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MONTHLY
MAGAZINE

FOR THE PARISHES OF

S. James, Badsey,

With ALDINGTON,

AND

S. John Baptist,

WICKHAMFORD.

EVESHAM:

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Christmas Day was celebrated with due solemnity in Badsey Church. Unfortunately the work at Wickhamford had not been completed, and hence it was not possible to hold services there. The festival was commenced by a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 a.m. There was a second celebration at 8 a.m., which was rendered with musical accompaniment, when there was a good number of communicants. Mattins was said at 11 a.m. when the Vicar preached, and the Holy Communion was celebrated a third time. There were 65 communicants in all. There was choral evensong at 5.30 p.m., at which carols were sung by the choir. The collections throughout the day amounted to £2 8s. 2d., and were divided equally between the Sunday School Fund and Church Expenses. The church had been very appropriately decorated with holly, ivy, flowers, etc. by the Misses Ashwin, Mrs. H. Keen, Mrs. Price, Miss E. and Master Sladden. Mr. J. Marshall with his usual kindness again sent a number of pot flowers which greatly added to the decoration of the church.

The solemn event of the end of the old century was observed on December 31st. Mattins was said at 10 a.m. and there was a special service at 7 p.m. The form of service followed in the main on the lines of a similar service, which was being held in S. Paul's Cathedral, London, at the same hour. An address was given by the Vicar in which he gathered up the lessons to be learnt from the occasion under the following heads: (1) thankfulness for past mercies, (2) confession of past sin, (3) self dedication to God and new resolutions for the coming century. It was announced that celebrations of the Holy Communion would be held on New Year's Day at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m.

We were very glad that the ringers rang the old century out and the new one in. It is always a pleasure to hear the Badsey Bells. They are well worth listening to, and help to raise our hearts to heaven.

NOTES ON THE PAST YEAR.

(1) The amount deposited in the Penny Bank by the children of the Sunday Schools and paid out at Christmas was £59 8s. 8d., and £1 4s. 9½d. was added as interest, making a total of £60 13s. 5½d. Towards the interest the sum of 12s. 9d. was added by Lloyds Bank, and the remainder 12s. 0½d. was given by the Vicar.

(2) The following are the number of entries in the registers during the year. Badsey: Baptisms 28, Marriages 6, Burials 6. Wickhamford: Baptism 1, Burials 2, Marriage 1.

(3) The sums collected on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel were: Collections in Badsey Church (July 1st) £1 4s. 0d., ditto at children's service (July 15) 5s. 2d.; collections on December 2nd £1 5s.; collections in Wickhamford on July 8th, 11s. 4½d. Missionary boxes were sent in by 11 persons containing in all £2 6s. 10d. Thus the total amount collected in all our parishes amounted to £5 12s. 4½d. This is a very fair sum,

but we hope that in course of time the money given for missionary purposes will be largely increased.

(4) The largest number of communicants on any one Sunday during the year was as follows: Badsey, Easter Day 91; Badsey, Christmas Day 65. We are very thankful that these numbers are such as they are, but we earnestly desire that the number of communicants should increase. We can never fully realise the blessings of the Church till we have learnt regularly and systematically to seek the grace of God given to us through the Sacrament of our Blessed Lord's Body and Blood. May we all in the new century learn to appreciate more fully the value of this blessed service—a service for which we have our Lord's own direct command, "*Do this in remembrance of me!*"

(5) It is worthy of a place in our records that the worst flood known for many years, some say 30 years, occurred on the last day of the century. The houses at the mill and some at Wickhamford were entirely surrounded by water, and very great inconvenience was caused to the inhabitants in consequence. In some cases the houses were entirely inundated on the ground floor.

BADSEY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

(6) The Treasurer's accounts for the past two years have been now balanced up. The total receipts from all sources, including collections in Church, amounted to £9 15s. 5½d., and the expenditure was £11 9s. 2½d. Thus we are in debt £1 13s. 9d., which is unfortunate at the beginning of a new year. We hope all those interested in our Sunday Schools will kindly help us to pay off this debt. We propose also, if funds are forthcoming, to give the children a very pleasant entertainment at the end of January. We give our best thanks to the Treasurer (Mrs. Sladden), and the Teachers for their kind help, and also to Mrs. Warner for entirely managing the Sunday School at Wickhamford.

An entertainment is being arranged to be held on Tuesday the 8th, at the Old Schoolroom in aid of the various funds connected with S. James' Church, at which we hope to see a crowded audience. Efforts are being made to get up something a little fresh in the shape of some waxworks; there will also be songs, recitations, readings and music; so we will try not to disappoint those who will come and give us their support.

MONIES COLLECTED DURING DECEMBER.

	£	s.	d.
December 2, S.P.G.	1	5	0
" 9, Church Expenses	0	15	4
" 23, Church Expenses	0	13	10½
" 25, Sunday Schools and Church Expenses divided	2	8	2
Total	£5	2	4½

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BADSEY—BAPTISM.

December 29, Alfred Harwood (privately),