

ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY WITH ALDINGTON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2005

It is difficult to know where to start a letter for the Magazine while Avril and I are still in Suffolk, but here goes.

At New Year we tend to look back at the year just ended, there are numerous articles in magazines, the press and on TV that remind us of the highlights and more often than not, the lowlights of the year just passed. The other side to this is, of course, looking forward sometimes thinking optimistically that things must get better or more pessimistically perhaps, that things can't get much worse! I think a better word is hope, not in a glib way but hope in the Christian sense of the word, but possibly more on that next month as we prepare ourselves for Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

January is a busy time in the Church calendar as it heralds the arrival of the Wise Men and the showing forth of Christ into the world at Epiphany. Then there is Education Sunday on the 23rd January when we give thanks for all those involved in the education of our young people, not forgetting the Presentation of Christ in the temple (or Candlemas) celebrated this year on 30th January. The Presentation makes connections in three areas. Firstly, the rite of cleansing for Mary, a very ancient ceremony, which in the Christian faith survived in some form well into the twentieth century with the service of the Churching of Women; secondly the dedication of the Christ Child to God and finally that God is love and that it lifts us from the ordinary into the extraordinary. Candlemas also marks a significant crossroad in the Christian calendar, behind us lies Christmas and the Birth of Christ: ahead lies the Cross and the Resurrection.

As far as Avril and I are concerned, January will also be a time of packing up 17 years of accumulated belongings and memories ready to leave Suffolk for Worcestershire, with the New Year comes a new start and one that we are looking forward to immensely.

Please spare a thought and a prayer for the inevitable chaos we will be in!

Yours in anticipation.

Richard Court

The Reverend Richard Court will take up his duties in Badsey with Aldington, Bretforton and Offenham in February and will be inducted at St. James Church Badsey with Aldington on 20th February at 4.00pm.

Churchwardens:	Mrs. Sue Cole, 45 Bretforton Road, Badsey	831260
	Mr. Chris Smith, 27 High Street, Badsey	830217
Readers:	Mr. John Callaghan	831194
	Mrs Penny Christison	830367
	Mrs Sheila Lancaster	833929
Editor:	Mrs. Yvonne Haynes	830063

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2 nd January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Family Worship Evensong
Sunday 9 th January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Praise and Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 16 th January	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Morning Celebration Evensong
Sunday 23 rd January	9.30.p.m. 6.30.p.m.	Holy Communion Evensong
Sunday 30 th January	6.30.p.m.	Evensong

BADSEY REGISTER (up to 15th December 2004)

Funerals: 15th December Annie Mary Harwood
(followed by burial in the Churchyard)

Weddings for 2005 – if you have a wedding booked for this year please telephone Sue Cole on 01386 831260 to check that all your details are correct in preparation for the arrival of the new vicar.

Christingle Service – Sunday 5th December 2004

Thank you to all who contributed to this service. A total of £311.00 was raised for the Children's Society project that supports children who have run away from home.

MOTHERS UNION

Tuesday 11th January at 2.30.p.m. Annual General meeting

Wednesday 19th January Our annual party at the Royal British Legion. 7.00.p.m. for 7.30.p.m.

Tickets are £6.00 and are available from Gill Armstrong.

The sum of £91.00 was raised for The Acorn Children's Hospice at our Carols and Readings Service on Tuesday 14th December.

We are pleased to welcome any visitors who would like to come along to any of our meetings.

SANDRA SPARROW

BADSEY CHURCH ACTIVITY CLUB (BCAC)'

There will not be a meeting of the Club in January but we will all meet up again on Saturday 5th February at 10.30.a.m. until 12 noon. Do come along and enjoy a morning of fun and friendship. Any queries please ring Emma Blythe on 01386 831561.

Congratulations to the children of BCAC for their performance of The Nativity at the Carol Service on the afternoon of Sunday 19th December. They did so well and brought forth lots of ahs! A big thank you to both children and helpers.

THANK YOU.....

...To the anonymous donor who recently gave £100.00 towards Church expenses. This has been divided, as requested, between Churchyard maintenance, newsletter printing and upkeep of the bells.

...To Mrs Mary Dore and her helpers for organising the Christmas Bingo for Church Funds; also those who donated prizes. The net proceeds amounted to £273.00.

...To the ladies at the Thursday Coffee Mornings, held at the Royal British Legion Club, who have given £200.00 towards a fund which has been set up to improve the exterior lighting at the Church.

...To The Evesham Singers and all who supported their Concert in Church on 11th December. Just over £100.00 was raised for Church Funds.

Whilst we are thanking people who have so generously raised money for our Church, let us remember and thank all those who help run and keep our Church throughout the year. The bellringers, the organist, the choir, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the people who help with the general maintenance, the electrics, the Churchyard, those who, in the absence of a Vicar, arrange and run the services, the clock winders, those who deliver the monthly magazine with a special thank you to Mrs Olga Allen for the printing of this monthly newsletter and to all who help in so many ways with the general running and upkeep of our Church. All these people give of their time voluntarily and of course without pay. Without them our Village Church would not exist. Most of the people have been doing these various jobs for many years and their numbers are diminishing so we need your help. **Please** come forward and offer your help if you feel there is anything you can do to help keep Badsey Church running. Perhaps you can ring bells, play the organ, sing, garden, do cleaning etc. If you can and can spare a little time, no matter how frequently or infrequently, we would love to hear from you. We all need our Church at some point in our lives, if only for Weddings, Christenings, Funerals and special services like Easter and Christmas. A lot of helpers are not regular Church people and in some instances do not even live in Badsey. So, if you would like to start the New Year off by giving some of your time and help please, please ring any one of the people on the front of this magazine or speak to someone you know who is involved with the Church.

WE NEED YOU!

ST. JAMES FLOWER GUILD ROTA – December 2004

Ladies, thank you for the lovely floral decorations in Church for Christmas. They were truly lovely so a big thank you for all your hard work.

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

Any queries regarding Church flowers please ring me on 01386 832007.

Hazel Stewart

BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 13th January at 7.30.p.m. in the back room of the Remembrance Hall. The Hall will always welcome new members, if curious just pop into the next meeting.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 19th January at 7.30.p.m. at The Badsey Remembrance Hall.

2005 marks the 60th Anniversary of the ending of all World War 2 Hostilities. If any organisations in the Parish have any plans, ideas or suggestions to commemorate this would they please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, 34 Brewers Lane, Badsey, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 7EU in writing please. If there is enough interest perhaps we could, as a village, pool ideas and resources to mark this occasion.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

The boxes will be collected and emptied in January by the local secretary, Sally Foxhall. Please will box holders ring Sally (831241) to find a convenient time for you to deliver your box to her or for her to collect it from you.

BADSEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7.15.p.m. at the Remembrance Hall Badsey. Fun Friendship and Interest is the order of the day so do come along and see for yourself. If you require further information please contact Stephanie Hartley on 860938 or Liz Cudd on 831233.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

As we greet a New Year let us pray for peace throughout the world; tolerance of all people regardless of colour or religion; an end to suffering, greed and selfishness. Let 2005 be a year of love and caring for one another. Amen.

A very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year to all our readers