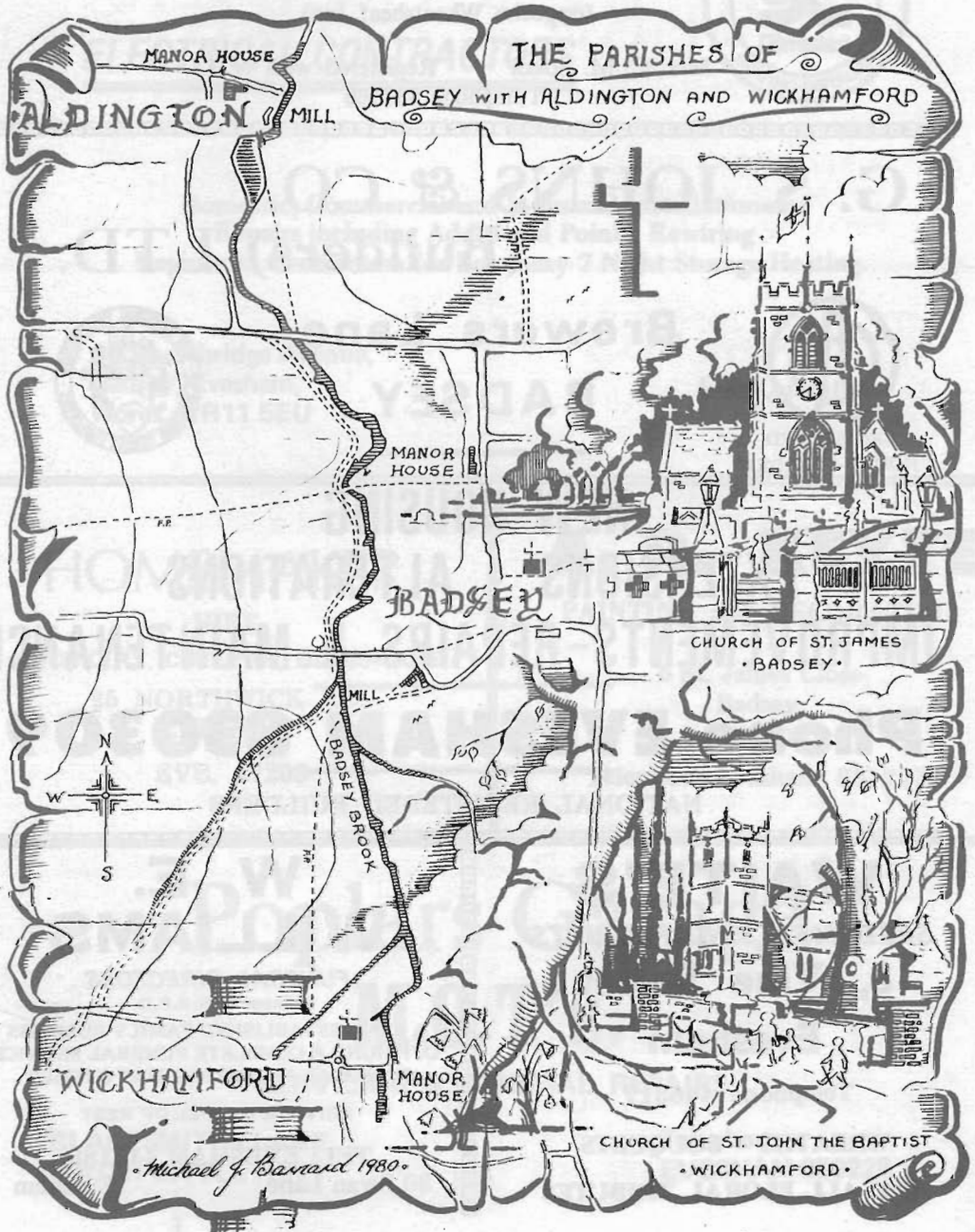


BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD

PARISH REVIEW

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DECEMBER 1991



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

December 1991

My dear Friends,

On the Eighth Sunday before Christmas, the theme of the readings is "The Fall". We recall the ancient story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. They are tempted by the Serpent to eat of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A temptation to which they succumb in the belief that they will become as gods. For to know the good and evil is to know everything, and to know everything is to become as God and be immortal. But, in the story, the opposite happens. Adam and Eve are cast out of the Garden and become mortals. They forfeit the gift of eternal life and know that one day they will die.

In the Bible, the purpose of this ancient story from the book of Genesis, is to illustrate the natural temptation of man, the temptation to reject his obedient dependence upon God. The temptation to become independent of God and to live his life without God. But to do this is to die. In the story of Cain and Abel which follows we see how in Cain's killing of his brother Abel, this same rebelliousness against God and man's disobedience leads to fratricide, the killing of one's brother, of which there is ample evidence in the world of today whether in Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia or the Middle East. The lesson within these stories, is that man will always be rebellious, with this tendency within him to turn away from God. But with his gift of free will, he still has the choice of two ways. To live his life with God, and thereby to find life or to live his life without God and thereby lose it.

Thus the story of Man's redemption unfolds. God's plan to win man back to himself. To save man from the consequences of his sin. Man of himself, cannot do this. Only God can do it for him. The story begins with the call of Abraham, and God's choice of a people, a nation, who by their own obedience, their own way of life with God will turn man back again to God. It reaches its culmination in the coming of God himself in human form. The people is Israel. The person in whom God comes is Jesus. Jesus, who lived a life of perfect obedient dependence upon God, at one with God, even though it led to the Cross. The one who restored the gift of eternal life to Man, through his own dying and resurrection from the dead.

This obedient dependence upon God, perfectly revealed in Jesus, was foreshadowed in Mary his mother, who when told by the Angel Gabriel that the child to be born of her would be called holy, the Son of God, responded with the words, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it unto me according to your will"

We too have the same choice, the same opportunity today. To live our lives with God, with Jesus. The message of Christmas is, that Christ came to live a life of perfect trustful obedience and dependence upon God and thereby win for all who believe on his name the gift of eternal life with God, both now and in the life to come. This is the good news of the Christian Gospel enshrined in the readings of every Christmas Carol Service. This is the good news of Christmas in which we rejoice at this festive season.

With every blessing for a joyous and happy Christmas,

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

Church Services - December

St James' Badsey

1st	1 in Advent	11.00am	Christingle Service	6.30pm	Evensong
8th	2 in Advent	08.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm	Evensong
15th	3 in Advent	11.00am	Sung Eucharist	6.30pm	Evensong
22nd	4 in Advent	08.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm	Carol Service
24th	Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Communion		

- 25th Christmas 08.00am Holy Communion
 Day 11.00am Childrens Christmas
 Morning Service
 11.45am Holy Communion
- 29th Sunday 08.0am Holy Communion 4.0pm Evensong
 after Christmas (said)

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- 5th 2 after 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong
 Christmas
- 12th 1 after 08.00am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong
 Epiphany

Mid Week Communion: Every Wednesday at 10.00am except
 on Christmas Day and January 1st. The Mothers
 Union Corporate Communion will be on Wednesday,
 8th January.

Badsey Sunday School: 11.00am every Sunday during Term
 Time - School Lane Playgroup

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

- 1st 1 in Advent 09.30am The Eucharist
- 8th 2 in Advent 09.30am The Eucharist
- 15th 3 in Advent 09.30am The Eucharist
- 22nd 4 in Advent No Morning Service
 3.00pm Carol Service
- 25th Christmas 09.30am The Eucharist
 Day
- 29th Sunday after 09.30am The Eucharist
 Christmas

January 1992

- 5th 2 after 09.30am The Eucharist
 Christmas
- 12th 1 after 9.30am The Eucharist
 Epiphany

Lectionary

- 1st 1 in Advent Romans 13. 8-end Isaiah 52. 1-12
 Matt. 25. 31-end 1 Thess. 5

8th	2 in Advent	Romans 15. 4-13 Luke 4. 14-21	1 Samuel 28. 3-20 2 Timothy 3. 14-4.8
15th	3 in Advent	Phil.4. 4-9 Matt. 11. 2-15 1	Isaiah 40. 1-11 Corinthians 3
22nd	4 in Advent	Rev. 21 1-7 Matt. 1. 18-23	- -
24th	Christmas Eve	1 John 4. 7-14 Luke 2. 8-20	
25th	Christmas Day	Heb. 1. 1-5 John 1. 1-14	
29th	Sunday after Christmas	Gal. 4. 1-7 John 1. 14-18	Isaiah 12 Phil. 2. 1-11

January 1992

5th	2 after Christmas	Rev.21. 22-22.5 Matt.2. 1-12, & 19-end	Isaiah 60. 13-end 1 Corinthians 2
12th	1 after Epiphany	Ephesians 2. 1-10 John 1. 29-34	1 Samuel 16. 1-13a Matthew 3

Sunday Themes

Sundays in Advent: 1 The Advent Hope; 2 The Word of God in the Old Testament; 3 The Forerunner; 4 The Annunciation.
 Christmas Day. Sundays after Christmas: 1 The Incarnation;
 2 The Holy Family; Sundays after the Epiphany: Revelation:
 1 The Baptism of Jesus.

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"
27 Oct	Carole-Ann Burton and Holly Freya Burton of 24, Morris Road, Broadway, Worcs.
17 Nov	Joseph William Richards of 17, Willersey Road, Badsey.
Funerals:	Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me will live even though he dies"

Badsey

- 1 Nov Kathleen Alice Murray, formerly of 13, St James' Close, Badsey, passed away suddenly, Friday 25 October 1991 aged 86. Widow of Ron and mother of Keith
The cremation took place at Cheltenham
- 15 Nov Irene Mary Witherington of 23, Binyon Close, Badsey, aged 69 years (at Cleeve Prior)

Notes for your Diaries

- Thurs Finance and GP Committee
12 Dec - Badsey Church - 7.30pm
- Mon
6 Jan Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers
1992 Annual General Meeting - Badsey Church -
8pm
- Wed
8 Jan Wickhamford PCC - 7.30pm Memorial Hall
Thurs Social Committee - 7, School Lane, Badsey
9 Jan - 7.15pm
- Thur 16 Jan Badsey PCC - 7.30pm Badsey Church

Parish Review: January issue - latest date for copy
Wednesday, 11th December (please note
earlier date)

Badsey Church - Christmas Decorations

The decoration of Badsey Church for Christmas will take place on Tuesday, 24th December, from 9.30am onwards. Gifts of flowers, evergreen and offers of help will be very welcome. Donations towards the cost of the Christmas Flowers 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, which sadly are on the increase. The

work is challenging and in the front line of human need. Sometimes it can be dangerous as well. Resources are becoming increasingly stretched and your prayers and support will always be welcome.

Parish Review - 1992

Subscriptions for the Parish Review are due in January and once again we would like to thank all who give the Review their valuable support. From January the price of the Review will be 25p a copy or £3 for a year's subscription. This is the first price increase since 1989 and it is hoped our many subscribers still feel it is very good value for money. Copy and notices for publication each month are welcome and can nearly always be accepted. Thank you to our subscribers, our distributors and our advertisers for your support during 1991. We hope it will continue in 1992.

Badsey Churchyard

Sadly, flowers and plants continue to be removed from graves in the churchyard. Would anyone who can throw any light on this distressing practice please contact either the Vicar, the Church wardens or any member of the PCC.

MOTHERS UNION

On Tuesday 22nd October at 7.30 pm the MU meeting was held in the Vicarage. We sang "Father hear the prayer we offer" the choice of the EM, who also took the prayers. Members were given a report of the Diocesan council at Worcester. Our speaker was Mrs Joyce Grove who showed us a video called Seven Circles of Prayer. This was very beautiful, and everyone present felt themselves becoming quiet, relaxed and receptive to the pictures and words and music. Mrs Grove read some prayers afterwards and a poem, and showed us some books which she recommended. She was warmly thanked. We are grateful to the Vicar and Mrs Mitchell for the use of their home and TV for the meeting.

On Tuesday 12th November at 2.30 pm the Hymn was "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" the choice of Mrs Jean Nettley. Mrs Jean Ives took the prayers. Members were reminded about our Carol service on 10th December at 2.30 pm, husbands are

invited. Then the enrolling member gave a talk and showed slides of her holiday in Macedonia, the Peloponnese and Athens "In the steps of St Paul", a holiday with a Christian leader run by Highway Holidays. It was based on St Paul's second journey, from Turkey to Macedonia though the programme did not follow his route chronologically. It began in Thessalonica and finished in Athens, taking in classical sites as well.

Two thoughts one called Timely appreciation - Jesus, please teach me to appreciate what I have before time forces me to appreciate what I had.

The second is another little prayer - Jesus I long to see you face to face, but for now I love the way you smile at me through the face of a sister, touch me with the hand of a child, speak to me through the voice of a brother, and come for me through the heart of a friend.

News Items.

We mourn the loss of Kathleen Murray, who was a longtime member of Badsey MU, and give thanks for her life and witness.

We welcome the news of a new granddaughter to Win and Jim Skitt.

We were glad to see Mrs Sandra Sparrow with us again, after her recent sinus operation.

Badsey MU sends Christmas Greetings to everyone
E. Seaman EM

Dates for your Diaries

Wed 4th Dec 10 am MU Corporate Communion

Tue 10th Dec 2.30 pm MU Carol Service

There will be no meeting on 24th December

BADSEY WI

On a very miserable and cold evening Mrs. Sparrow (President) welcomed members to our November meeting.

Correspondence was read, birthday posies presented, and details given out on the various Forthcoming outings - Christmas shopping trip to Nottingham: visit to London to see 'Cats', and a visit to Stratford Theatre in February.

Mrs. Yvonne Haynes gave her report on the Half-Yearly Council Meeting at Stourport Civic Centre, where an interesting and pleasant day was enjoyed by the members who attended. We

learned that the Mary Pedley Award for 1991 - a 'Guide to your Village for a Disabled Person' aroused such interest that the Tourist Board has decided to use the entries and compile a book for use in the tourism industry.

Our Skittles team won the first round in the competition, but only managed third place in the finals. Better luck next time girls! We were reminded that now is the time to plant our bulbs for the 1992 competition 10 crocuses, 3 hyacinths of the same colour, 5 daffodils, or a bowl of mixed bulbs, and we all look forward to good results and a colourful display at competition time.

Our appointed speaker for the evening cancelled, and at very short notice Mrs Pat Kearsley stepped in with her family of 'mice' - yes, Mice - (not the real, live type I hasten to add). Mrs Kearsley had made all these mice, and many more, and dressed them in various characters - policemen, fishermen, game keeper, milk-maid, and numerous others, ending her talk with a beautifully dressed bride and groom. A wonderful display of her hand work.

The raffle was won by Mrs Pam Robbins: the competition for a knitted square resulted in 1st Mrs Anne Eckersley, 2nd Miss Norah Smith, and 3rd Mrs Jean Netley.

The December meeting will have our usual special refreshments and we will be entertained by Jill Bailey with her guitar. Ladies, please remember your candles for Carols by Candlelight, and your gifts for Durcott Lodge, making it clear whether your gift is for a lady or gentleman, and whether diabetic or not. The competition will be for a home-made Christmas Tree Decoration.

G F Hughes

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The November meeting was very well attended. Our entertainers for the afternoon were Mr & Mrs Colbourne who showed slides of the "Four Faces of Christmas" accompanied by music, the finale being Handel's 'Messiah'. A very appropriate theme in the run up to Christmas.

The paid raffle was won by Mr Bob Butler and Mr Ralph Taylor.

The 'Crack Cancer' tubes were collected and a cheque for £205 has been sent to the Cobalt Unit at Cheltenham. A splendid effort for our first charity appeal. A big thank you to

everyone who contributed and special thanks to Mrs Netley for collecting and counting the contents of the tubes.

Sadly one of our members, Mrs Kath Murray died recently. She will be remembered with great fondness by us all. A donation was sent in her memory to the Evesham Asthma Fund.

Mr Hartwell and Mrs Grinnell are making good progress after their operations but, at the time of writing, Mrs Kath Brotherton has been admitted to Worcester Royal Infirmary. We wish her a speedy recovery.

The Christmas Party is on December 4th when Mr Trevor Jones and his all ladies choir will be entertaining us. The Brownies will follow and the Guides will help Mrs Mary Dore to serve the Christmas tea and Cake, made as in the past by Christine Davies. There will be a large free raffle. We hope to have as many members as possible on what should be a lovely afternoon.

ADVANCE NOTICE The January meeting will be on THURSDAY 2nd January. On this occasion, as in previous years, some of our very talented young people will be here to entertain us. A day not to be missed. More details at the December meeting. We extend best wishes to all our members for a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Mary Callaghan

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

The AGM was held at Legion Headquarters. The Chairman Mrs Syril opened the meeting with the Exhortation and the Minutes of the last AGM were read and approved. Mrs Syril welcomed members also one new member.

The President Mrs Reeves gave her report and said what a good year we had had. Mrs Syril, Chairman, Mrs Westmacote, Secretary, Mrs Grinnell, Treasurer, were re-elected en block also the Committee plus one new member, Mrs Harris.

Everyone was thanked, by the Chairman, for all their work. Mrs Edie Cleaver, our oldest member, has been made Vice President. Clare Westmacote will be the Standard Bearer in the New Year. Daphne Pownett will be Wreath Bearer on Armistice Parade.

Mrs Cox from County Committee gave a talk on Legion affairs. The Chairman read a letter sent to the Royal British Legion from the Queen Mother's Secretary thanking them for the

painting of The Castle of Mey which was presented to her on the 10th Anniversary of the RBL.

A collection was made to pay for the Poppy Wreath. A draw was won by Connie Newbury and the competition was won by Dot Clements. Mrs Trotman will be sick visitor for the next year.

M. Morcombe

Children's Society Box Holders

Many thanks to all concerned, the splendid result of £370.26 was realised making the total raised from boxes this year £376.93.

This sum represents an increase of £74.29 on last year's total of £302.64.

I am most grateful to the faithful and to the new supporters of this scheme.

Badsey Church

Sincere thanks are due to Mr Chris Robbins and Mr Ian Robbins for the restoration of the light in the church porch. It has now regained something of its former splendour and we thank them for their praiseworthy efforts.

Celebratory Peal. - Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers

In response to a request from the Archbishop of Canterbury to all churches, to celebrate the release of Terry Waite, a selection of Call Changes were rung for forty minutes by the Sunday Service Band of Ringers conducted by Andrew Middlecot, on the evening of Monday, 18th November. Those ringing were: Treble Hilary Bolton, 2nd Laura Merrise, 3rd Ann Wilson, 4th John Bolton, 5th Andrew Middlecot, 6th Roger Clarke, 7th Andrew Stewart.

Hilary Bolton

119 Clare Park, Crondall, Farnham, Surrey.

Eileen Braby sends her sincere thanks to her many friends in Badsey for the lovely birthday greetings card signed by so many, and for the most beautiful arrangement of flowers - pink carnations and freesias in a basket.

She is overwhelmed by your kind thoughts. Peter joins her in sending our love to you all.

WICKHAMFORD WI

Rosemary Hendrick welcomed members to the Annual Meeting held in the Memorial Hall. Birthday buttonholes were presented to three members.

Crocus and daffodil bulbs have been planted to celebrate the 40th Birthday of Wickhamford WI and it was suggested a plaque be erected.

Pat Bell and Denny King are to take part in the County Trivia Quiz in December; Colin House was the venue suggested for the Christmas Meal; a theatre trip to Malvern to see Gaslights is planned and craft classes will begin after Christmas.

Jill Hammond VCO was welcomed and she spoke on NFWI. The nominations for President then took place and Rosemary Hendrick was re-elected for a second year.

The raffle was won by R Woolf and the flowers competition by S Beavan P Bell and B Bowles.

The next meeting will be Member's Night on Thursday 12th December. New members and visitors are always welcomed.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The Memorial Hall was so packed when the Gardening Club held it's monthly meeting on the 6th November, that extra chairs had to be conjured up to accommodate everyone who had turned up to listen to Mr James Albutnott give an exhilarating talk on 'Unusual Wall Shrubs and Climbers'.

Mr Albutnott showed slides of rare climbers and shrubs embellishing the walls of his garden at Stone House Cottage Nurseries, Near Kidderminster. The talk engendered much interest and Mr Albutnott answered various questions from a very enthusiastic audience. Mr Norman Tayler then proposed a vote of thanks, in the absence of Mrs E Batchelor, Chairman, who was unfortunately unwell.

The competition for 'The last rose of Summer' was won by Mr Fred Carley with Mrs Shufflebottom and Mrs R Shortt, second and third.

The Christmas Social is to be held on Wednesday 4th December, when Members and friends will be entertained by the Evesham Operatic and Dramatic Society, with Mince Pies and Sherry thrown in. It could, therefore, turn out to be a most titillating evening.

R.E Stringer (Mrs)