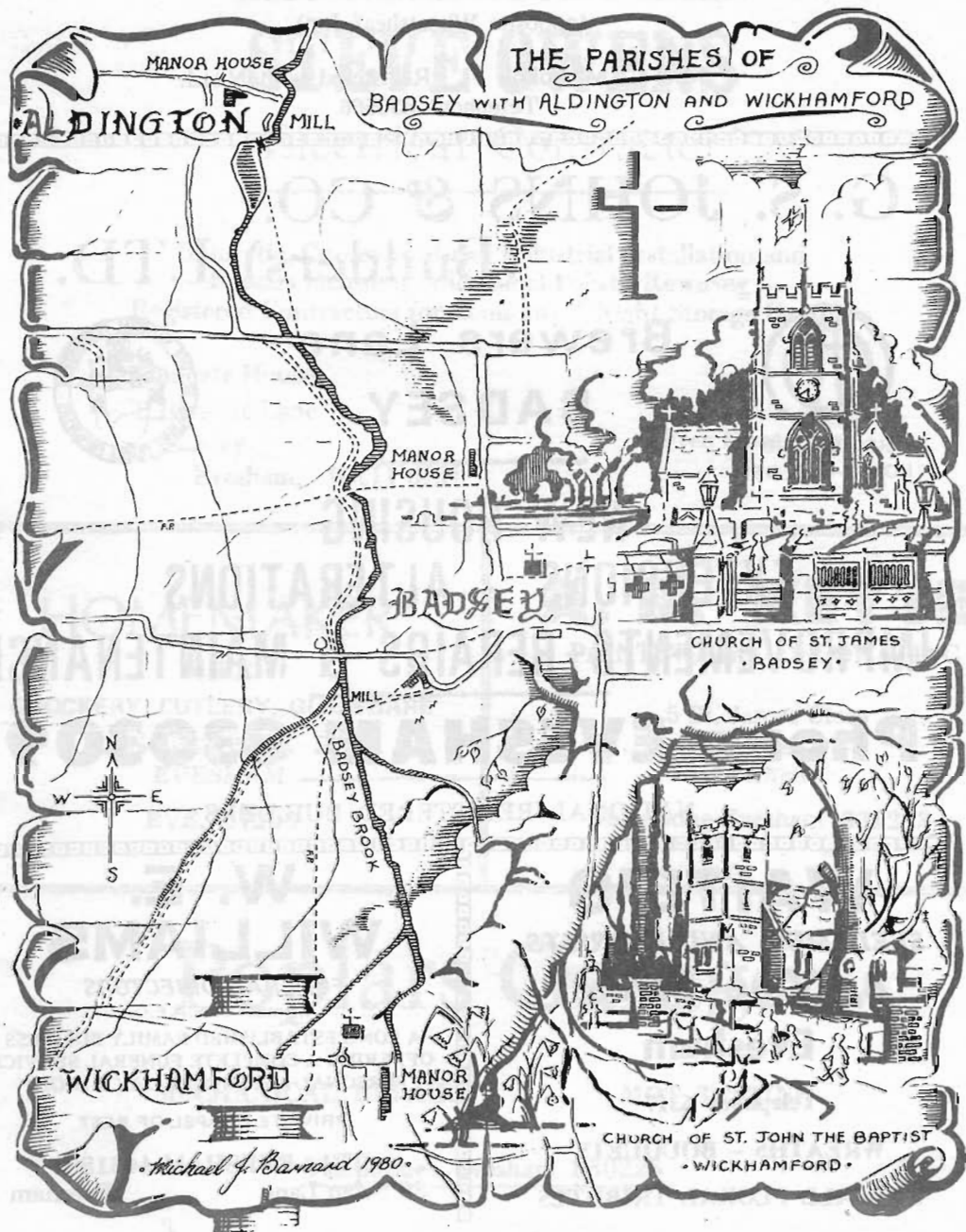


PARISH REVIEW

20p

DECEMBER 1989



The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington, and Wickhamford

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

December 1989

My dear Friends,

Few people have been unmoved by the momentous events taking place in East Germany and East Berlin. The whole balance of power in Central Europe has suddenly begun to change. The breaking down of the Berlin Wall and opening up of crossing places to the West has heralded a new freedom for those living in the East. It is not without significance that this quest for freedom has been associated with the churches in Eastern Europe. First in Poland, now in East Germany, and even in Russia itself. The Baltic Republics, Hungary and Czechoslovakia are caught up in the same movement. The reunification of the two Germanys has become a possibility, if not immediately, then certainly at sometime in the future. If and when this should happen, then new alliances, new groupings, political, economic and military will have to be established for the future stability and peace of Europe to be as firmly secured during the next forty years as it has been since the end of the Second World War.

But within this new found freedom is a dangerous temptation to which Europe has already fallen prey twice this century at terrible cost to itself. A temptation that could undermine such freedom from the very outset. The temptation to pursue policies of national power and self aggrandisement to the detriment of ones neighbours. The temptation for man to become as God, his own God.

Within the church it is here we encounter the paradox of the Christian Gospel and the message of Christmas. The message of the divine humility breaking in upon the sin of human pride. As Bishop Michael Ramsey said in one of his books, "If Man has lost the power to humble himself before his Creator, the Creator will humble himself towards his creatures". It is in the humility of Christ born as an infant child in the lowly stable at Bethlehem that we are saved from the sin of human pride, and enter with Christ upon the true life of freedom and peace. Freedom to be ourselves. Freedom to be the kind of people God intends us to be. Freedom to live in love and peace with God and with each other.

"So" says Bishop Ramsey, "the divine humility breaks upon the scene of human pride. Bethlehem, Calvary, the feet washing at the Last Supper, all say 'he who humbles himself will be exalted' As Christians we are called to follow the example of Christ. A Christian is a person who is humble, because they know God, and who knows God because they are humble."

At Christmas the divine humility of Christ is revealed. A humility that points the way to life and peace, peace on earth and goodwill towards men. The pursuit of human pride and self aggrandisement, on the other hand, whether in Europe or elsewhere does just the opposite. On the national and international scene the consequences can be something far worse.

Let us pray at this Christmastide, that the humility of Christ may dwell in all our hearts, and that his love and peace may spread throughout Europe and the world he came to save.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,
Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - DECEMBER

St James', Badsey

3rd 1 in Advent	11.00am Christingle Service	6.30pm Evensong
10th 2 in Advent	08.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
17th 3 in Advent	11.00am Said Eucharist	6.30pm Carol Service
24th Christmas Eve	08.00am Holy Communion	11.30pm Midnight Communion
25th Christmas Day	08.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Childrens Christmas Morning Service 11.45am Holy Communion	

31st Sunday after Christmas January 1990	08.00am Holy Communion	4.00pm Said Evensong
6th Epiphany	09.00am Holy Communion	
7th Epiphany 1	11.00am Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
14th Epiphany 2	08.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
Mid Week Communion: 6th, 13th, 20th December 3rd and 10th January 1990		
There will be no mid week Eucharist on 27th December.		

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

3rd 1 in Advent	09.30am The Eucharist	
10th 2 in Advent	09.30am The Eucharist	
17th 3 in Advent	09.30am The Eucharist	3.00pm Carol Service
24th Christmas Eve	09.30am The Eucharist (said)	
25th Christmas Day	09.30am The Eucharist	
31st Sunday after Christmas January 1990	09.30am The Eucharist	
7th Epiphany 1	09.30am The Eucharist	
14th Epiphany 2	09.30am The Eucharist	

Lectionary

1 in Advent	Romans 13 8-end Matt 25 31-end	Isaiah 52 1-12 1 Thess 5
2 in Advent	Romans 15 4-13 Luke 4 14-21	1 Samuel 28 3-20 2 Timothy 3.14-4.8
3 in Advent	Philippians 4.4-9 Matt 11 2-15	-
Christmas Eve	Rev 21 1-7 Matt 1 18-23 Midnight Communion, Badsey 1 John 4 7-14 Luke 2 8-20	
Christmas Day	Heb 1 1-5 John 1 1-14	
Sunday after Christmas January 1990	Romans 12 1-8 Luke 2 22-40	Ruth 2 1-20a; 4 3-17 Romans 1 1-17
Epiphany 1	Ephesians 2 1-10 John 1 29-34	1 Samuel 16 1-13a Matt 3
Epiphany 2	Gal 1 11-end John 1 35-end	Jeremiah 1 4-end Luke 5 1-11

Sunday Themes

Advent 1 The Advent Hope
Advent 2 The Word of God in the Old Testament
Advent 3 The Forerunner
Advent 4 and Christmas Eve
 The Annunciation

Christmas Day

Sunday after Christmas

 The Incarnation

Epiphany 1 Revelation: The Baptism of Jesus

Epiphany 2 Revelation: The First Disciples

PARISH REGISTERS

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

Badsey Ralph James Wretham of 24, Binyon Close, Badsey aged 68 years (at Badsey)

DONATIONS

Badsey To the Church Fabric Fund, from the family of the late Mr and Mrs P Brazier of The Laurels, Badsey - £250.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sat Dec 2 Worcester Cathedral Appeal - Gift Service
 Worcester Cathedral 4.00pm - 5.15pm.

Tues Dec 12 Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers AGM
 Badsey Church - 8.00pm.

Thurs Dec 14 Finance and General Purposes Meeting
 Badsey Church - 8.00pm.

Fri Jan 5 Social Committee - 7, School Lane - 7.15pm.

Wed Jan 10 Wickhamford PCC - Memorial Hall - 7.30pm.

Tues Jan 16 Badsey PCC - Badsey Church - 7.30 pm.

Thurs Jan 18 Wickhamford Flower Festival Committee Meeting
 Gallipot House, Broadway - 7.30pm.

Parish Review - January issue - latest date for copy:
 Wednesday, 13th December.

Badsey Church - Christmas Decorations

The decoration of Badsey Church for Christmas will take place on Saturday, 23rd December from 9.30 am onwards. Gifts of flowers, evergreen and offers of help will be very welcome. Donations towards the Christmas Decorations will also be most welcome and may be given to Mrs Hazel Stewart.

Church Army Collection Boxes

Church Army Collection boxes should be given to the Vicar as soon as possible in the New Year. New collectors are always welcome and boxes may be obtained from the Vicarage. The work of the Church Army is especially concerned with evangelical outreach to the underprivileged and deprived areas of our society today. It is always very challenging work and sometimes dangerous. The need will always be there. Please give it your prayers and support.

Parish Review - 1990

Subscriptions for the Parish Review are due in January and once again we would like to thank our subscribers, distributors and advertisers for their valuable support. The price of the Review, 20p a copy or 2.40 for a year's subscription will remain unchanged. We feel it is still very good value for money. Copy and notices for publication each month are welcome and can nearly always be accepted. Thank you for your support during 1989. We hope it will continue in 1990.

BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

The meeting on 24th October began with the hymn "The Lord's my Shepherd", the choice of Mrs Joyce Hesketh, and Mrs J Ives took the prayers.

After the minutes, Mrs J Betteridge gave an account of the Diocesan Council Meeting, and Mrs Seaman described the week-end for enrolling members at Holland House. The speaker was Mrs Dorothea Sainsbury, helped by her husband Stuart. They told us about their visit to Russia, Mr Sainsbury describing the journey and the immense distances covered, and something of the geography of this huge country. Mrs Sainsbury told us of the warm and friendly family with whom they stayed, nothing was too much trouble, and when the Sainsburys mentioned that they were vegetarians, meat vanished from the table, and lovely vegetarian meals appeared instead. The shops were drab and dull and the clothes very dear and not very fashionable. But 1,500 churches have re-opened in Russia and the people flock to them. Some members of the family have been allowed to visit England and stayed with the Sainsburys', so a new link of friendship with Russia has been forged. Names were taken for the Carol Concert at the Arts Centre on 16th December.

At the meeting on 14th November Hymn 129, "Lord Jesus think on me", the choice of Mrs Bowles was sung, and Mrs Bell took the

prayers. There was a letter from Mrs Mary Wretham thanking members for their kindness and support during her husband's illness, and their sympathy in her bereavement. We shall all miss Ralph, but we have happy memories of his courage and faith, and cheerfulness. Mrs R Parry wrote thanking members for their cards and the flowers sent to her after her recent operation.

Names were taken for the visit to Mary Sumner House next April. Mrs Ives announced that the Childrens Society boxes made £294.77, an increase on last year, although there are fewer box-holders. It would be encouraging if a few more people could take a box to help in this very good cause. The speaker was Angela Lilley, and her subject was marriage. She said that it had changed very much over the last 50 years. The expectations of young people were much higher, and they saw their roles differently today. She spoke of divorce, and said that it was always painful, but sometimes preferable to children suffering from the atmosphere of an unhappy marriage, and she spoke from her own experience. It was a very thoughtful and interesting talk, and after questions and comments from members, she was thanked by Mrs J Watkins. Members are invited to bring their husbands to the service of Carols and Readings on 12th December.

May I wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas.

E. Seaman.

Dates for your Diaries

Wed 6th Dec. 10.00am M.U. Corporate Communion.

Tues 12th Dec. 2.30pm Service of Carols and Readings.

Sat 16th Dec. Carol Concert 7.30pm at the Arts Centre Evesham.

BADSEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Sandra Cudd, President, welcomed members and two visitors to our November meeting. The skittles team were runners up in the group competition. Well done ladies.

Mrs Seaman gave a report on the group meeting at Wickhamford and Mrs Haynes gave a report on the half-yearly council meeting at Worcester. The train outing next year is to be to Liverpool.

Our speaker for the evening was Mrs Humphrey on 'Women Like Us'. She gave an interesting talk together with slides on the lives of women in Third World Countries.

Mrs Yvonne Haynes won the raffle and the competition was won by Mrs G Cowley.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The November meeting was very well attended by members and friends. Our speaker was Mrs Anna Tucker, who with Mrs Esme Seaman, showed slides of Badsey events. Most of these went back about a quarter of a century and members had a great deal of fun spotting familiar faces (some now members of the Club!) These slides showed Badsey village as it was and this was most interesting, especially for the "old" Badsey people. Our grateful thanks to Mrs Tucker and Mrs Seaman for a very enjoyable afternoon.

It was especially nice to welcome Mrs Kate Cleaver to the Club again after her long illness.

The monthly free raffle was won by Mrs Turner and the fund raising raffle by Miss Smith.

Our Christmas Party this year will be held on Wednesday, 6th December, commencing at 2 o'clock. The entertainment will be provided by St Egwin's School Choir, and the Brownies and Guides will also be there to help with the festivities.

Again, on this occasion, the Christmas Draw will be free; and we shall round off the proceedings with our Christmas tea and iced cake. We hope that all our members will be able to join us on this now traditional afternoon, but to those who cannot be present we send our best wishes and hope they will be well for Christmas and able to join us in the New Year.

Mary Callaghan.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The Annual General Meeting was held at Legion Headquarters, apologies were taken and the minutes read. The President, Mrs Reeves, gave her address and the Treasurer, Mrs Grinnel, and the Secretary, Mrs Westmacote, gave their reports. Mrs Cyril, the Chairman, gave her address and thanked the committee and members for all the hard work and their support through the year.

All officers and committee were re-elected en block. Mrs Liz Harvey will still be Standard Bearer.

Mrs Cyril gave a short talk as a County Committee Member and she was pleased to announce we have won the 'Hubband Cup' for "Service to The Community".

The Wreath Bearer for Armistice Sunday was Mrs Jean Jelfs. The Competition for a spray of Autumn flowers was won by Mrs Osborne and the draw was won by Mrs Knight.

M Morcombe.

BADSEY SUNDAY SCHOOL

We would like to extend our grateful thanks to all those who helped and supported our Cream Tea Fayre on Saturday 28th October.

Despite the atrocious weather conditions we managed to raise £190.00 - a truly splendid effort! Many thanks to the mums who manned the stalls, those who braved the elements and those who were unable to make it, but gave generous donations.

The proceeds will go towards a party and a book gift for the children.

On Sunday 17th December the children will perform a Nativity Tableau during the Carol Service at St James Church. We will also be taking part in the Christingle Service on 3rd December.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Yvonne Haynes & Sheila Taylor.

Personal

Mary Wretham and her family would like to thank all the kind friends who gave them such comfort and support, both during Ralph's illness and in their loss of him. We are confident that all is well with him. Ralph and Mary came to Badsey almost three years ago and felt very privileged to be so quickly part of Badsey's friendly community.

Mary Wretham.

VILLAGE HISTORY

"A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington" was published 6 years ago. Copies are still available at the original price of £2 and may be obtained from TERRY SPARROW at 36 Brewers Lane, Badsey (telephone 831207). All proceeds to Church funds.

BADSEY RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

1989-90 is the club's centenary season and to commemorate the occasion the club has recently published a book which traces its history and achievements. Copies of this 56 page book (price £3.50) may be obtained from TERRY SPARROW at 36 Brewers Lane, Badsey, telephone 831207.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our meeting on Wednesday 1st November Mr John Callaghan, who was a Headmaster, gave a slide show and talk covering several visits to Denmark over past years with parties of local school children.

Our Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday 6th December.

WICKHAMFORD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The A.G.M. was held on November 9th when the V.C.O. for the evening was Mrs Toni Harris. Twelve members were voted onto the Committee and Mrs Sue Bearcroft will be President for a second year.

Birthday buttonholes were presented to Pat Bell, Hazel Cole, Connie Whiting and Jane Vacacopolus.

The raffle was won by Mrs J Gunn. Mrs B Bowles was 1st, Betty Steiner 2nd and Pat Bell 3rd in the flower competition.

The monthly competition entitled "A Good Excuse" was won by Rosemary Hendrick, 2nd Pat Bell and 3rd Betty Steiner.

Refreshments were served by Ann Soule, Kathy Mallard and Maisie Palmer. Mrs Sue Bearcroft organised social time in the form of a Quiz on Wild Flowers.

Pat Clinton

SALE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS

Once again we are able to congratulate Miss Holland on the successful sale of Christmas cards and gifts, which made a profit of £82.

This year the money has been donated to the Worcester Cathedral Appeal.

In recognition of this excellent result, a donation has been received to bring the total to £100.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club's monthly meeting was held in the Memorial Hall on the evening of Wednesday, 1 November.

Members and friends were entertained with a talk on "The Cotswold Way" by Mrs E A Stone and her mother, Mrs J E Blackburn, in which they recalled their experiences of October, 1987. Mrs Stone had then walked the path known as the Cotswold Way, starting her journey at Bath and ending it several days later at Chipping Campden. She was joined by different friends for certain stages of her walk, while her mother travelled by car to visit interesting villages and locations near to the route of the Cotswold Way, and intermittently met up with the walkers.

Despite one or two rainy and misty days, both speakers had been able to take a number of excellent photographs, which they displayed on slides to their audience. These gave a good idea of the actual journey on foot, with wonderful landscape views including the Malvern and Cotswold Hills, and of places of interest near the Cotswold Way, including well-known and lesser-known historic buildings and monuments. The ladies were afterwards thanked by Mr Hale, on behalf of their interested and appreciative audience.

The competition for the best gardening snapshot was won by Mrs Carradene, with Mrs Batchelor and Mrs Hadley second and third. Club members are reminded that their Christmas Social is to be held on the evening of Wednesday, 6 December. They will then be entertained by Christine Baron, with accordion, guitar, concertina, etc., who is excitingly billed as a "one-woman all-time variety act".

Mrs J Y Halling

REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD PCC MEETING NOV.15th

The Committee for the Flower Festival in 1990 was nominated. Preliminary arrangements for craft exhibits have already been made.

Our donations to Charities were reviewed and increased by £5. It was felt that the increasing number of special services should be kept under review and possibly raised by the Churchwardens in the questionnaire which precedes the Archdeacon's visitation in May.

Mrs Baker reported on the visit made to Worcester Cathedral by the Deanery Synod. A detailed tour revealed the extremely delicate nature of the deteriorating stonework and urgent repairs needed to preserve this majestic building. In fact the Queen has contributed to the Appeal Fund during her recent visit.

Proceeds from our game of 'Alleluia' or beat the Cathedral Beetle at the Harvest Supper raised £50 for this fund.

The Vicar said he was prepared to write on behalf of the PCC to Cox's Homes, expressing concern over their latest form of advertising, in which a picture of the church, printed the wrong way round, was used to promote the sale of their houses in Wickhamford. It was felt that such use of the church in this way was inappropriate.

A presentation to Mrs Bessie Astley for her 11 years as treasurer to the PCC was made by the Vicar. He expressed our sadness at losing her valuable services which had ensured a most efficient control of our finances. In her reply she said how much she had enjoyed her duties as treasurer and wished her successor, Mrs Carol Collis, well.

Christian Crackers

The Sign read "No Services on M 25". Underneath some wit had added "Vacancy for full time Priest".

Seen on a Church Notice Board "COME AND TALK TO THE LISTENING GOD, YOU CAN BANK ON HIM".

Parish Extras

Two little girls were playing at doctors and nurses. One said to the other, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a doctor and then I can be ill for nothing". The other little girl, not wishing to be outdone, retorted, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a minister, and then I can be good for nothing".

Don't be afraid to smile

On life's uncertain way,

It may be the only sunbeam

In someone's busy day

Don't be afraid to smile

On life's uneven track

One little smile from you

And many are smiling back.

He criticised her puddings and he didn't like her cake.

He wished she'd make the biscuits that his mother used to bake

She didn't wash the dishes and she didn't make the stew,

She didn't mend his socks as his mother used to do.

Oh! Well! She was not perfect, though she tried to do her best

Until at last she thought it was time she had a rest.

So one day when he said the same old rigmarole through

She turned and boxed his ears - just like his mother used to

do!