



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE of ST. JAMES'S CHURCH
Volume LXXI HAMPTON HILL JANUARY, 1955

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St. James's Church, Hampton Hill, Middx.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Vicar

The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's Road. Tel. Molesey 2069.

Parochial Reader

Mr. W. Thomas, 40, Gloucester Road, Teddington. Tel. Mol. 4909

Churchwardens

Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 9, Oxford Road, Teddington. Tel. Mol. 440
Mr. E. H. Western, 35, St. James's Avenue. Tel. Mol. 3358.

Organist and Choirmaster

Mr. C. Haydn Bull, M.I.G.C.M. 112, Uxbridge Road.

Parochial Officer and Sec. of P.C.C.

Mr. S. V. Forrow, 68, Sunnyside Road, Teddington. Tel. Mol. 1746.

Secretaries of P.C.C. Committees

Standing and Finance: The Secretary of P.C.C.

Magazine: Mr. J. W. Strawson, 8, Lindsay Road.

Properties: Mr. F. W. Nightingale, 29, Holly Road.

Church Renovation: Mr. J. Lloyd, 106, Park Road.

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays:

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

9.0 a.m. (Second & Fourth Sundays in month). The Parish Communion.

11.0 a.m. Matins and Sermon.

12.15 p.m. (First and Third Sundays). Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
Holy Baptism is administered after notice on the Fourth Sunday at 4.0 p.m., and at Matins or Evensong once a quarter.

Weekdays:

Holy Communion: Wednesdays & Holy Days, 7.15 a.m.; Thursdays, 10.30 a.m.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Mothers' Union & Women's Guild

Meet Wednesdays, 3.0 p.m., as arranged.

Enrolling Member: Mrs. Brunt.

Young Wives' Group

Meets Wednesday evenings and other times as arranged.

Sec.: Mrs. Southon, 17, Cranmer Road.

Church of England Men's Society

Meets usually on the second Thursday of each month, 8.0 p.m.

Sec.: Mr. F. Sargeant, 24, High Street.

Parish Prayer-Group

Sec.: Miss J. Western, 35, St. James's Avenue.

Youth Club

Sec.: Michael Whitton, 55, Burton's Road.

Scouts

Meet Wednesdays, 7.0 p.m.

Scoutmaster: Mr. G. Casey, 89, Connaught Road.

Wolf Cubs

Meet Wednesdays, 6.0 p.m.

Cubmaster: Mr. S. R. Childs, 126, Uxbridge Road.

Guides

Meet Thursdays, 6.30 p.m.

Captain: (Awaiting appointment).

Brownies

Meet Mondays, 6.0 p.m.

Brown Owl: Mrs. Casey 89, Connaught Road.

Drama Group

Sec.: Mr. C. Tarrant, 31, Anlaby Road, Teddington. Tel. Mol. 4987.

Parish Voluntary Service

Sec.: Mrs. Bird, 37, Uxbridge Road. Tel. Molesey 3667.

Various arrangements are made for Religious Education, Sunday Schools and Bible Classes, meet in different parts of the Parish (including the Rectory Estate) at 2.30 p.m., Discussion Groups, Home Meetings, & Confirmation Classes for adults and young people, are held from time to time. Full information about these matters, or anything else concerning the Church, may always be obtained from your Street Warden (who will also pass on messages when necessary) or direct from the Vicar.

The Vicar may usually be seen without appointment at 9.15 a.m. and 6.15 p.m. Inquiries about Banns, Holy Baptism, etc., should be made to him, and messages about people who are sick or in special need should be sent to him without delay. He is always ready to give spiritual help and counsel to any who require it.

The Parish Hall in School Road is available for letting, when not required by Church Societies. Applications should be made to the Secretary, Mr. F. W. Nightingale, 29, Holly Road, Hampton Hill, Tel. Mol. 3572, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 7.0 and 9.0 p.m. or by appointment.

Vicar's Notes

In a parish of any size it is difficult for the Church to keep in contact with its many parishioners. This is particularly difficult in a widely-scattered parish such as ours. We hope to be able to do this better in the future with the help of our street wardens, who now cover the greater part of the parish. They will be able to give information about anything that concerns the Parish Church and its organisations, and also, by acting as the eyes and ears of the Church in their area, help to lessen the number of people who get overlooked—for example, newcomers to the Parish who do not receive a welcome, or people in need of some kind whose trouble has passed unnoticed. The needs that come to light will be offered to God, especially at the monthly meetings of the newly-formed Parish Prayer-Group, which will now continue this part of the work of the News-Team. To these meetings, which will usually be held in Church at 8.0 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, others besides street wardens are warmly invited.

We cannot let the News Team Fellowship pass into oblivion without an expression of thanks to the (latterly very) few people who formed it, and did work for the Parish of great value out of all proportion to their numbers. I hope that we shall be able to continue other aspects of their work, such as the organising of home meetings, and that the ways and means of doing this will soon become clear.

Most of our street wardens are also acting as representatives of the recently-formed Old People's Welfare Committee, and they will in due course be fully briefed about all the agencies through which old people in any difficulty can obtain help and advice. As it is important that the Committee

should know the names and addresses of as many old people in its area as possible, and as all existing lists are far from complete, some representatives will be calling on the houses in their streets to make sure that no old person is overlooked.

We also start the New Year with a small number of keen people as a nucleus for our Parish Voluntary Service Scheme. We could wish their numbers were very much larger, but believe that once it is in operation the number of volunteers will continue to grow. The main idea is to be able to supply neighbourly help to supplement the assistance to young and old in temporary or permanent need which is today provided by statutory bodies. Up till now we have had requests for such help which it has not been easy to meet, and this may continue until the Service is strengthened. So volunteer quickly, please! The name, address and telephone number of the Secretary, to whom cases of need should be reported directly or through your street warden, will be found in the standing-matter on the first page of the magazine.

We are grateful to all those who worked so skilfully and well to clean and decorate the church in preparation for Christmas, and to those who sent generous gifts of flowers. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson again most kindly sent a splendid Christmas tree, and Mr. Melville made a very appropriate stable for the Christmas and Epiphany figures. The Church Council has now undertaken the responsibility of organising and supervising the decoration of the church at festivals, and this first occasion provided a most encouraging result to the arrangements made and the help given.

Finally, a word of thanks both to our new and old Advertisers. They help to keep the Magazine going, and we hope Magazine readers support them well in return—indeed, we know of cases where people have gone out of their way to do so. Please continue the good work.

MOTHERS' UNION AND YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

In spite of quite impossibly bad weather on January 6th those of us who were present at the Carol Service had a very good afternoon. We were only sorry that illness kept Mrs. Prentice away, but the Choir gave of their best to help compensate. A collection was taken for the Church of England's Children's Society (Waifs and Strays).

On February 2nd the M.U. meeting will be our annual Party which once again will begin at 3 p.m. Since this will be the only opportunity before the Annual General Meeting on February 16, the forms for nominations for committee members will be put up then.

The programme for the next Y.W.G. meeting on January 26th has been changed. At 7.30 p.m. onwards there will be a clothing exchange and the speaker at 8.0 p.m. will be a woman doctor—Dr. Fisher—representing the Family Planning Association.

THE RENOVATION FUND

Welcome gifts towards this have recently been received. An anonymous packet of six pound-notes followed Miss Stanton from Hampton Hill to Oxford, and thence was safely despatched to the Treasurer, Mr. Western. We acknowledge its receipt with grateful thanks. Several exceptionally well-filled boxes have been sent in; the Dance organized so excellently by the Badminton Section of the Young Wives' Group produced the splendid profit of £13; and the Gift Day brought in £32. This latter figure is below that of previous years, but an encouraging feature was the gifts sent by former parishioners who still retain an affection for their old Parish Church and do not forget its needs.

It is hoped shortly to have another social function, at which boxes can be opened, and the Committee is also considering further events for the Spring and Summer.

Work is still proceeding on the beams, and is likely to go on for some time yet.

NATIVITY PLAY

A truly inspiring Nativity Play, "The Beginning of the Way," an historical Play by Henzie Raeburn and dedicated to the Pilgrim Players of Canterbury, was most naturally and reverently enacted by members of the St. James' Drama Group, in church, on Sunday evening, January 2nd, 1955.

Once again the story of Christmas was slowly unfolded before us, who had just celebrated this joyful occasion, and the large congregation must have left church with a feeling of deep appreciation to those who had portrayed it so beautifully.

The finale of the Play left the writer with a feeling, possibly shared by the congregation too, of "wanting more," a fitting tribute surely, to the actors, the producer, Mrs. Chloe Crabbe, the willing helpers behind the scenes, and the organist for the soft music between the acts.

God bless them all.

C.M.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Jan. 18.—7.45 p.m. Church Council (Vestry).
- Jan. 20.—8.0 p.m. Old People's Welfare Committee (108, Park Road).
- Jan. 23.—Short Meeting for all Confirmation Candidates after Evensong.
- Jan. 25.—Conversion of St. Paul. Holy Communion 7.15 a.m.
- Jan. 26.—7.30 p.m. Young Wives' Group (Hall). Speaker: A Woman Doctor from the F.P.A.
- Feb. 1.—8.0 p.m. Parish Prayer-Group (Church).
- Feb. 2.—The Presentation. Holy Communion 7.15 a.m. 3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Christmas Party (Hall).
- Feb. 4.—7.30 p.m. Magazine Distributors (Vicarage). 8.0 p.m. Teachers in Junior Sunday School (Vicarage).
- N.B.—No Services at 10.30 a.m on Thursdays until further notice owing to repairs to church.

BAPTISMS

- Nov. 28.—Hilary Francis Glassup, 1, Bishop's Grove.
" 28.—Raymond John Ridgers, 5, Queen's Road, Teddington.
" 28.—Rosemarie Jane Goodey, 38, Selsdon Rd., Addlestone.
Dec. 26.—Paul Graham Skinner, 36, Wolsey Road.
" 26.—Gillian Patricia Boakes, 12, Evelyn Rd., Braunstone Lane, Leicester.

MARRIAGES

- Nov. 27.—Robert Allen Keenan to Molly Ann Higgins.
" 27.—Robert Stanley Crowhurst to Emily Ivy Bottrell.
Dec. 18.—George Herbert Framp-ton to Kathleen Rebecca May Willis.
" 27.—Peter John White to Joan Tingley.
Jan. 8.—Roy Adrian East to Eileen Dorothea Young.
Jan. 8.—John Edward Charles Perry to Marigold McHardy Young.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

- Nov. 29.—Ivy Rose Donovan, 84, Hampton Road, aged 48 years (at Teddington).
" 29.—Ethel Frances Shuttleworth, 33, School House Lane, aged 58 years (at Teddington).
" 29.—Beatrice Caroline Smith, 14, Coleshill Road, aged 61 yrs. (at Teddington).
Dec. 3.—Ida Marion Kathleen Long, Cherry House, Stone Cross, Pevensey, aged 79 years.
" 18.—Mary Ann Muckle, 1, School Rd., aged 69 yrs.
" 20.—Vivien Florence Howe, 63, Rectory Grove, aged 14 years (at Twickenham).
" 22.—Percival Bruce Dunbar, 120, Uxbridge Rd., aged 44 years (at Hampton).
" 30.—Francis William Boulon-ouis, formerly of Cross Street, aged 81 years (at S.W. Middx. Crematorium).

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

THE CHURCH OVERSEAS

Evangelism in South India

In Travancore a group of men set out on foot to visit an outlying district in the hilly tea-estates. After a strenuous climb they arrived there only to find that a group of women had already made the fifty-mile journey and were witnessing to the village people.

The students of a theological college in Tinnevely spend each Sunday morning visiting the members of a chosen congregation, taking Services and preaching. In the afternoon they take part in individual evangelistic work, and this is followed up once a month by a day's evangelistic mission in which the whole College unites.

These are illustrations of the vigorous evangelistic work which is a significant feature of the life

of the Church of South India. Sixty-five C.M.S. missionaries are working with the C.S.I.

Christ's Power to Heal

"Please come quickly and help my wife," came the urgent appeal to a C.M.S. missionary in Tanganyika recently. The missionary visited the woman in her house and found that she had been the victim of witchcraft and had lost her power of speech. He took her and her husband and friends who were Christians into the Church, and there he asked them: "Do you believe that Christ has power to heal today?" They discussed this question among themselves and then replied: "Yes, we believe He has." Then the missionary laid his hands on the woman and prayed. Her speech was partially restored, and she was able to repeat the Lord's Prayer. She was later fully restored.

THE DIOCESE OF LONDON

A BRIEF HISTORY

4.—The 20th Century (*concluded*)

The outbreak of the Second World War did not altogether halt the work of progress. The destruction of churches by bombing and the wiping out of large residential areas, with the consequent shift of population, produced a situation in which new planning became a necessity. The Reorganisation Areas Measure of 1944 made it possible to set free for use in places where they were more needed both clergy and funds. The colossal task of readjustment to post-war conditions has made necessary the union of almost a hundred parishes and the disappearance of many well-loved churches. In no part of the Diocese has a more venturesome change taken place than at its centre. The constantly recurring problem of the City Churches, from which in the last century resident parishioners, except in the case of one or two, have almost entirely disappeared, had now been met in a revolutionary manner. Under the City of London (Guild Churches) Act of 1952, the forty-six pre-war parishes are reduced to twenty-four, four churches will not be restored so that their endowments and the money arising from the sale of their sites may be devoted to the wider needs of the Church, and the remainder have become Guild Churches. These latter are a new development of the Church's witness. They will continue to minister to the week-day population of City workers, but they will be more closely identified with particular aspects of City life and also are already providing centres from which clergy of special qualifications may place their particular skill at the disposal of the Church at large.

Side by side with this reorganisation of parish boundaries, a great deal of progress has been made in restoring damaged church buildings and vicarages and in providing places of worship in

new districts. This was held back at first by licensing restrictions and lack of materials, so that the work seemed woefully slow, but since the war nearly four million pounds has been expended on this most necessary task. The most acute problem is still that of manpower, in spite of careful planning. In 1920, when the population had reached four millions, there were more than 1600 clergy in the diocese. In spite of the war the population has continued to increase at an average rate of 200,000 every ten years, but the number of clergy has dwindled to 815. In dealing with the task of providing adequately for the spiritual requirements of the parishes the Bishop has the assistance of three Suffragans, the Bishops of Stepney, Kensington and Willesden, and four Archdeacons, those of London, Middlesex, Hampstead and Hackney. Since 1946, when the Bishop launched his "Reconstruction Fund," large sums have been raised for the restoring of Church life and for the provision of Church schools. The increasing poverty of the clergy, due to stipends which did not increase with the rise in the cost of living, has been mitigated by help from the Church Commissioners and the generous support of parishes for the Parochial Quota.

One of the most significant features of post-war life in the diocese was the great Mission to London of 1949. In the earlier part of the century many Missions were held in the various districts of London, but this was the first to embrace the whole diocese. The missionaries did not confine their activity to churches alone, but spoke in the open air, in public houses, in theatres and sports centres, and many other places where people gather. The result has been a deepening of the religious life of the Diocese. In this twentieth century the work of the conversion of England, begun 1,350 years ago, continues here with new vigour. The Church, founded in London by St. Mellitus in 604, goes on, ever expanding and adapting itself to the demands of the changing centuries, looking forward, as he did, to the fulfillment of God's purpose for His people.