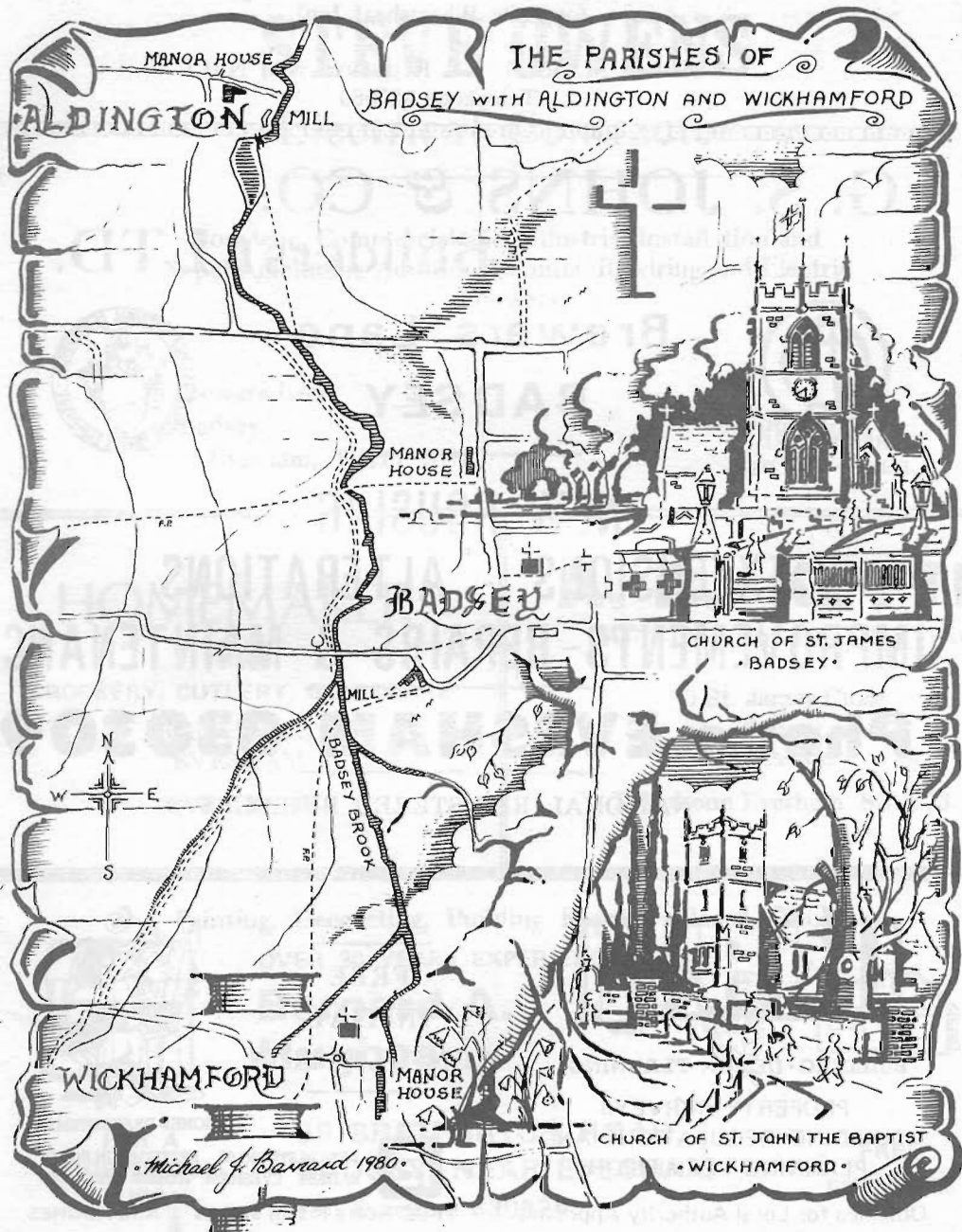


PARISH REVIEW

16p

NOVEMBER 1988



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

November 1988

My dear Friends,

Last April the Church Urban Fund Appeal was launched to support the church in deprived Urban Priority Areas. Both parishes made a swift and immediate response to the Bishop of Worcester's initial appeal for £100 from every parish in the diocese towards this fund. The Evesham Deanery has now been asked if it will raise £18,000 by next Easter as its share towards the Diocesan total of £200,000 of which we in Badsey with Aldington have been asked to find £1387 and in Wickhamford £463, including the £100 already given by each parish.

The poverty in an Urban Priority Area is quite appalling and the facts speak for themselves. We have already caught a glimpse of what this means in Miss Sue Chilver's letter published in the September magazine.

Although we in the Vale have our financial anxieties we are richly blessed as the condition of our churches bear witness. We still have the ability, and the choice and the inspiration to do something about them. Those in an Urban Priority Area may have none of these things. They are people caught in a poverty trap from which there is no escape and suffer from the utter helplessness which ensues as a result.

At a recent meeting of the Deanery Synod we heard from the Revd Michael Denny, Rector of Frankley, Birmingham. The population of his parish increased from 1000 to 11,000 when it became part of a new urban development in Birmingham. But almost all the amenities and community facilities planned for the area were shelved with the severe cuts in public spending that followed soon afterwards. Now there is

virtually nothing except houses and people, many of them deprived, elderly or unemployed. Because of the pressures few school teachers rarely stay more than three years and the crime rate is well above the national average. Police and social workers seldom stay longer than the teachers. In a congregation of 30 which meets in a local school hall, there are only five wage earners. These include the Vicar, the Methodist Minister, (it is an ecumenical venture), the local headmistress, and the school caretaker. Such is the situation in which our Christian brothers and sisters are being called upon to bear their witness to the Christian values of compassion, love and care for ones neighbour.

At a meeting of the Diocesan Synod in June, Canon N. Power Vicar of Ladywood, Birmingham described very similar conditions in his parish. He said how the people had had deprivation thrust upon them. There had been a caring community, slummy but friendly, with extended generations and families. Then the planners moved in and tore out the heart of the community. Not only the people, but worse, the leaders, the doctors and teachers of the community were moved out and there was left no heart. The community was replaced by individual and isolated people set in tower blocks, in a wasteland, peopled with the elderly, disabled, mentally ill and single parent mothers. He asked for people to understand the problems for which he was caring. Only indwellers such as the church community could identify the problems and offer solutions, but new legislation was removing financial support for these problems (as in Poplar) and this was one example where the Church Urban Fund could provide support for money to be spent with understanding.

People sometimes get quite angry with their church if something isn't quite as they think it ought to be or if they have to suffer some minor discomfort or inconvenience. Sometimes such anger is justified. Sometimes it is not. But conditions like these should make us all angry. Angry that they should be allowed to continue and even grow worse in what elsewhere has become an increasingly prosperous, wealthy and affluent society. If we do not feel anger we should ask ourselves why. Are we too complacent? Just how deep, meaningful and sincere is our commitment to our church and to a faith in which we profess to love our neighbour as ourselves?

The targets will not easily be met. Each PCC is to be asked what it feels its Christian response should be as a church to a challenge such as this. A challenge not likely to go away. As committed Christians and followers of Jesus we should ask what our response should be, to the one who came to seek and to save that which was lost. The measure of our response will be a measure of our love for Him, a measure of our true worth and value as members of his church.

At the recent Conservative Party Conference, the Prime Minister denied that Britain had become a greedy and selfish society. She said we had become a generous society. We have always been a generous society. The response to the Church Urban Fund Appeal will go some way to proving whether we still are. If the slide into poverty in the Urban Priority Areas is not overcome, the long term social consequences could be serious.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - NOVEMBER

St. James', Badsey

1st All Saints Day	9.00 am Holy Communion	
6th 7 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
13th Remembrance Sunday and 6 before Christmas	10.45 am Remembrance Sunday Service	6.30 pm Evensong
20th 5 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
27th 1 in Advent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
December		
4th 2 in Advent	11.00 am Christingle Service (provisional) or Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
11th 3 in Advent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
Mid Week Communion:	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th November and 7th and 14th December - 10.00 am	

St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

6th 7 before Christmas	9.30 am The Eucharist
13th Remembrance Sunday and 6 before Christmas	<u>9.15</u> am The Eucharist
20th 5 before Christmas	9.30 am The Eucharist
27th 1 in Advent	11.00 am Family and Children's Service
December	
4th 2 in Advent	9.30 am The Eucharist
11th 3 in Advent	9.30 am The Eucharist

Lectionary

6th 7 before Christmas	Romans 4 13-end John 8 51-end	Isaiah 41 8-20 Matthew 21 28-43
13th Remembrance Sunday & 6 before Christmas Badsey Wickhamford	Matt 5 1-12 Romans 8 31-end Matt 5 1-12	Exodus 6 2-13 Mark 13 1-13
20th 5 before Christmas	Romans 11 13-24 Matt 24 37-44	Jeremiah 18 1-17 Romans 9 19-28
27th 1 in Advent	I Thess 5 1-11 Luke 21 25-33	Joshua 7 Matthew 25 31-end
December		
4th 2 in Advent	2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 John 5.36b-end	Amos 8 4-12 Luke 4 14-30
11th 3 in Advent	1 Cor. 4 1-5 John 1 19-28	Malachi 3 1-5 and ch 4 Matt 11 2-19

Sunday Themes

7 before Christmas	The Election of God's People : Abraham
6 before Christmas	The Promise of Redemption : Moses
5 before Christmas	The Remnant of Israel
1 in Advent	The Advent Hope
2 in Advent	The Word of God in the Old Testament
3 in Advent	The Forerunner

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these"

Badsey

25th September Peter Thomas James, son of Richard and Sally Ann James of 'Seymour' Sands Lane, Badsey
Christopher Peter Rogers, son of Peter and Susan Rogers of 1 Walnut Close, Harvington

16th October Eddie Michael, son of Paul Hughes and Tracey Welch of 49 Synehurst, Badsey

Wickhamford

9th October Nicholas Alfred Stephen Woods, son of Stephen and Janessa Woods of 71 Pitchers' Hill, Wickhamford

Funerals Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies"

Badsey

- 7th September Cyril George Wakefield, of 7 Badsey Fields Lane, aged 85 years (at Worcester)
- 11th October Gregory Paul Sears of 32 Ravensmere Road, Redditch aged 20 years (Interment of Ashes at Badsey)
- 20th October Margaret Wagstaff Irvine of Seward House, Badsey aged 86 years (at Worcester)
- 21st October Sidney Oliver Palmer of 17 Binyon Close, Badsey aged 79 years (at Worcester)

DONATIONS

- Badsey from Mrs Cyril, in memory of Aubrey Cyril, towards the Flower Fund - £25
- from Mr & Mrs C.J. Freeman of 4 Binyon Close in appreciation of fifty happy years of married life - £20, towards church funds
- from the Royal British Legion Women's Section sale of Harvest Produce - £33.05, towards church funds
- from the Sixty Plus Club sale of Harvest Produce, - £23, towards church funds
- from Mrs Margaret Sparrow, in memory of her mother, Mrs Nellie Straford who died in October 4th 1970 - £5, towards church funds.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- 1st November Badsey PCC
- 16th November Wickhamford PCC (please note later date)
- 23rd November Pastoral Committee - The Vicarage - 2.30 p.m.
- 6th December Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers - AGM - Badsey Church - 7.30 p.m.

December Parish Review - latest date for copy - Wednesday, 16th November

MOTHERS UNION

At the meeting on 27th September Mrs Seaman reported on the Deanery meeting of 19th September. The new Deanery Chairman from January 1989 will be Mrs Jean Whitehouse, and Mrs Ingrid Chestnut will be the new Secretary. Daphne Bell has had a very busy and productive three

years as Chairman and we are all grateful for her inspiring and imaginative leadership. Jean Ives has served for nine years as Deanery Secretary and will be very much missed. We wish her well in her new career as a Grandmother!

The new Chairman will be commissioned at the Deanery Festival in All Saints Evesham on Wednesday 5th April 1989. Lady Day has been moved to 3rd April as Easter Sunday falls on 25th March in 1989. The theme for the next three years will be Faith in the Family.

A very interesting talk by two Samaritans Rose and Joan, from Worcester was followed by many questions about their work, which is very demanding but very worthwhile. Donations towards the Samaritans were given, and amounted to £26.00. On 11th October the prayers were taken by Mrs Betteridge. The talk was given by Mrs Cardle of the N.S.P.C.C. and she was accompanied by Mrs Cathy Carr from Wickhamford who runs the local fundraising group. We were appalled at much of what we heard, and full of admiration for the wonderful work carried out in such difficult circumstances. We were heartened to hear of the Family Centres run to help in the rehabilitation and education of families, who learn how to relate to one another and are given support, often over long periods. Donations amounted to £20.00

A letter was read from Hilda Tindiwenzi thanking us for welcoming her, and for the gifts she received while in our Diocese. The outing to the E.O.D.S. Spotlight show at the Arts Centre on 29th September was voted a great success by the 24 members who were present.

Dates for your Diaries

Wed. 2nd November 10.00 am Corporate Communion
Tues. 8th November 2.30 pm Musical Afternoon
Tues. 22nd November 7.30 pm Talk on Mencap by Mrs D. English
E. Seaman

BADSEY W.I.

Mrs Yvonne Haynes, President, welcomed all to our October meeting, and introduced Mrs Sue Bearcroft of Wickhamford, our V.C.O. for the evening, our Annual General Meeting. Proceedings commenced with the singing of Jerusalem.

We were all delighted to learn Badsey had won the County Skittles Trophy. The team is also to play in the Group Skittles Match in November, and we wish them good luck in this event too.

As it was our A.G.M. the Treasurer's, Secretary's and President's reports were read. These showed a healthy financial state; a membership of around fifty; a year full of interesting speakers and demonstrators and some very successful outings arranged by Mrs Win Smith. Our retiring

President, Mrs Yvonne Haynes, said she had enjoyed her three years in office, and thanked her Committee and members for their help and support. Mrs Haynes has been a very hard-working and popular President, and is to continue as a Committee member.

Mrs Bearcroft, V.C.O. then took on the task of electing a new President and Committee. As there were 12 names on the board and 12 were required for a Committee all were elected. Then came the more difficult task of appointing our new President, and to the relief of all members Mrs Carrie John agreed to take this job. We all wish her well, and offer her our help and support in her new role. Mrs Win Skitt proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Bearcroft.

The competition for an interesting stone or fossil was won by Mrs Win Skitt; the raffle by Mrs Daphne Bell, and Social Time - Royal Family Homes, by Mrs Esme Seaman and Mrs Win Smith.

November's meeting (9th) will have Miss Simey on the Celtic Harp; social time will be 'Song from Show', and the competition a musical box.

G.F. Hughes

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The Harvest Service on 5th October was taken by Mr Callaghan; and although numbers were down on previous years the auction of produce after the service raised the sum of £46. This was divided evenly between the church and the Poppy Day Appeal. Our grateful thanks to Mr Callaghan who auctioned the goods and the helpers who acted as runners. A special thank you to Mr Reg Kyte who was our pianist for the afternoon.

At the Open Day on 19th October the room was packed to capacity with members and friends supporting this our main fundraising event. Badsey First School entertained us with a lovely selection of songs and, as usual they were excellent. Our grateful thanks go to Mr Hughes the Headmaster for allowing the children to come and to Mrs Omerod for coaching the children so well.

The grand total raised was £161.86 thanks to the splendid support of all concerned:

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Christmas Party is on December 7th and will be slightly different from previous years. We will have Mrs Dow and the Hand Bell ringers to start off the afternoon's entertainment. This will be followed by the Brownies and Guides. To round off the afternoon we are having a Christmas Tea. We hope as many members as possible will be able to join us for what is always a lovely afternoon.

We have a new behind the scenes helper. She is Mrs Ann Wilson. Many of you will know Ann already and she is warmly welcomed into the club.

Once again our best wishes are sent to our "invalids" and we hope they will soon feel well enough to join in the club activities once again.

Mary Callaghan

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

The Revd. Peter Mitchell attended the September meeting and conducted a short service of thanks giving for our Harvest Festival. A lovely arrangement of fruit, vegetables, and flowers was donated by members. The produce was afterwards sold and the money made donated to Badsey Church.

A delegate and our Standard Bearer will attend the County Conference at the Guildhall, Worcester on 22nd October.

Thanks were received from the Flower Show Committee for the good effort made by members at the show.

A competition for a Victoria Sponge was won by Mrs Brown. The monthly draw was won by Mrs Westmacote.

M. Morcombe

THE ARCTIC FELLOWSHIP

A number of members of the congregation subscribed towards a donation to the Church in the Arctic, in support of Bobby Nakoolak, and a cheque for £50 has been sent to the Treasurer of the Arctic Fellowship at Leicester.

A receipt has been received, together with a letter thanking all those who contributed to this donation, which is on display on the notice board in church.

A.V.C. Owen

MISSION NOTES

Not many weeks pass when the tensions in the Holy Land between Israel and her Arab and Palestinian neighbours are not in the news. A 'Christians in Contact' cassette tape from the Church Missionary Society recently provided some interesting background information to the present troubles.

First, the extent of Israel's oppression of the occupied West Bank territories and Gaza Strip area. In the West Bank, 88% of the population is still Palestinian and Arab, whilst in the Gaza Strip the proportion is even higher, 99%. Yet, illegally, arbitrarily and sometimes ruthlessly Israel now controls both areas.

Secondly, today the majority of Christians in the Holy Land are Arabs and Palestinians. There are very few Jewish Christians although there is a growing peace movement within Israel that wishes to exchange land for peace.

As Christians ourselves, we have the anomaly of looking to Israel and the Jewish people for the historical and geographical origins of our faith and our understanding of God revealed in Jesus Christ (himself a Jew and one who lived in the Holy Land) yet spiritually being more akin to our Christian brothers and sisters who are mainly Arabs and Palestinians. People who live in a state of constant crisis and suffering yet who hold on in faith to the love and reconciliation preached and practiced by Jesus Christ, the gospel of love and reconciliation for which he suffered and died and rose again from the dead.

In the parish letter last month we thought of the Church and of our Christian bretheren in Korea. It is hoped these notes will help us in our understanding of our Christian bretheren in the Holy Land today. The land of the Bible. The land of Jesus.

PDM

The Friends of Worcester Cathedral thank all who supported the fund raising effort at 1 Binyon Close. £113 was raised for the Appeal Fund.

WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

A Christmas Bingo is being held in the Village Hall on Thursday 24th November at 7.45 p.m.

We will be most grateful for any prizes donated for this event.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The October meeting was a great success with 41 members attending and enjoying a most interesting and informative talk by Mr Edward Cox of Malvern on the work of the R.S.P.B.

Next meeting on Wednesday 2nd November is the A.G.M! Light refreshments will be served after the meeting.

The Christmas Party has been arranged for December 10th, there will be no meeting on December 3rd.

CREAM TEAS

With the close of yet another highly successful season of "Cream Teas", the P.C.C. would like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way in helping to supplement the income of the Church in Wickhamford and also conveying the sense of a more than averagely united and friendly community to those who visit our village.

This year there have been new helpers, and we are always grateful for any assistance you can give either to bake a cake or help on a Sunday afternoon.

Thank you all - your time, effort and expenditure are greatly valued and appreciated.

“Thank you”

As members of the Baptist community in Evesham we would like to express a word of hearty appreciation for the most enjoyable Harvest Supper on September 22nd. The hard work, thought and careful preparation were obvious and the “cabaret” provided by the Sunday School children was delightful. Thank you, workers and children.

F & D Hands

WICKHAMFORD W.I.

Mrs Pat Bell presided over our October meeting, which included discussion on the resolution to be voted upon at the Council Meeting when Mrs Denny King is to be our delegate. Several outings are in the pipeline and members were asked to put their names down for the County Shopping Trip to Chester, the Group Meeting at Childswickham and, looking forward to Christmas, for our annual dinner. A skittles evening has been arranged at Norton Grange which promises to be a most enjoyable event.

Mr Eric Tyler was welcomed to the meeting and enthralled everyone with his tapestry work which has become part of his everyday life, spending several hours every day and producing the most splendid work. The vote of thanks was given by Denny King.

The competitions were again well supported. The winners being Elaine Litterick and Adelaide Waldron. November brings us to the end of another successful and enjoyable year and nominations were taken for our new committee. Mrs Betty Padmore will be our visiting V.C.O. who will preside over our elections.

S. Bearcroft

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Wickhamford Gardening Club's AGM on 5th October was chaired by Mrs Astley the Club's President standing in for the Chairman. Two new committee members were elected, Mrs Beryl Stratton and Mrs Jasmine Halling, to take the place of Mr C.J. Freeman and Mrs B. Peberdy who were standing down.

Now is the time to plant containers with bulbs to brighten the windowsill during the winter months and the garden later on. Club members were entertained by slides and an enjoyable talk by Mr Colin Hill of Hills Nurseries on how to select and achieve the best results from bulb planting; in particular remembering to plant deep enough, twice the depth of bulb size being a good guide, and to select bulbs which are firm and well matured.

The competition of four mixed vegetables was won by Mrs Stone, 2nd Mr Tayler, 3rd Mrs Stratton.

The club's outing in September was to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, a prime example of what can be achieved on a few acres in the centre of a city with fine tropical and sub tropical houses. The club was fortunate to have a past curator of the Botanical Gardens acting as a guide.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 2nd November with a talk on ivies and ferns by Mrs Ursula Key-Davis of Fibrex Nurseries.

B.S. Peberdy

Badsey with Aldington Parish Council Notice.

With the kind permission of the Postmaster arrangements have been made for a copy of the Parish Council agenda to be made available for public inspection in the Post Office. The Council are also arranging for a supply of local bus timetables to be provided as well.

Thank You - Badsey Church

The PCC wishes to thank Miss Norah Smith for arranging with Mr Bill Moore for the re-staining of the church floor. It has greatly enhanced the appearance of the church and facilitated the cleaning. Thank you again. As always it is much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE EVENING

The Vicarage - in aid of Badsey Church Funds, Thursday 1st December 1988 7 - 9 p.m.

Coffee and mince pies, bring and buy, raffle.

Tickets 35p from members of the Social Committee

WORCESTER DIOCESAN

BOARD FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

wishes to appoint a

FAMILY LIFE OFFICER

who will work part-time in association with a deacon
who will have a similar part-time appointment

* * *

If you are interested in issues to do with family life, personal relationships and individuality, and want to help the Board promote Christian awareness and understanding in the lives of individuals and families within our society; and if you have experience or accreditation, please send for a job description and application form from:-

The Rev John Quill - Social Responsibility Officer

The Old Palace

Deansway

Worcester

WR1 2JE

Tel: 0905 20537/8

The closing date is 5th December 1988

Christian Crackers

One day a Vicar was doing his rounds in a geriatric ward of the local hospital with his notebook in his hand. He approached one lady in bed who called out, "Don't come to me, I'm insured with the Co-op"!

Mother Love

It was a 102 year old lady who was asked if she had any worries and replied "Not since I got my eldest son into an old peoples home"