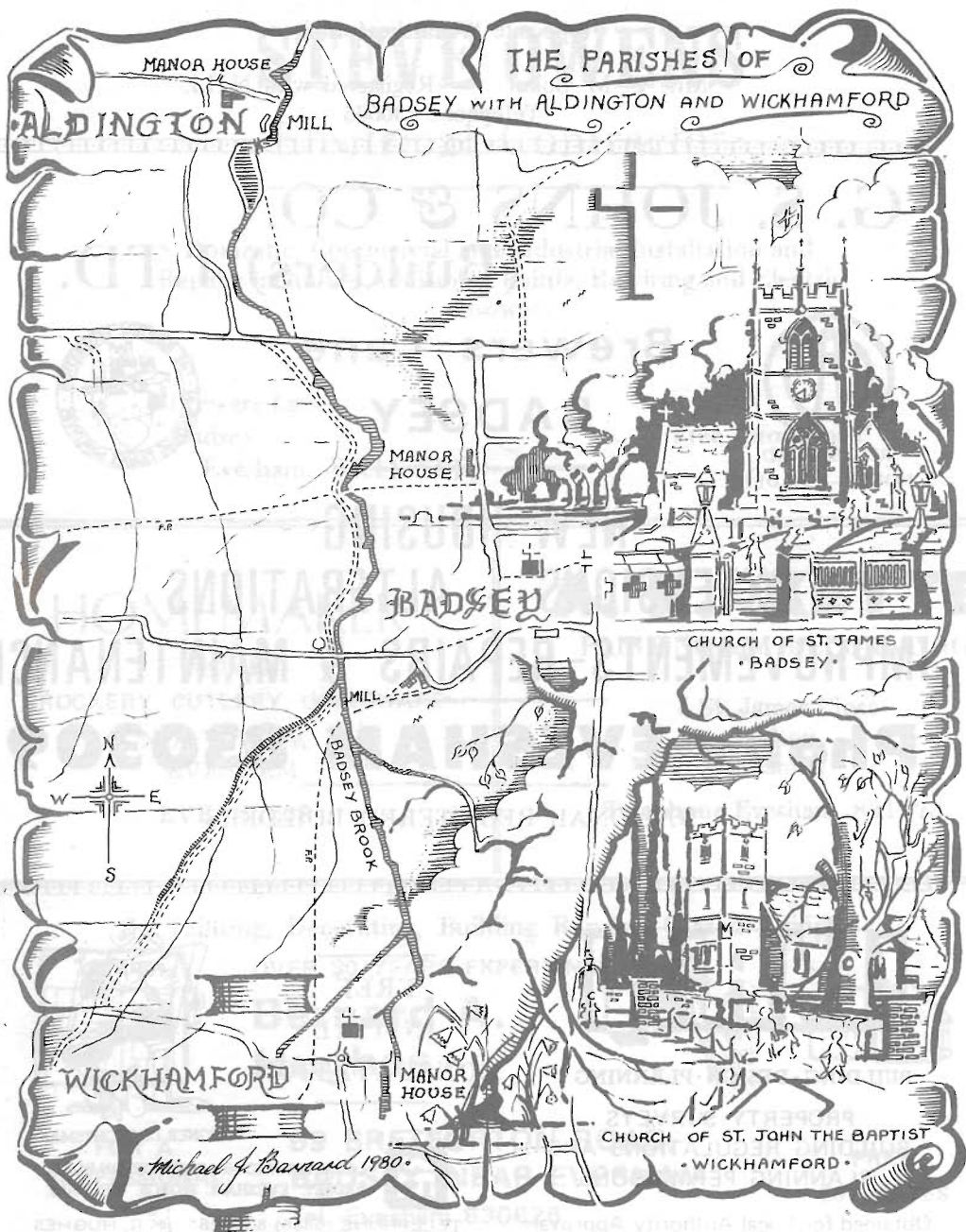


PARISH REVIEW

16p

FEBRUARY 1988



VICAR: THE REVD. P. D. MITCHELL

The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey. Tel: Evesham 830343

READER: MR. J. CALLAGHAN

'Kalmarny', 7 School Lane, Badsey. Tel: Evesham 831194

Church of St. James'
Badsey

Churchwardens:

Mr. D. R. HAYNES,
4 Green Leys, Badsey
Tel: 830063

Mrs. A. SMITH
Mallory, 6 Birmingham Road,
Badsey.
Tel: 831141

Church of St. John the Baptist
Wickhamford

Churchwardens:

Mr. D.G. POULTER,
5 Evesham Road, Wickhamford
Tel: 830505

Mrs. T.G. DUNKERLEY,
Gallipot House, Broadway
Tel: 830395

THE VICAR'S LETTER

February 1988

My dear Friends,

We hear much today about the secular age and secular world in which we live. Generally speaking the word secular means 'of this age' 'of this world' as contrasted or compared with the sacred, monastic or ecclesiastical, which have to do with spiritual and religious values. Values not confined solely to this age or to this world.

In his book "God, Christ and the World" Archbishop Michael Ramsay writes: "Examples of such secularity come easily to mind. There is the widespread rejection of morality, and authority. There is a lack or even a loss of any sense of history. There is a belief in man's ability to satisfy all his needs through his own unaided efforts, especially in the field of technology. There is the rejection of that sense of another world beyond and before this one that influenced the outlook of earlier cultures and civilisations. And of course religious beliefs, practices and institutions are dismissed as devoid of any real relevance or meaning. For the secular person, this world, this temporal, physical world in which we live is the only world which exists. Eternity is irrelevant and meaningless. There are no human values which transcend this age and this world. In short, there is no sense of the eternal. Furthermore religion encourages people to resist scientific progress. The practice of prayer and worship draws people into an unreal realm of fantasy, and absorbs energies which should go into the world's proper business. True, man has his frustrations but his dignity lies in his power to overcome them, as he can through the right application of scientific knowledge to his needs. Religion gives not help but hindrances and it keeps man in a state of childish dependency and holds him back from his maturity".

This understanding of the secular as applied to the age and world in which we live goes a long way to understanding much of what is going on in the world around us, and the kind of influences being exerted upon the church and indeed upon all forms of religion. The secular influences the church is really up against. Yet, if anything, since Archbishop Ramsey first wrote these words some twenty years ago, there has been a swing back towards more fundamental religious attitudes. Whilst the influence of the secular seems to grow stronger, (observe how many people prefer to spend their Sundays nowadays) so too does man's reaction against it. Is not man perhaps becoming more conscious of the need to re-discover the true dimension to life rather than separate himself from it? A completely secular life only produces a spiritual vacuum which yearns to be filled.

This tension between the secular and the sacred, between the need to hold on to the things of God, to things eternal, yet at the same time to speak in meaningful terms and be relevant to the present age is seen in the church itself, and lies behind much of its recent troubles. On the one hand the church has been called out of the world, to be holy and separate and apart from the secular, yet at the same time its mission is to transform the secular as it prays "Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven". It is a tension between trend and tradition, that has become very real.

What then might be the answer? I feel I can do no better than return to some more words of Archbishop Ramsey as he writes. "Our understanding of God needs openness . . . By openness to the past the Christian can contemplate the life, and death and Resurrection of Jesus . . . But the deepest significance of the past is that it contains reflections of what is eternal. Sainly men and women of any age belong to more than their own era; they 'transcend' it. Therefore openness to heaven is necessary . . . because heaven is the final meaning of man as created in God's own image for lasting fellowship with God . . . But it is realized no less in every act of selflessness or humility or compassion, for such acts are already anticipations of heaven here and now . . . Thus our openness to heaven is null and void unless it carries with it an openness to the world around us. Within the daily decisions and relationships of the world around us we encounter God and we learn the meaning of God's love in human terms. Those who would isolate the secular from the past and from eternity lose the dimension in which human lives have their ultimate meaning and perspective. But equally those who would aspire devoutly to heaven without realising the anticipations of heaven to be found within the secular are aiding the false divide between the secular and the sacred which is the cause of so many ills . . . The Christian hope is always twofold, for the vision of God and for the coming of the reign of God in the world . . .

Such is the life with Christ and in Christ, who is at once the Man for others and true God”.

Jesus gave us two great commandments. He said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength, and your neighbour as yourself”. The secular world seems to ignore the first, whilst there are some within the church who seem to ignore the second. But the two commandments are really inseparable. For it is in the love of God that we love our neighbour, and it is in loving our neighbour that we love God. The secular person lives their life only in the present and for themselves. The spiritual person lives their life for others and for God.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

CHURCH SERVICES - FEBRUARY

St. James', Badsey

2nd Presentation of Christ in the Temple	9.00 am Holy Communion	
7th 8 before Easter	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
14th 7 before Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
17th Ash Wednesday	10.00 am Holy Communion	7.00 pm Evensong & Litany
21st 1 in Lent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
25th Lent Devotional Service	8.00 pm	
28th 2 in Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
March		
3rd Lent Devotional Service	8.00 pm	
6th 3 in Lent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
13th 4 in Lent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
	11.00 am Special Mothering Sunday Service	
Mid Week Communion: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th February, 2nd & 9th March.		

St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

7th 8 before Easter	9.30 am The Eucharist
14th 7 before Easter	9.30 am The Eucharist
17th Ash Wednesday	9.00 am The Eucharist

21st 1 in Lent	9.30 am The Eucharist
28th 2 in Lent	11.00 am Childrens and Family Service
March	
6th 3 in Lent	9.30 am The Eucharist
10th Thursday	Lent Devotional Service - 8 pm
13th 4 in Lent & Mothering Sunday	9.30 am The Eucharist

Sunday Themes

8 before Easter	Christ the Healer
7 before Easter	Christ the Friend of Sinners
1 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : Temptation
2 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : Conflict
3 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : Suffering
4 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : Transfiguration

Lectionary

7th 8 before Easter	2 Cor. 12 1-10	2 Kings 20
	Mark 7 24-end	Mark 5 1-20
14th 7 before Easter	Col 1 18-23	Hosea 14
	John 8 2-11	Philemon
21st 1 in Lent	Heb. 4 12-end	Deut. 30 11-end
	Luke 4 1-13	Hebrews 2 5-end
28th 2 in Lent	1 John 3 1-10	
	Matthew 12.22-32	
March		
6th 3 in Lent	1 Peter 2 19-end	Isaiah 59 9-20
	Matthew 16 13-end	Col. 1.24-2.7
13th 4 in Lent	2 Peter 1-16-19	Exodus 34.1-5, 29-end
	Matthew 17 1-13	2 Cor. 3

Lent - 1988

Four devotional services will be held on certain Thursdays during Lent at 8 pm, at Badsey and Wickhamford. The first two, on February 25th and March 3rd will be in Badsey Church, whilst the second two, on March 10th and March 24th will be in Wickhamford Church. Each service will consist of Said Evensong, followed by prayers and a short address.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms Jesus said, "Suffer the children to come unto Me"

Badsey

10th January Samantha Louise Dore daughter of Stephen and Julie Dore of 28A Bretforton Road, Badsey
Michael James Byron and Matthew John Byron, sons of Graham and Hazel Byron of 36 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey.

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

Badsey

8th January Myrtle Grace Dallimore of 30 Horsebridge Avenue, aged 68 years (at Badsey)
14th January Stanley Raymond West of 13 Synehurst, aged 55 years (at Badsey and Worcester)
Alice Millicent Maria King late of 93 Bretforton Road aged 77 years (at Cheltenham)

Wickhamford

12th January Laurence James Bell of 12 Drysdale Close, Wickhamford aged 48 years (at Wickhamford and Cheltenham)
21st January Alison Estelle Jarvis of 34 Sally Close, aged 61 years (at Cheltenham)

DONATIONS

Badsey towards the Restoration Appeal, anonymously by post - £10
towards church funds, anonymously - £36

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wed. 3rd Feb. Visit of Mothers' Union Diocesan President
Thurs. 4th Feb. Standing Committee - The Vicarage - 8 pm
Fri. 5th Feb. Mince Pie and Madeira Evening - at the home of Mr & Mrs A. Smith, 'Mallory' 6 Birmingham Road, 7 - 9 pm.
Thurs. 18th Feb. Evesham Deanery Synod - time and venue to be advised.
Sat. 20th Feb. Appeals Committee Dance - Badsey Recreation Club
Thurs. 25th Feb. 1st Lent Devotional Service - Badsey Church - 8 pm
Thurs. 3rd March 2nd Lent Devotional Service - Badsey Church - 8 pm
Tues. 8th March Mothers Union AGM - 2.30 pm Badsey Church

Wed. 9th March Wickhamford AGM - 7.30 pm - Memorial Hall
Thurs. 10th March 3rd Lent Devotional Service - Wickhamford Church
- 8 pm

Parish Review - March issue - latest date for copy, Wednesday 17th
February please.

Revision of Church Electoral Rolls

The revision of Wickhamford Church Electoral Roll will take place from 13th - 22nd February inclusive prior to the AGM on Wednesday, 9th March; the revision of Badsey Church Electoral Roll will take place from 26th March - 4th April inclusive prior to the AGM to be held on Thursday 21st April.

Celebration Songs of Praise and Carnival - Badsey

It is confidently anticipated the restoration work on Badsey Church will be finished within the next two months and that the Appeal will formally close at Easter 1988. To mark the successful completion of the Appeal it has been provisionally decided to hold a Celebration Service of Songs of Praise on Sunday, 29th May, at 6.30 pm in Badsey Church, followed by a Celebration Thanksgiving Carnival on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday at Badsey Recreation Club, the sixth anniversary of the Appeal being opened. It is planned to give the proceeds to the various village organisations who have supported the Appeal over the past six years and to charities. More details will follow soon, but please book the dates in your diaries now.

MOTHERS UNION

Mrs. Dorothea Sainsbury, our Diocesan Secretary, spoke to us on the 12th January of another quite different aspect of her life, her work as a magistrate. She called her talk "On the Bench" and told us some of the amusing connotations that had ensued from the title. She described the composition and types of court in which she was involved and the system. She explained what the sentences actually entail, the seriousness of taking away a person's liberty and spoke of the right of appeal. She mentioned the enormous sense of responsibility she felt and went on to talk of some of her experiences. She made the afternoon very interesting and very educational and brought into focus many aspects to which we had not previously given much thought. A good discussion followed and we ended the afternoon with tea and cakes.

On Wednesday, 3rd February, we expect to have our Diocesan President, Mrs. Sibylle Dumper, in the Parish. She hopes to attend our Corporate

Communion at 10.00 am on that day. I do hope as many members as possible will be able to come. Our President loves to meet members and also renew acquaintance with those she has only been able to meet briefly in the past.

I am adding to the list of notes for your diaries one or two future happenings in the deanery in the hope that you will be able to keep the dates free.

For Your Diaries

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---|
| Wed. 3rd Feb. | 10.00 am | Corporate Communion with Diocesan President. |
| Tues. 9th Feb. | 2.30 pm | Deanery News on 'Spotlight 1988' and discussion 'Recipe for Marriage'. If you have your 'Home & Family' Magazine for September last please bring it with you. |
| Thurs. 11th Feb. | 2.30 pm | Committee Meeting at 13 Seward Road. |
| Tues. 23rd Feb. | 7.30 pm | Beewell Health Foods. |
| Wed. 23rd <u>March</u> | 7.30 pm | Deanery Festival at Church Lench. |
| Tues. 10th <u>May</u> | 2.00 - 5.30 | 'Spotlight' Exhibition, Evesham. |
| Wed. 22nd <u>June</u> | 7.30 pm | Diocesan Festival, Worcester Cathedral, Address: Hazel Treadgold, Central President. |
| Tues. 5th <u>July</u> | 7.15 pm | Deanery Party with Overseas Visitors, St. Richards Hall, Hampton. |

Also, there will be a Deanery Young Peoples Walk to Norton, date to be fixed. Possibly a Saturday in early August.

I think you may find this quite enough for this month!

Pat Mitchell

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

Our first meeting of 1988 got us off to a very good start. On this occasion our speakers, were Mr & Mrs Colbourne, who entertained us with film slides and music. Many hours of work must have gone into the compilation of this excellent programme. We have invited Mr & Mrs Colbourne to make a return visit in November when their theme will be "Christmastime"; and we hope that those of our members who missed the January meeting will be able to join us for this second programme.

Our January meeting was also a special occasion for two of our members - Mr & Mrs Frank Hemming who celebrated their Diamond Wedding in December. Mr Hemming also attained his 90th birthday a few days after our meeting. The Club wished to mark the special anniversaries with a small gift but unfortunately Mr Hemming was unwell and so was unable

to attend the meeting. The gifts were delivered to his home with our love.

A presentation was made to Miss Nora Smith to mark the appreciation of our members for all the hard work she had done for the club during 1987. The afternoon closed with a piano recital by Philip Moore. He played in his own inimitable style and our members much appreciated the considerable skill of this young artist.

The next meeting will be on February 3rd when our speaker will be Mr J.B. Hardy of Wychavon Council. His subject is "Rubbish" and I am sure will be very entertaining.

Our best wishes are sent to members who have been ill and we hope they will soon be feeling much better.

Mary Callaghan

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

Our December meeting was like a Christmas Party with Sherry, mince pies, cakes etc. Members brought and gave parcels which made it quite exciting. Some members also exchanged Christmas cards. The draw had many prizes which were won by members. Everyone had a very jolly evening. Final arrangements were made for the trip to The Malvern Festival Theatre to see "The Snow Queen" on 30th December. The monthly competition was a decorated candle and was won by Mrs. Brown. Our annual Dinner will be held on January 23rd.

M. Morcombe

RESTORATION FUND

The next Dance in aid of the Restoration Fund will be held at Badsey Recreation Club on Saturday 20th February. Tickets at £2.50 each (to include supper) may be obtained from members of the Appeals Committee.

Report of Badsey P.C.C. meeting on 7th January 1988

There was nothing further to report on the loss of the painting. A cheque had been received from our insurance company in settlement of our claim for this. Mr. Gregory was to contact the council again regarding disposal of church refuse on a regular basis in black sacks from the churchyard. Unfortunately, due to lack of support, the Sunday School was to stop as it was felt impractical to continue with so few children attending. The appeal fund now stood at £27,302 which was a marvellous effort by the Appeals Committee and the people of Badsey since the fund started. The church fete was to be held on 18th June 1988 and the Harvest Supper on 7th October 1988. A committee was to be set up to consider the whole question of church insurance. A tree surgeon was to be asked to deal with some dangerous branches in the churchyard.

Church Army Collection Boxes

The total amount received this year towards the work of the Church Army was £73.92, an increase of almost £20 on 1986 and over £50 on the amount for 1980. There has been a steady and most encouraging increase in giving for the work of the Church Army in this way over the past few years for which we are more than grateful. It is a small but effective way in which we can show our love, concern and support for the work of the Church especially in the Inner City areas. Thank you for your help. New subscribers are always welcome. Every £4 to £5 a year helps swell the overall giving.

PDM

ST. JAMES' Guild of Bellringer's on Sunday 27th of December rang a quarter Peal of Plain BOB Doubles on the occasion of Mr & Mrs F & D Hemmings Diamond Wedding.

The ringers which stood in the Peal were, John Boulton, treble, Steve Carter (2), Reg Keyte (3), Robert Hall (4), Clint Evans (5) conductor, and Mr Ted Hemming (Tenor) SON. The peal was 1,260 changes. We say thank you to Mr & Mrs Hemmings for the donation received towards the Bellringing fund.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Next meeting will be on February 3rd. The speaker is Mr John Ward of the Home Office Fire Service Training Centre, Moreton-in-Marsh, on fire prevention in the home.

We held a very successful meeting on the 6th January with 31 attendees.

We look forward to seeing many more of you at future meetings as all are welcome. (50 plus).

Parish Review - Wickhamford

Mrs Anne Launchbury of 12 Manor Road, Wickhamford, Tel: 831466 has kindly taken over the distribution of Mrs Baldwin's Parish Reviews. Would Mrs Baldwin's subscribers kindly contact Mrs Launchbury direct or give their names either to Mrs Margaret Winkett at the Post Office or to the Vicar, who will gladly arrange for them to continue to receive the Review.

Thank you.

Report of Wickhamford P.C.C. Meeting on January 13th.

The Vicar and Churchwardens had met the architect who had advised that the North Side of the Church roof had deteriorated. According to the records, the whole roof had been re-slatted in 1954 by Mr. Savage of Badsey, and the architect at the time had reported that he was very pleased with the quality of workmanship. In view of this fact, it is unlikely that there can be anything seriously wrong. However, the P.C.C. agreed that, a closer inspection should be made by a professional slater to determine the condition of the roof beneath the slates as a first step.

A design for a Baptismal Candlestand by Mr. David Caswell was approved as a further memorial to Miss Alice Cox. A new ruling that named memorials would not be allowed in churches within 5 years of death was noted.

Fire extinguishers are to be installed in the church as recommended by the fire officer.

Following the new formula for allocation of Quota being implemented, Badsey faces a 12.3% increase and Wickhamford a small reduction of 5%. It was agreed that we should help Badsey to meet this amount by making a contribution towards their new allocation.

The Committee considered questions posed by the Archdeacon's Inquiry relating to various aspects of the Church and the Community. About a third of the adult people living in the village are of retiring age, and there is a definite decline of families with young children.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on March 9th, when it is hoped as many parishioners as possible will attend and give their views about any matters relating to the church.

WICKHAMFORD W.I.

The January meeting was very well attended and members and visitors were fascinated by the talk given by Mr. Paul Abbott of Evesham on his experience of supplying and making curtains and furnishing for the new palace in Brunei, which the Sultan was having built for one of his wives. Samples of the materials were passed around and very much admired. Mr. Abbott was thanked by Mrs. Sheena Beavan.

Volunteers were asked for in the task of supplying material for 'The Worcestershire Book' which will give an insight into our village past and present. It is hoped that this will be published in time for Christmas 1988. The Annual Christmas Dinner will take place on Thursday 21st January in the Village Hall. The flower competition was won by Mrs. Peggy

Hancock and the February competition will be for a Hand-Made Valentine card.

Next Meeting February 11th. 7.30 'Cooking in Roman Britain'. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Sue Bearcroft.

Urgent Care and upkeep of Badsey Churchyard - Grass Cutting - 1988

There is an urgent need to find someone willing to undertake the grass cutting in Badsey Churchyard during the coming year, preferably using their own machinery. A reasonable hourly rate will be paid and the work entails approximately 9 hours each fortnight, depending on the weather, from April to September inclusive. Anyone interested, or who can recommend anyone interested, who might be asked, are requested to contact the Churchwardens or a member of the PCC without delay.