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**MAGAZINE**

FOR THE PARISHES OF

*S. James, Badsey,*

With ALDINGTON,

AND

*S. John Baptist,*

WICKHAMFORD.

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EVESHAM :

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The Vestry Meeting for the Parishes of Badsey and Aldington was held in the Old School on Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7.30 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Vicar, and were confirmed and signed. The Church Accounts for the past year (Easter, 1901, to Easter, 1902), were presented by Mr. J. Sladden, who had been acting as Churchwarden since the departure from the parish of Mr. A. H. Savory. From this it appeared that the sums collected in Church during the year, and received by the Churchwardens amounted to £21 16s. 4½d.; other receipts, including rent of church land, and money received from entertainments (kindly arranged by Mrs. Savory, last year) amounted to £4 2s. 6d., making a total sum of £25 18s. 10½d. The expenditure for the year, including liabilities of previous year, was £25 17s. 3¾d.; and there were also outstanding liabilities up to Easter of this year of £3 5s. 10d., making a total expenditure of £29 3s. 1¾d. It will thus be seen that there is a deficit on the wrong side of £3 4s. 3¾d. in the Church Accounts. We are not really in a worse position this year than we were last year, but we must remember that we have not the handsome donation to look forward to this year, which we received from Mrs. Savory's entertainments last year. We hope those, who are able to do so, will help us to wipe out as soon as possible this adverse balance of £3 4s. 3¾d. If any one will kindly give us a donation towards this deficit it will be duly acknowledged in this column. It would be a great encouragement to the Vicar and Churchwardens to feel that they can start this year free of debt. Every effort will be made to keep down the expenses, but we feel sure that the Parishioners desire to see the fabric of the Church and the Church Services maintained in a manner worthy of God's honour, and this cannot be done without considerable expense. At this meeting also the Vicar gave an account of the monies received by him from the collections—viz.: £1 14s. 9d. for the Cottage Hospital in Evesham, £1 14s. 9d. for the Sunday Schools, and £1 0s. 2½d. for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Churchwardens were then elected for the coming year. The Vicar nominated Mr. J. Sladden as his Warden, and he kindly consented to act; and Mr. Henry Keen was unanimously elected as People's Warden; Mr. A. Sparrow and Mr. C. A. Binyon were elected as Sidesmen. Votes of thanks were passed to the Churchwardens and the Sidesmen for their valuable services during the past year; to Miss Sladden for trimming and cleaning the lamps in the Church; to Mrs. H. Keen for providing and arranging the flowers in the altar vases during the year; and to others for much valuable help in connection with the Church.

The Vestry Meeting for Wickhamford was held (by kind permission of Mr. Idiens) at the Manor House on Friday, April 4th, at 7.30 p.m. The Church Accounts were presented by Mr. Idiens, the Churchwarden. The receipts amounted to £7 14s. 10d., and the expenses to £8 3s. 1d., leaving a balance due to the Churchwarden of 8s. 3d. These expenses did not include a rather large outstanding bill due to Mr. Fowler for new carpets, curtains, etc., put in the Church last year. The following donations were kindly given at the Vestry Meeting towards this bill—viz., per Mr. G. Pethard: Mrs. A. Phipps 1s. 6d., Mr. E. J. Pethard 2s., Mrs. Green 1s., Mr. E. J. Cull 2s., Mr. G. Pethard 2s., Mrs. Timms 2s., Mr. L. White 2s., Miss Pethard 10s., Mr. E. Pope 1s.; total £1 3s. 6d.; also donation from Mr. J. Mason 2s. 6d. Mr. John Idiens was unanimously elected Churchwarden for the ensuing year, and Mr. George Pethard Sidesman. Votes of thanks to Mr.

Idiens for the use of the room, and to the Vicar for presiding, concluded the business.

During this month three of the most important Festivals of the Church occur—viz.: Ascension Day on May 8th, Whitsun Day on May 18th, and Trinity Sunday on May 25. On Ascension Day we commemorate the completion of Our Blessed Lord's mediatorial work, which was commenced by the Incarnation. We see Him, who had died for the sins of the world, and who had risen from the dead, returning to the glory and honour which was His by right, at the right hand of the Father. We see Him as the Great High Priest entering into the Heavens, there to intercede for men with the Father, and to plead for ever and ever the sacrifice which He offered on the cross. It is indeed a great and blessed day for all those who really believe in the living Christ. Unfortunately the Festival of the Ascension does not receive the attention from Church People which it deserves, and we would earnestly intreat our readers to try and mark this day by special acts of devotion, and particularly, if possible, by coming to a celebration of the Holy Communion. We propose to give the opportunity of receiving the Communion to those who desire to do so, by having a celebration very early in the morning—at 5.30 a.m.

The following is a list of the services:—

- Ascension Day, May 8th.
- 5.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Badsey.
- 8 a.m. Holy Communion at Wickhamford.
- 10 a.m. Morning Prayer at Badsey.
- 7.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon at Badsey.
- Whitsun Day, May 18th.
- 7 a.m. Holy Communion at Badsey.
- 8 a.m. Holy Communion (Choral) at Badsey.
- 11 a.m. Morning Prayer, followed by Holy Communion at Wickhamford.
- 3 p.m. Children's Service at Badsey.
- 6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon at Badsey.
- Trinity Sunday, May 25th.
- 8 a.m. Holy Communion at Wickhamford.
- 11 a.m. Morning Prayer, followed by Holy Communion at Badsey.
- 3 p.m. Evensong and Sermon at Wickhamford.
- 6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon at Badsey.

Worshippers at the parish church at Badsey cannot fail to have noted with pleasure the great improvement in its general aspect and condition after a thorough spring cleaning. For this we are indebted to the kindly and gratuitous labours of Mrs. Henry Keen, Mrs. John Keen, Mrs. Charles Keyte, Mrs. Sparrow, and Mrs. William Knight, and they were assisted in the preliminary sweeping down of the roof and walls by Messrs. H. Keen, and T. Knight.

The Churchyard, too, has benefited by a tidying up, although time did not permit of doing all necessary work on this occasion. We have to thank the following parishioners who so kindly responded to the appeal of the churchwardens, Messrs. J. Sladden and Henry Keen, and willingly assisted under their superintendence—Messrs. C. Binyon, G. E. Jones, J. Keen, W. Keen, H. Kelland, J. Marshall, E. Mustoe, A. Sparrow, A. Sladden, G. Sladden, also C. Sladden and a few other boys. It is much to be hoped that a band of willing workers may be found from time to time to assist in keeping our beautiful Church and Churchyard in order. "God's acre" must be a place full of sad and solemn memories to many a family in these villages, and it may well be a labour of love, that the generation of to-day should keep with pious care the spot, where lie the remains of those who have passed to their long home.