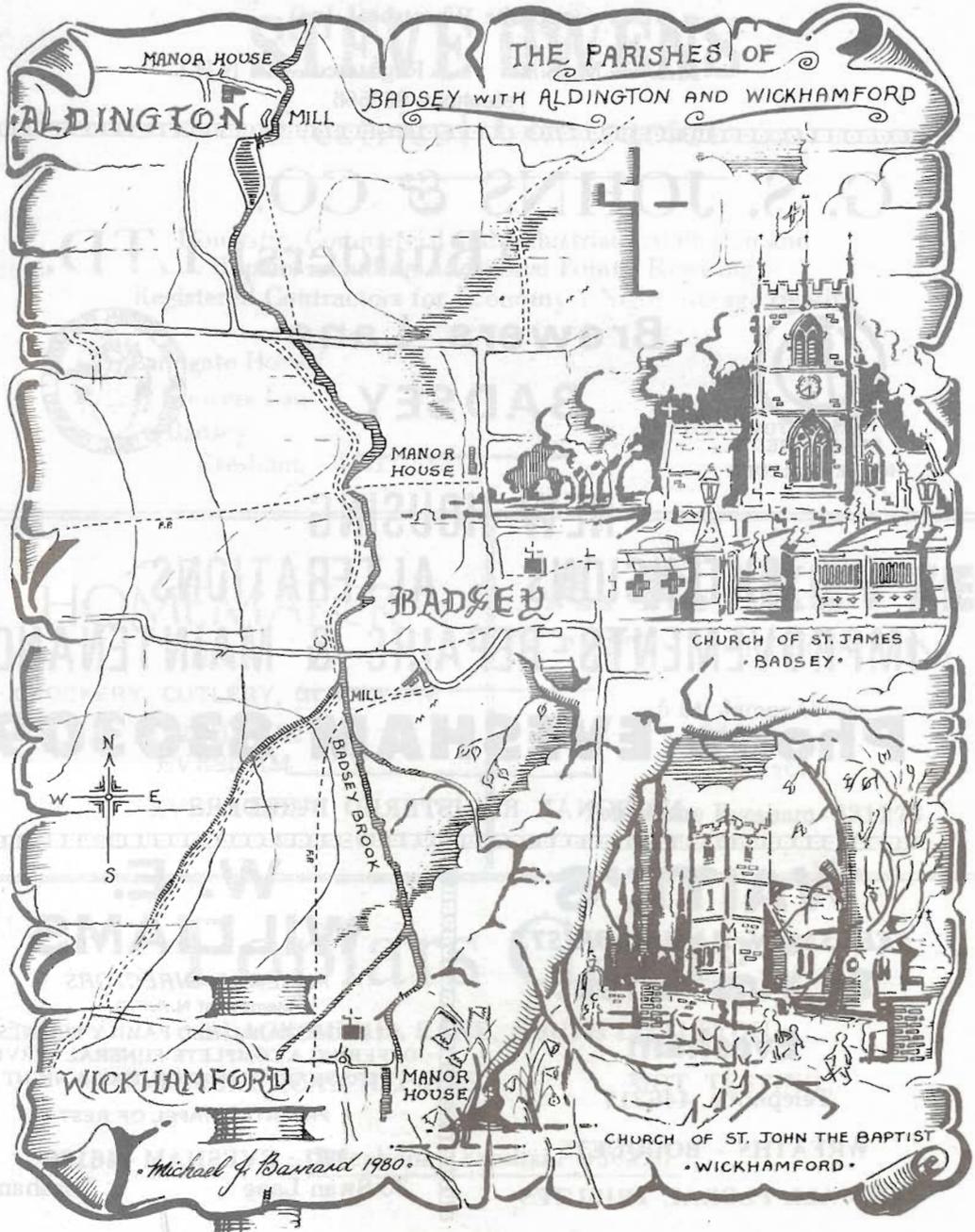


# PARISH REVIEW

20p

FEBRUARY 1990



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Wickhamford

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## THE VICAR'S LETTER

February 1990

My dear Friends,

Lent 1990

Lent is a time for repentance. It is a time to turn again to Christ. A time to renounce evil. To renew our Baptismal and Confirmation promises. There are people who complain, sometimes bitterly, that the Church does not get more people to its services. Why doesn't it make them more attractive they ask? Perhaps there is some cause for complaint. The Church is not perfect and many who come are sinners in need of repentance and forgiveness rather than saints and perfectionists. But this is only half the story. The Church's task, the Church's mission is first to call people to repentance. To call people to turn to Christ and to renounce evil. At the very beginning of Mark's gospel, the earliest of the four, we read that Jesus came into Galilee preaching the Gospel of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." It may be that in recent years the Church has been less than forthright in its proclamation of the Gospel. That it has been somewhat inconsistent and indecisive in its message. Perhaps this is one reason why people have failed to respond to it. "If the trumpet shall sound an indistinct note, who will prepare himself for the battle?" writes St Paul to the Corinthians. But having

proclaimed the Gospel of God, a gospel of repentance and forgiveness in Christ, the people for their part should respond to it. This is the other half of the story. For it is only in making a response and being faithful thereafter that we experience the new life that the Risen Christ offers to us. The new life that the Risen Christ bestows on all who follow him. If we ignore him, if we turn away from him, if we choose to do other things instead, then we become unworthy of Christ's invitation. We will not, indeed we cannot share in his heavenly banquet. In the Gospels to be worthy means to accept the invitation of Jesus. To be unworthy means to refuse it.

In February and March the preparation of the new Church Electoral Rolls will take place in each parish, first in Wickhamford and then in Badsey with Aldington. Details appear elsewhere in this Review. In addition to providing a legal voting base for use within the Church of England as they are intended to do, they also provide an indication of those within each parish who have responded to the call of Christ and made a definite commitment to him within the Church of England. Those who have responded to his call to repentance; who have turned to Christ and who have renounced evil. Will your name be among them? Are you ready to repent and turn again to Christ? Are you ready to respond to the Gospel of God's love and forgiveness as revealed in Christ? Are you worthy of his invitation? Let your answer be Yes.

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 Epiphany	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
11th 9 before Easter	08.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
18th 8 before Easter	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
25th 7 before Easter	08.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
28th Ash Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion	7.00 pm Evensong and Litany

## March

- 4th 1 in Lent 11.00 am Sung Eucharist 6.30 pm Evensong  
11th 2 in Lent 08.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Evensong  
Mid Week Communion: 10.00 am 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th February  
and 7th and 14th March  
Badsey Sunday School: 11.00 am every Sunday during Term time  
School Lane Playgroup.

## St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

- 5th Epiphany 5 09.30 am The Eucharist  
11th 9 before Easter 09.30 am The Eucharist  
18th 8 before Easter 09.30 am The Eucharist  
25th 7 before Easter 11.00 am Family Service  
28th Ash Wednesday 09.00 am The Eucharist

## March

- 4th 1 in Lent 09.30 am The Eucharist  
11th 2 in Lent 09.30 am The Eucharist  
Wickhamford Sunday School: 11.00 am every Sunday during Term  
time except the 4th Sunday  
Memorial Hall.

## Lectionary

- |                 |                   |                    |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Epiphany 5      | 1 Cor. 3. 18-end  | Job 12             |
|                 | Matt 12 38-42     | 1 Cor. 1. 18-2.5   |
| 9 before Easter | 1 Cor. 2. 1-10    | Isaiah 30 8-21     |
|                 | Luke 8 4-15       | Matthew 4. 23-5.12 |
| 8 before Easter | 2 Cor. 12. 1-10   | 2 Kings 20         |
|                 | Mark 7. 24-end    | Mark 5. 1-20       |
| 7 before Easter | Col. 1. 18-23     |                    |
|                 | John 8. 2-11      |                    |
| 1 in Lent       | Hebrews 4. 12-end | Deut. 30. 11-end   |
|                 | Luke 4. 1-13      | Hebrews 2. 5-end   |
| 2 in Lent       | 1 John 3. 1-10    | 2 Kings 6. 8-23    |
|                 | Matthew 12. 22-32 | Luke 19. 41-20.8   |

## Sunday Themes

- Epiphany 5 Revelation: The Wisdom of God:  
9 before Easter Christ the Teacher  
8 before Easter Christ the Healer  
7 before Easter Christ the Friend of Sinners  
Lent 1 The King and the Kingdom: Temptation  
Lent 2 The King and the Kingdom: Conflict

## Lent 1990

Four Lent Bible Study Evenings will be held on certain Thursdays during Lent. The first two will be on Thursday, 8th March and the 15th March and the last two on Thursday 29th March and 5th April. They will commence at 8 pm and be held at the Vicarage. Parishioners from both churches are warmly invited to come and will be most welcome. It would be most helpful if you could let the Vicarage know beforehand.

### 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

7 January Kayleigh Jane Kathleen Burgess of  
11, Sandys Lane, Badsey

#### Wickhamford

14th January Nicola Susan Heritage and Sarah Jane Heritage of  
6, The Sands, Leamington Road, Broadway.

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

#### Badsey

19 December Norah Emily Cook of 23, Brewers Lane, Badsey,  
aged 85 years (at Badsey)

12 January Lilian May Meadows of 20, High Street, Badsey,  
aged 85 years (at Badsey)

#### Wickhamford

28 December Henry Thomas Conle of 21, Washington Close,  
Wickhamford, aged 73 years (at Cheltenham)

William Henry Roberts of 19, Coombefield Road,  
Wickhamford, aged 83 years (at Worcester)

### DONATIONS

Wickhamford To Church Funds, anonomously - £40.

### NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thurs. Feb 8 Evesham Deanery Synod - Lifford Hall,  
Broadway, 7.30 pm.

Fri. Feb 9 Madeira Evening - The Vicarage, Badsey  
7.30 pm - 9.00 pm

Fri. Feb 16 Dance and Buffet Supper - Badsey Recreation Club  
in aid of the Worcester Cathedral Appeal

- Thurs.Feb 22 Wickhamford Floral Festival Committee Meeting  
Gallipot House - 7.30 pm.
- Thurs.March 1 Badsey P.C.C. - 7.30 pm Badsey Church.
- Thurs.March 8 Lent Bible Study Group - The Vicarage - 8.00 pm
- Wed.March 14 Wickhamford AVM and AGM - 7.30 pm Memorial Hall  
Badsey Finance and GP Committee Meeting  
- date to be announced.  
Badsey AVM and AGM: Thursday, 26th April.

#### Church Army Collection Boxes

For the first time this year the total amount collected in the Church Army boxes was over £100, the total being £101.66. In 1980 the amount was just over £20. There has been a steady and encouraging increase in giving to the work of the Church Army over the last few years. It is an effective way in which we can show our care and concern for the Church Army especially in the Inner City areas. Thank you for your help. New subscribers are always welcome in both parishes. Every £4 to £5 a year helps to increase the overall giving.

PDM

#### Correction - Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers.

The telephone number of Mr and Mrs J Bolton in last month's Review should have read Evesham 830246 and not as shown.

Correction - Madeira Evening - The Vicarage. This will now be held on Friday, 9th February and not the 2nd, as shown in last month's Review.

Madeira Evening - The Vicarage - Friday 9th February, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. Mince Pies - Raffle - Bring and Buy - Games. Tickets: £1 - Adults; 60p Children, from members of the Social Committee, The Vicarage, or at the door, in aid of Badsey Church Funds.

#### Preparation of the new Church Electoral Rolls

The preparation of the new Church Electoral Rolls for Wickhamford will take place on Monday, 26th February and for Badsey on Monday, 2nd April. New application forms are being sent to all those already included in the present rolls beforehand. Application forms will also be available from the two Church Electoral Roll Officers, Mrs P M Baker of 57, Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford, and Miss Linda Core of 7, Old Post Office Lane, Badsey, and in both churches. Completed forms should be

returned to the Church Electoral Roll Officers or to the two churches as soon as possible, but by not later than Friday 23rd February in Wickhamford, and Friday 30th March in Badsey with Aldington. The new rolls will be published at least 14 days before each Annual Meeting.

A lay person is entitled to be on the Electoral Roll if he or she:

- i. is baptised
- ii. is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with the Church of England.
- iii. is sixteen years of age or over
- iv. is resident in the parish, or if not so resident has habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment.
- v. has signed an application of enrolment as set out on the appropriate form.

Under Synodical Government the Church Electoral Roll is important as it constitutes the voting base of the Church of England. It affects the number of Lay Representatives at Deanery, Diocesan and General Synod level. It may be used in determining the Quota allocation of a parish, and is also used in allocating the number of full time clergy throughout the Dioceses and within a Diocese. It may also be used when considering any local pastoral reorganisation of churches and parishes.

#### MOTHERS' UNION

The meeting on 9th January commenced with a Hymn by Frances Ridley Havergal 'Take my life, and let it be consecrated Lord to thee', the choice of Mrs Daphne Bell. The prayers were taken by Mrs Mary Wretham. Many members and their families have had the 'flu, and are in various stages of recovery, and we hope that they will all soon be fully restored to health. A letter from Mrs Ursula Wright in Australia was read out. She and her husband continue to enjoy their life there, and visits from their family. They sent us their love and every good wish for 1990.

The "new" second-hand caravan is in situ at Harvington, it has water and electricity laid on, a fridge and a bathroom, so is a great improvement on the old one, which has however done sterling service. A letter from Mrs Frances Samuel, the Diocesan Social concern Rep, was read, which suggested new ideas for cleaning, couriering and laundry rotas, as the

caravan will be open for 26 weeks. A new co-ordinator is needed, as Ingrid Chestnutt who has done the job for four years is retiring. Volunteers were asked for, and we have ten people willing to clean, that is 5 pairs, and one reserve as well. No-one is keen to do the couriering, as this involves two consecutive Saturdays, but if anyone can do this please let me know.

We are providing the cards for distribution on Mothering Sunday, and ten more paperback New Testaments for couples marrying in St James.

The speaker was Mrs Daphne Bell, her subject Women of Faith. She began with a short talk on St Hilda of the 7th Century. She was a woman before her time, a great scholar, the Abbess of a mixed monastery taught priests and rulers, and a great influence in the church of her day. Then taking a long step forward, Mrs Bell talked most eloquently on Frances Ridley Havergal, born in 1836. The whole family history is interesting, there are a lot of connections with Worcestershire and surrounding areas. She gave up the whole of her life to writing books, hymns, poems, and caring for others. She was not a gloomily pious person, but believed in spreading beauty and joy. She loved nature and ran a flower mission to the sick, especially children in Worcester Hospitals. Her life was short, she died of peritonitis at the age of 42, happily, serenely with a Hymn on her lips, "Jesus I will trust thee, trust thee with my soul". She had suffered loss in her life, but never lost her faith. It was a fascinating talk, delivered with Daphne's infectious enthusiasm, and enjoyed by everyone.

E Seaman.

#### Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday, 7th February, 10.00 am, Corporate Communion.

Tuesday, 13th February, 2.30 pm, Out of the Hat.

Tuesday, 27th February, 7.30 pm, Mr J Callaghan,

The Real Abraham.

#### SIXTY PLUS CLUB

Our New Year began on 3rd January when a very good number of members and friends were entertained by young people. The first entertainment was presented by Carrie & Becky Thompson, who were accompanied at the piano by their grandmother, Mrs Ellison. Although still pupils at our local first school, their programme was varied and often very amusing. Our next entertainers were Philip Moore, Catherine Spencer and Peter

Moore. Philip and Catherine are fellow students at Chethans School of Music in Manchester. A variety of items was presented; Philip playing the piano, Catherine the clarinet and Peter the guitar and piano. This entirely classical selection was followed by Natasha Boon, a student of the Italia Conti School of Theatre Art in London. Natasha presented a programme of dance, which she had choreographed. The audience appreciated the skill and complexity of her presentation. The entertainment concluded with James Felton on the violin. He played a selection of classical music and carols and we were able to join in by singing. It must be recognised how fortunate we were to have so much talent presented by our own young people, and we appreciate them giving of their time during their holidays to be with us. In our usual raffle Mrs Reeves won the jigsaw puzzle and Mrs White the box of chocolates.

We were happy to welcome two new members into the club and also to have as new helpers Mrs Watkins and Mrs Nettley. Our next meeting will be on 7th February when Mr Fryers of the Almonry Museum, Evesham, will be giving a talk illustrated with slides. This is a follow up to our tour of the museum in 1989. Once again friends are welcome to join us on this occasion.

Mary Callaghan.

#### BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The December meeting was held at Legion Headquarters after the Exhortation members remembered Mrs Cook who has passed away. She was a Founder Member of the Women's Section. Three new members were welcomed to the meeting which was well attended. The committee provided refreshments with mince pies and sherry was served. 50p parcels were opened and every one had a very pleasant evening.

M Morcombe.

#### Church of England Children's Society Boxes

I would like to thank all holders of boxes for their generous donations to the Society's work. As a result of the last counting of the contents of boxes £294.77 was sent to forward the work of the Society. The result of the collection at the Christingle service has already been published, but I would like to repeat the thanks to the young people who made such a generous contribution.

Jean Ives, Hon. Sec. Children's Society

### Worcester Cathedral Appeal

The 2 Bingo evenings held towards the end of 1989 were very successful and raised a total of £289 towards the Cathedral Appeal. Thanks are expressed to all who gave us their support, particularly those who donated the prizes. The next event will be a Dance with buffet supper, to be held at Badsey Recreation Club on Friday 16th February. Tickets are £3 each and may be obtained from Mrs M Dore or Mr T Sparrow.

### REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD P.C.C. MEETING ON JANUARY 10th 1990

The Vicar welcomed Mrs Carole Collis who has taken over the position of Treasurer from Mrs Astley.

A letter of thanks was received from the Chairman of the Worcester Cathedral Appeal for the donation of £150. This was made up by the combined proceeds of the Harvest Supper £50 and donations, especially the sale of Christmas gifts organised by Miss Holland amounting to £82.

A letter was received from Cox's Homes apologising for the use of a large picture of the Church in their advertisement the wrong way around, promoting the sale of their houses in Wickhamford. A donation of £25 towards Church funds was included.

A New Electoral Roll has to be completed by February 26th to comply with the 6 year rule. In response to the questions directed towards the P.C.C. in the Archdeacon's enquiry, the PCC expressed real concern that fewer people both young and adult were coming into the church.

The meeting concluded with a discussion on the document - Faith in the City - an enquiry on how the church should respond to the various ethnic and social problems of the inner city communities.

Although very aware of the often harrowing conditions in the inner cities, members felt a certain sense of helplessness and frustration in not being able to do more for them.

### WICKHAMFORD FLORAL FESTIVAL & CRAFT EXHIBITION - 1990

The next Wickhamford Floral Festival and Craft Exhibition is to be held on August, 25th, 26th and 27th of this year, and will be similar to the Festivals held in the past. During the next two to three weeks the Vicar will be visiting houses in Manor Road to ask if the residents would kindly be prepared to open their gardens, and garages where possible, for the Festival. On the Sunday evening of the Festival, there will be a Service of Songs of Praise in the church at 6.30 pm and parishioners are invited NOW to choose a favourite hymn they

would like sung at this service and to let the Vicarage know as soon as possible. Also gifts of handicraft, handmade articles and produce will be very welcome for sale on the Sunday School Stall and may be given to Mrs Anne Poulter nearer the time. In 1987, over 1500 people visited the village and over £2000 was raised towards church funds. This year marks the 450th Anniversary of Wickhamford as a parish and it is hoped the Festival will be a time of genuine celebration and thanksgiving for everyone.

#### WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Unfortunately the speaker for our meeting on Wednesday 3rd January, Mrs Bess Cummins, was unable to be with us due to 'flu. Following the Club announcements by Margaret; in order to save the day, several games of Bingo were organised, followed by the usual tea and biscuits.

At our February meeting Mr & Mrs Colbourne from Alcester will present slides to music.

March - Mrs Bess Cummins, Shipwrecked.

April - Mr Geoff Badham from the Ministry of Agriculture will give a talk on their responsibilities.

#### WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

An outing to Birmingham Hippodrome to see the Cannon and Ball show has been arranged for Wednesday 21st February. We have a few seats left, so if anyone has still not given their names in to the Post Office or Mrs P Sutton, please do so immediately. The coach leaves the Sandy's Arms at 1 pm prompt. There is a small charge of £2 for the over 65's, but anyone else filling the coach will be asked to pay £6 which is the cost of the theatre ticket.

#### W.I. REPORT

The first meeting of the New Year held on 11th January was well attended. Dr Allbright the speaker for the evening gave an enlightening talk about Acupuncture and its uses.

The Birthday Button Hole was presented to Kathy Mallard. Refreshments were served by Jane Bailey, Pat Bell and Muriel Harrison. The competition for the Flower of the Month was well supported for the time of year being won by Mrs E Hearn, Pat Bell came second and Mrs M Bastow third. A Favourite Christmas Card Competition was won by Pat Bell with Ann Soule second and Peggy Hancock third. Members were urged to get out their walking shoes for later in the year, when it is to be

hoped parts of the Cotswold Way will be walked over a series of weekends.

The next meeting will be held at the Village Hall on 8th February at 7.30 pm, visitors and new members welcome.

Pat Clinton.

#### WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL

PRIZE BINGO - Friday, February 23rd, Eyes Down 7.30 pm. Excellent prizes. Raffle. Tickets - 25p per book.

The Memorial Hall Committee would like to apologise to the users of the hall for any inconvenience occurring due to the electrical faults. The electricians are quite safe to use and it is hoped that repairs will take place as soon as possible.

#### WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club's monthly meeting for December was held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, 6 December, and took the form of a Social Evening.

Entertainment for members and invited guests was provided by Christine Baron, accompanied by her guitar and accordion. She proved to be most versatile, and delighted those present with humorous recitations and a selection of popular songs and ballads. She was afterwards thanked by Mr Tom Hale, Chairman, who expressed the audience's appreciation of her lively performance. Sherry and mincepies were served by committee members, and a most pleasant evening was enjoyed by all. Mrs B Astley, President, congratulated Mrs D Stacey as the overall winner of the Club's monthly competitions, and presented her with the Bessie Astley Rosebowl for her achievement.

The Gardening Club will remain dormant during January, and its new gardening year will begin on Wednesday, 7 February, in the Wickhamford Memorial Hall. On that occasion, Mr R H Shackell is to talk on "Cheltenham in Bloom", and the competition will be "The First Spring Flowers in a Vase".

J Y Halling.

#### Christian Crackers

I took my small grandson to church for the first time and when he knelt down behind the pew he whispered to me "Who are we hiding from, Grandma?"