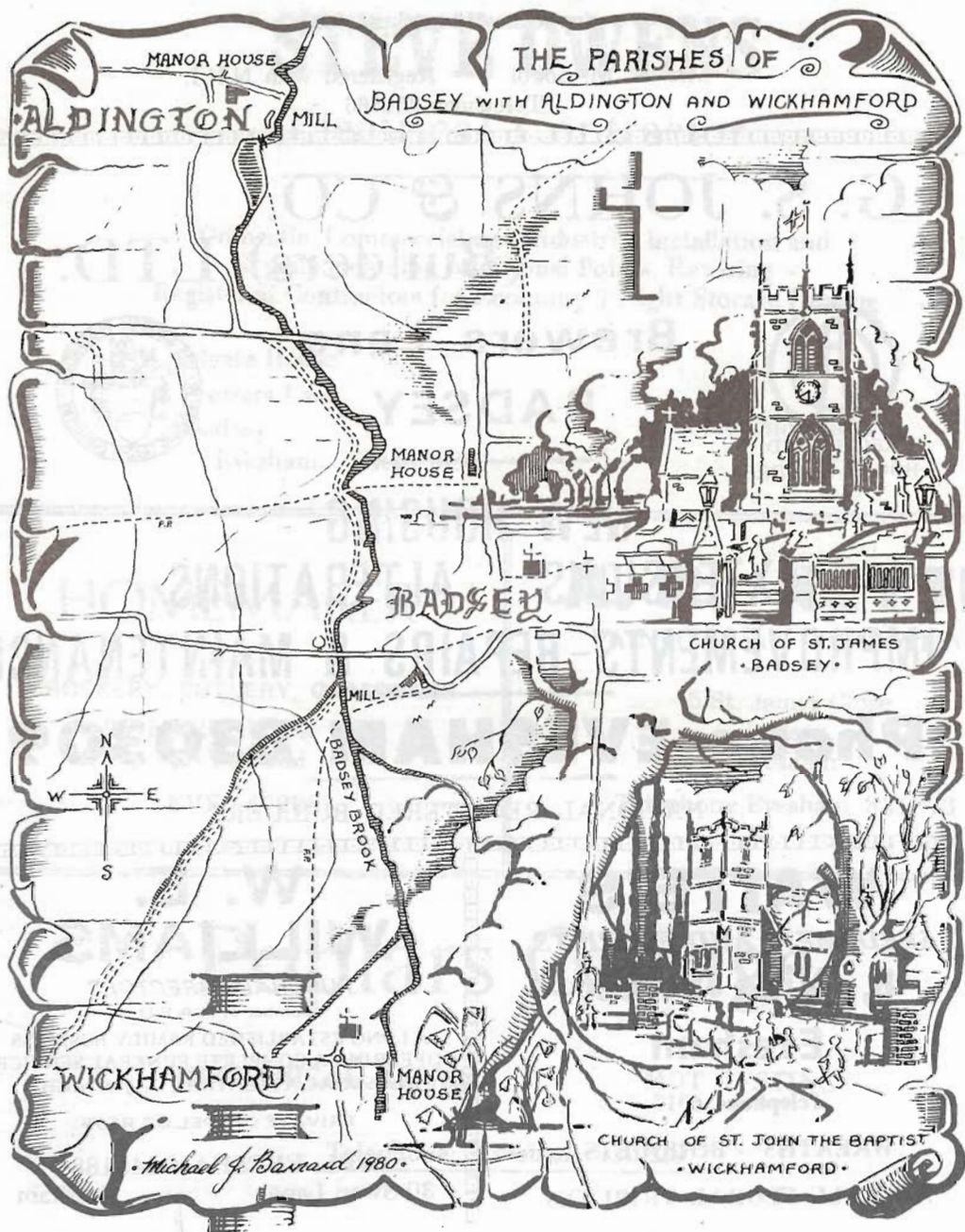


PARISH REVIEW

20p

FEBRUARY 1989



The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington, and Wickhamford

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

February 1989

My dear Friends,

"Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me
by sacrifice" Psalm 50. v 5

Badsey and Aldington Church Urban Fund Lent Appeal

Last November I wrote of the Church Urban Fund and of the amount each parish had been asked if it would give towards the Evesham Deanery target of £18,000 by Easter of this year.

Since then there has been a most encouraging response.

Wickhamford has met its total, £463, in full by grants from the PCC funds whilst in Badsey and Aldington almost £740 has been given or promised towards its total of £1387, leaving a balance of £648 still outstanding.

At its meeting on the 12th January, Badsey PCC decided that rather than try and raise this amount by even more fund raising efforts, it would appeal to church members and parishioners through the Parish Review to give directly to the Fund.

Accordingly, this month I am writing to the parishes of Badsey with Aldington on behalf of the PCC to ask if they will do just this. If they will give to the Church Urban Fund and achieve the target of £1387 by Easter Day. Donations may be given in full or promised over a certain period of time, i.e. so much over a certain number of weeks, months, or even as long as three or four years. It doesn't matter which, just so long as it is given or promised by Easter. Furthermore, if

desired, the amount promised can be adjusted once the overall target has been reached, should there be those who for any reason do not wish to give more, although it is hoped people will give to meet the need rather than just to reach the target.

If you pay Income Tax at the standard rate of 25%, one of the best ways to give is by Deed of Covenant. In this way, by promising to give so much over a period of four years, the Church Urban Fund is able to claim back from the Inspector of Taxes, another 33% of the amount promised. If for any reason you are unable to continue with the payments once you have made such a covenant, a person is in no way legally bound to continue. It only means that from then on the Church Urban Fund is no longer able to claim the tax back from the Inspector of Taxes and may have to refund any tax already received.

Just to show how effective giving by covenant can be, if only 12 people in Badsey with Aldington each promise to give and to covenant £10 a year for 4 years, the balance of £648 will virtually be met. An undertaking that surely should be well within the capacity of the two parishes.

If you would like to participate in this Lent Appeal for the Church Urban Fund between now and Easter, please give your name, address and telephone number either to myself or to Mr R Gregory as soon as possible, and we will contact you personally. Please do not send any money yet, until we have agreed with you how much and how often you would like to give and whether you would like to enter into a covenant. Also if you would like whatever you give to go to the Fund regardless of whether the target is reached, bearing in mind there will always be other very deserving causes. Needless to say everything arranged will be in the strictest confidence.

I believe there are four reasons why we should give to the Church Urban Fund. First, because we know our Christian brothers and sisters are in need. A need that is very close at hand. Secondly, in thanksgiving and gratitude for the many blessings we have received. For health, for homes, for food, for family life, for happiness, but above all for our faith and our church. For something to believe in and to live our lives by. In thanksgiving, that through Christ's own coming, through his life, sacrifice and glorious resurrection we too can share in the life that is eternal, both in this world and in the life that is to come. The more grateful we are the more generous we become.

Thirdly, in good faith. That those who have launched this Appeal, have done so in good faith and will use whatever we give for the furtherance of Christ's kingdom here on earth. That His will may indeed be done on earth as it is in heaven. One example is to be seen in the Special Worcester Diocesan News Church Urban Fund Issue of the Winter 1988/89. The Fund has made a grant towards the financing of a community worker to serve in the St Thomas Community in Dudley. A parish in which the late Canon Eric Smart, Vicar of All Saints, Evesham, devoted so much of his life and ministry.

And lastly, the need of the giver to give. Because through our giving to others we become better people ourselves. We become better Christians. We become a better Church. We become more caring, more loving, more Christ-like. More like the Master we claim to love and serve.

If you live in Badsey or Aldington and would like to join in this special Lent Appeal for the Church Urban Fund, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mr R Gregory, tel. Evesham 830545, as soon as possible.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar
Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - FEBRUARY

St. James, Badsey

2nd Presentation of Christ in the Temple	09.00 am Holy Communion	
5th 7 before Easter	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
8th Ash Wednesday	10.00 am Holy Communion (1662)	7.00 pm Evensong & Litany
12th 1 in Lent	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
19th 2 in Lent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
26th 3 in Lent	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
March		
5th 4 in Lent and Mothering Sunday	11.00 am Special Mothering Sunday Service	6.30 pm Evensong
12th 5 in Lent	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
Mid Week Communion: February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and March 1st, 8th & 15th		

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

5th 7 before Easter	09.30 am The Eucharist
8th Ash Wednesday	09.00 am The Eucharist
12th 1 in Lent	09.30 am The Eucharist

19th 2 in Lent	09.30 am The Eucharist
26th 3 in Lent	11.00 am Family Service
March	
5th 4 in Lent & Mothering Sunday	09.30 am The Eucharist
12th 5 in Lent	09.30 am The Eucharist

Sunday Themes

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
5 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom: The Victory of the Cross

Lectionary

5th 7 before Easter	Philemon 1-16	Numbers 15 27-36
	Mark 2 13-17	John 8 1-11
12th 1 in Lent	Hebrews 2 14-end	Deuteronomy 6
	Matthew 4 1-11	Hebrews 4
19th 2 in Lent	1 John 4 1-6	Isaiah 35
	Luke 19 41-end	Luke 11 14-26
26th 3 in Lent	Col. 1 24-end	Isaiah 45 14-end
	Luke 9 18-27	Acts 12 1-17a
March		
5th 4 in Lent & Mothering Sunday	2 Cor 3 4-end	1 Kings 19 1-18
	Luke 9 28-36	2 Peter 1 1-19
12th 5 in Lent	Col. 2 8-15	Jeremiah 31 27-37
	John 12 20-32	Mark 10 32-45

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	
15th Jan	Emma and Mark Laight, daughter and son of Michael and Jane Laight of 30 Badsey Fields Lane, Badsey
	Christopher James, son of Kevin Greening and Andrea Agg of Fairfield, Aldington

- Weddings "God is love, and those who live in love live
in God: and God lives in them"
- Badsey
14th Jan Leslie John Evans and Sharon Bryant
- Funerals Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life,
whoever believes in me will live even though
he dies"
- Badsey
23rd Dec Ian Robert Ross of 48 Manor Close, Badsey
aged 41 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)
George, still born son of Dennis Berrie and
Lindsay Merriman, of 2 Peartree Corner,
Bowers Hill (at Badsey)
- 11th Jan Constance Juliet Robinson of 7 Cedar Close,
Badsey, aged 80 years (at Badsey and
Worcester)

DONATIONS

Badsey

To the Heart Association for Midland Hospitals, in memory of
Ian Robert Ross - £345.86 (Collection in Church)
From Mr and Mrs A.C. Lewis, £100, towards church funds. In
memory of Constance Juliet Robinson - £139.76 - towards
church funds (Collection in Church)

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- Thur 2 Feb Evesham Deanery Synod - 7.30 pm. St Richard's
Hall, Fairfield
- Fri 3 Feb Madeira and Mince Pie Evening - Mrs C Print
42 Seward Road, in aid of church funds
(not a Coffee Evg as previously advertised)
- Thur 9 Feb Finance and General Purposes Sub Committee
Meeting - Badsey Church - 8 pm
- Fri 24 Feb Social Committee - 7.15 pm 7 School Lane, Badsey
- Tue 21 Feb Badsey PCC - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
- Wed 8 Mar Wickhamford AGM - 7.30 pm Memorial Hall

Parish Review - March Issue - latest date for copy, Wednesday
15th February.

Revision of Church Electoral Rolls

The revision of Wickhamford Church Electoral Roll will take place from the 12th - 21st February inclusive prior to the AGM on Wednesday, 8th March.

The revision of Badsey Church Electoral Roll will take place from the 26th March - 3rd April inclusive prior to the AGM on Tuesday 18th April.

LENT - 1989

The series of Bible Study and Discussion Evenings for Lent announced in the January Parish Review, will begin on Thursday, 16th February at the Vicarage, at 8 pm. The next two meetings, on Thursday the 23rd February and 9th March, will be held at 31 Seward Road, at the kind invitation of Mrs E Seaman. The final meeting will be on the 16th March at the Vicarage. Would those expecting to come to the first meeting please let the Vicarage know two or three days beforehand.

Church Army Collection Boxes

The total amount received for 1988 was £84.95, another encouraging increase on the previous year's total.

The Church Army is in the front line of evangelical outreach in often the most difficult and demanding circumstances. It is work that can require real courage, fortitude and faith from those who answer the call to undertake it.

Thank you again to all who support the work of the Church Army through the Collection Boxes.

PDM

CHRISTIAN AID

I need some help in organising the Christian Aid Collection in May 1989. With the populations of Badsey growing, I also need some more collectors. Offers of help will be gratefully received. Tel. 831548.

E. Seaman

MOTHERS UNION

The meeting on 10th January commenced with the Hymn "Breathe on me Breath of God" the choice of Miss N. Smith. Prayers were taken by the Enrolling Member. The talk which followed was given by Mrs Ingrid Chestnutt who gave us a short history of the M.U. SCHEME A.F.I.A. "Away from it all" which provides holidays for those who would otherwise be unable to have one. She went on to tell us about the use of the M.U. Caravan at Harvington in 1988 and said that there were vacancies for

cleaners. M.U. members clean the caravan every week and it works out as a 'once a year' job, on a Saturday morning. She was very modest about her own involvement which includes working out the annual rota and being the collecting station for the laundry. She was thanked by Mrs J. Betteridge. It was good to see Mrs. Q. Sharp back with us after her hip operation, also Mrs Crisp who had the 'flu before Christmas. We have very stalwart members!

Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday 1st February	Corporate Communion 10 am
Tuesday 14th February	2.30 pm Talk by Mrs A Lilley
Tuesday 28th February	7.30 pm Film of Overseas Visitors by Mrs Ann Rolt

E Seaman

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The January meeting was one of the most interesting afternoons we have had. Our speaker, Mr Henry King showed slides of old Evesham and these, along with his many anecdotes, evoked memories of our lovely old town. It was nice to look back but to compare with present day "improvements" painful! Our grateful thanks to Mr King for an excellent afternoon.

The next meeting is on Feb 1st when Mrs Esme Seaman will be showing slides of holidays in England. This should prove to be a very entertaining as well as informative afternoon.

Prior Notice

The MARCH meeting will begin at 2 p.m. when St Egwin's School Choir will entertain us. Friends and prospective members are very welcome to join us for these meetings. There will be a small charge of 25p to include tea and biscuits. Please come along I am sure you will enjoy yourselves.

Mary Callaghan

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

At the December meeting members were served with Sherry or Wine and mince pies. Everyone got into the Christmas Spirit. The competition was the most attractive Christmas Parcel which was won by Mrs Taylor. Afterwards the parcels were bought by members for 50p.

The monthly draw had numerous prizes which were won by members. Plans were made for the Annual Dinner which takes place on January 27th. Names were taken for the Group Meeting to be held at Littleton on January 31st.

M Morcombe

MR D.A. JELFS

We are sorry to learn of the death of Douglas Jelfs, formerly of Badsey and Aldington, which took place on 22nd December 1988 at his home near Blackpool, where he had lived for the past 5 years. He was 78. Doug Jelfs was closely connected with the community life of our Parish for many years, being Clerk to the Parish Council for over half a century and also Clerk to the Wickhamford Parish Council for 17 years. He was a P.C.C. member and a sidesman at Badsey Church, gave long service to the Royal British Legion and the Flower Show, and in his younger days was a playing member of both the Football and Cricket Clubs. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

T.S.

BADSEY RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

1989-90 will be the club's centenary season and to commemorate this event the club will be publishing a small book, written by Terry Sparrow. It is expected that copies will be on sale shortly before Christmas 1989. The price is likely to be around £3 but, for those wishing to support the venture still further, Subscriber's Copies will be available at £5 each. A list of subscribers will be included in the book. Anyone who is interested is invited to contact Terry Sparrow by 31st March.

MISSION NOTES THE GULF STATES

The southern States of the Gulf have become almost unbelievably rich. One of them, Qatar domestically generates the equivalent of 16,500 dollars per head per year. Since 1973 the Arab oil-producing East has earned some 1½ trillion dollars but now with the fall in oil prices, recession has hit hard. In all the Arab states the percentage of Muslim population is well over 90% with the highest Christian population, just under 6% being in Qatar and the lowest, 0.4% in Oman. Bahrain, a group of low lying islands the largest of which is Bahrain itself, is traditionally the site of the Garden of Eden. The Islamic faith finds no distinction between religious and political power, and is hostile to the idea of a nation founded upon anything other than the Qur'an. The message of Iran to all Muslims is "Return to Islam".

It may come as a surprise to discover that there are churches in the Gulf States, but in fact the Christian Church has been there for many centuries. By the end of the 2nd Century AD the

Mesopotamian and Parthian Church had more than twenty dioceses, including centres around the Gulf such as Basra, Qatar and Ahwaz. This 'Church of the East', today called the Assyrian Church which exists in Iraq and Iran contained many Christians in the first seven centuries of the Christian era, and seems to have been the area from which the Gospel spread to places further east, such as India in the early centuries and China in the seventh.

Most Islamic states do not permit open evangelism and this law has to be scrupulously respected. In the light of this, the Christian standard of conduct in work and in personal relationships is usually the best form of testimony. In the field of international affairs, one example has been how well the Royal Navy's Armilla Patrol has accomplished its tasks in the Gulf in recent months. At a time of considerable international tension and risk the Patrol has gone about its work, unobtrusively, effectively, and without becoming involved in any major incident. In so doing it has won the respect and admiration of many of the Arab states.

But in Iran the picture is more depressing. The churches are becoming more isolated and walled in. Foreign pastors who befriend national Christians and establish harmless contact with local churches are being turned out without being given any reason. Defeatism is in the air, but the Episcopal Church is carrying on as best it can under the circumstances and speaking on the phone, the tone of the Assistant Bishop reveals trust and joy. He says our tiny church has to live under smoke and fire and this they are doing gallantly, with a deep trust in the final victory of truth and love, no matter how weak it seems now. It is to be hoped that the improvement in relations between Iran and the West may lead to an easing of the life for the Christian Church in Iran.

PDM

WICKHAMFORD W.I.

Our new President, Sue Bearcroft, opened the January meeting, welcoming members. Secretary Jenny Tweney read the minutes. A birthday buttonhole was presented to Kathy Mallard. After the business of the meeting was completed members enjoyed a very interesting talk on Hypnosis given by Mr D. Dennick. The vote of thanks was given by Hazel Cole. Refreshments were then served by Jane Bailey, Muriel Bastow and Hazel Cole. The monthly flower competition was won by Pat Bell, second Rosemary Hendrick and third Kathy Mallard. Some lovely

Christmas cards had been displayed by members. Mrs Gunn won this competition closely followed by Wendy Collett. Pam Corbett organised a competition on advertisements in magazines. This proved to be quite difficult and there had to be a tie breaker which was won by Diane Maden. Arrangements were made for the next skittles match. Our next meeting will be on February 9th at 7.30 pm at Wickhamford Memorial Hall when Peggy Hancock will be giving a talk on Pressed Flower Design. Visitors and new members will be most welcome.

Pat Clinton

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, WICKHAMFORD P.C.C.

On Wednesday the 8th March the Annual General Meeting of the PCC will be held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm.

Reports will be given on the work of the Church and Sunday School, on the fabric and maintenance of the Building and on the Finances - both the source of our income and how it is used.

It would be very encouraging to the P.C.C. if members of the Parish attended this meeting and took the opportunity to join in any discussions and make constructive comments.

REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD P.C.C. MEETING JANUARY 11TH 1989

A letter from Mrs Pat Poulter was read regarding the present position with the kneeler covers being worked. There are seven to be made up in the near future and a meeting of the group will be called.

A discussion on family services which are designed to suit people of all ages, showed that they were enjoyed by those who did attend. More involvement of children within the present structure of our services was difficult without more preparation, but encouragement to do so was very important. A Baptismal Candlestand to commemorate the life of Alice Cox, has been chosen and a faculty applied for from the Diocese. Quotations have been received for the replacement of the Electrical wiring in the Church. Consideration was given to all aspects of electrical appliances so that a comprehensive system is installed.

The next confirmation at Wickhamford will probably be on or near, 27th June 1990. It was hoped to keep it to a weekend because of the importance of god parents attending who might live some distance away.

It was felt that Cream Teas could be provided by Village hall

committee members, for coach parties during the week, which would not affect Sunday Cream Teas, for Church funds. It was emphasised that the income derived from them had formed a very necessary part of the church's income. The AGM will be held on March 8th when it is hoped as many parishioners as possible, will attend.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The New Year started off with a most interesting and amusing talk by Mrs Bess Cummins, when we were joined by 3 new members.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 1st February, when the speaker will be Mr Bernard Hardy from Wychavon District Council.

WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

The coach to Birmingham Hippodrome to see Russ Abbot in Jack & the Beanstalk on Wednesday 22nd February is now full, but if anyone would like their names on the reserve list in case of cancelations, please let us know at the Post Office or tell Mrs P. Sutton. The coach will leave at 1 pm prompt.

CHRISTIAN CRACKERS

The Wedding Music chosen by two young people who were both vegetarians included the voluntary, "Sheep may safely graze".

A little boy watched as his Grannie sat reading her Bible. "Why are you doing that Grannie?" he asked. "I'm swotting for my Finals" came the reply.