

St James, Badsey with Aldington

Parish Newsletter

January 2002

New Year is a time of mixed blessings. For some of us, it will seem like a time of good news whilst for others it will bring only the promise of further worry, pain or unhappiness. Our circumstances vary very widely as does our outlook on life. Some of us are optimistic whereas others tend to a more pessimistic outlook.

Personally, there are a number of events which I am looking forward to a very great deal in the coming months. One of these is the **confirmation service** on 27th January when some sixteen people will be confirmed in Badsey Church.

Another is the **Angels Exhibition** which will be held in Church on the **11th and 12th May**. We want to fill the building with as many artistic representations of Angels as possible. This can include poetry and other literary forms as well as the more obvious paintings, models and flower exhibits. We have cast the net widely and already have promises or contributions from well known personalities. However, anyone is welcome to contribute and poetry, paintings etc. will all be very welcome. Further details of how to exhibit will be given closer to the time.

One of the other events with which I am involved is the Diocesan Assembly, to be held on 1st - 3rd February. The local clergy sent me (in my absence) to be their representative on the steering committee and I then found myself on the small committee which is actually running the event. A number of people from these parishes are attending and if you listen to BBC Hereford and Worcester at 7.00 a.m. on Sunday 3rd February there should be a special service which ties in with the Assembly.

The theme of the Assembly is that of 'Lifting The Eyes of The People' - the theme which leads us to recognise God and to seek God out in places of which we would not usually think. Our stereotypes can be very limiting and constraining.

Finally, this year should see us starting to move forward with the project to put toilets into the Church Building. I think this is essential for the future - the only problem being the costs involved in dealing with a listed building which has no foul-water drain.

I wish you all a very happy 2002 - Adrian

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CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday	2 nd January	10.00.a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	6 th January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Family Worship Sung Eucharist
Sunday	13 th January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Holy Communion Evensong
Sunday	20 th January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Holy Communion Evensong
Sunday	27th January	10.30.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Confirmation (c&p) By Bishop of Dudley Evensong

Sunday 27th January – Confirmation Service

The morning service on Sunday 27th January will be at **10.30.a.m. not 11.00.a.m.** This service will be a Confirmation for this Benefice and Broadway lead by The Bishop of Dudley. It looks as though there will be sixteen candidates, so it could be a full Church.

BADSEY REGISTER (up to 18th December 2001)

BAPTISMS:	25th November	Constance Louise Dudfield
	16 th December	Samuel Thomas Allchurch
	16 th December	Joe Mark Cook
WEDDINGS:	7 th December	Rachel Elizabeth Daw & Alexander Jonathan Smith

MOTHERS UNION

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday	2 nd January at 10.00.am.	Corporate Communion followed by coffee.
Tuesday	8 th January at 2.30.p.m.	Joyce Davey.
Thursday	24 th January at 7.00.p.m.	New Year Party at Badsey British Legion

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year

Sandra Sparrow

ON THE INTERNET?

If you are connected to the internet, you can access a wide variety of information about the Diocese of Worcester and the Church more widely through www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

THANK YOU TO.....

Mrs. Mary Dore for organising the Prize Bingo for Church Funds on 7th December. £217.00 was raised. Also to those who helped – the caller, ticket sellers, chair movers etc.- and to those who donated prizes.

Badsey Friday Club supported by a few members of the Church Choir and other singers who toured the village on 19th December. Their carol singing was very much appreciated and £300.00 was collected, which the Friday Club have kindly donated to Church Funds.

Evesham Singers in Concert – who performed exquisitely and all those who worked so hard to ensure the evening went smoothly. Just over £200.00 was made at this event.

Badsey Flower Guild who, under the leadership of Mrs Hazel Stewart, decorated the Church so beautifully for Christmas. The arrangements were lovely and very innovative. Also to the donator of the Christmas tree and **Gladys** who dressed the tree.

St. James Bell Ringers who certainly 'let the bells ring out for Christmas'. A sterling job as always and very much appreciated. A dedicated group who always turn out and never let us down whatever and whenever the occasion.

Church Decorators – The decoration inside the Church is now complete and it looks very splendid. We are all very grateful to all the volunteers who came and made their contribution to this project.

Safeways – who supplied 120 oranges at no cost for the Christingle service and all those who contributed to the success of the service. £180.88 was raised for The Children's Society.

To All – who helped or worked in any way to make Christmas in our Church a time of true celebration for the Birth of Christ.



SATURDAY ACTIVITY GROUP

Our next meeting is on Saturday 5th January 2002. So do come along and join us between 11.00.am. and 1.00.p.m. in the Church and enjoy a morning of fun and friendship. A small charge of 50pence per child is made to cover the cost of materials and refreshments. The children who took part in the small Nativity Tableau at the Carol Service on Sunday 23rd December performed beautifully and were so well behaved throughout the service – well done you were great! Yvonne, Wendy and Annette wish you all a very Peaceful, Happy and Healthy 2002.

TOILETS AND KITCHEN

The Appeal to raise money for The Planning Stage in the provision of toilets and other facilities at the Church has now passed its target. We shall now be holding meetings with the Church Architect, the various planning bodies and English Heritage with the view to drawing up formal plans and making applications for Planning Permission and a Faculty to carry out the works. When we have passed those hurdles we shall need to seek out grant aid for the project as well as seeking further funds from closer to home.

ST. JAMES FLOWER GUILD – JANUARY ROTA 2002

1 st Sunday	Mrs Julie Gardner and Mrs Hazel Stewart
2 nd Sunday	Mrs Mary Clarke and Mrs Margaret Castle
3 rd Sunday	Mrs Pat Goldstraw and Mrs Sue Goldstraw
4 th Sunday	Mrs Eleanor Sams and Mrs Stephanie Hartley

I would like to thank all those who helped in any way with the Charity Tea Afternoon and to everyone who supported it. We had a very successful afternoon raising £420.00 to be divided between the Acorns Children's Hospice Fund and The Evesham Vale School.

May I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Any queries regarding Church flowers please contact me on (01386) 832700. **Hazel Stewart**

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Month in and month out, the distributors of this newsletter wander around the village posting it through our letter boxes. An earlier distribution system has delivered the bundles of newsletters to the distributors and before this, the newsletter has been produced. I and the Church Council are very grateful to everyone who gives up their time in this way and enables us to gain as wide a distribution as possible. New volunteers are always welcome – please speak to the Editor, Sue Cole or myself. **Adrian.**

Note: If one or two people from each street were willing to distribute the newsletters just in their own street it would be immensely helpful. The newsletter is produced for YOU. You do not need to belong to the Church or even attend it to help with the distribution of the Newsletter or help the Church in any way. The Church belongs to us all whether we use it or not. **Editor**

LOBO was a biker, a member of an 'outlaw gang'. He had his head shaved, apart from a short ponytail that hung down in the manner of a scalp lock. His arms were covered with tattoos with 'LOVE/HATE' on his knuckles. He was adorned with earrings and nose studs and the very sight of him was enough to make a fully grown man cry in fright.

LOBO is a friend of mine and I can honestly say one of the nicest caring people I've ever met. **LOBO** is shy and his image is one that makes people steer clear of him – for him it works, no-one bothers him so he manages to hide his shyness. It's the image that frightens us and puts dragons of fear into our mind. The media have a lot to answer for. They almost always paint a black picture. No-one wants to hear of Mr & Mrs Smith's long and happy marriage, it is not newsworthy.

Because of this, one section of society that has a nasty picture painted of it are the youth of today. In fact the majority of youth are good kids and wouldn't harm a fly. In the villages around here this is the case, and the chances of anyone being attacked by youths is negative. Granted, a group of youths can seem to be intimidating but they are not really. It's the dragon of fear in our mind.

A small "Excuse me folks" and the group of youths will part like the red sea. We are all mirror images, be nice and folks will be nice back.

Don't let the dragons of fear spoil your life. **PC Tom Iddons – Evesham Rural Beat Manager**

ANNE FRANK: 'A HISTORY FOR TODAY'

An exhibition at Worcester Cathedral from 4th to 29th January.