



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE of ST. JAMES'S CHURCH
Volume LXXII HAMPTON HILL JANUARY, 1956

4 d.

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. L. Melville, 106, Park Road.

Organist and Choirmaster

Mr. R. E. Bougourd, 214, Stanley
Road, Teddington. Tel. Mol. 3342

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

Mrs. D. Warwick, 52, Park Road.
Tel. Molesey 7004

Magazine Secretary

Mr. C. W. Smith, 59, St. James's
Avenue. Tel. Molesey 4795

Hall Secretary

Mr. F. W. Nightingale, 29, Holly
Road. Tel. Molesey 3572

Wayside Secretary

Mr. J. Geer, 4, School Road.
Tel. Molesey 4744

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays :

8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.

9.0 a.m. (Second & Fourth Sun-
days in month). The Parish
Communion.

11.0 a.m. Matins and Sermon.

12.15 p.m. (First and Third Sun-
days). 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 Even-
song once a quarter.

Weekdays :

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

Various arrangements are made
for Religious Education. Sunday
Schools and Bible Classes are held
at 2.30 p.m. in the Church and
Vestry, at Wayside, and at Rectory
School. Confirmation Classes for
adults and young people are
formed from time to time, and
Study and Discussion Groups arr-
anged.

There are a number of clubs and
societies attached to the Church.
These include branches of the
Church of England Men's Society
and the Mothers' Union; Young
Wives' Group; Prayer Group;
Drama Group; Youth Club; Scouts
and Cubs, Guides and Brownies,
and a company of the Church
Lads' Brigade.

In most of the streets in the
Parish there is a representative of
the Church (displaying the sign of
the Spire) from whom the full in-
formation which it is not possible
to provide here, may be obtained,
or direct approach may be made to
the Vicar.

The Vicar may usually be seen
without appointment at 9.30 a.m.
and 7.30 p.m., and by appointment
at other times. Arrangements
about Baptisms, Marriages, etc.,
should be made with him, and
messages (preferably in writing)
about people who are sick or in
special need should be sent to him
without delay.

He is always ready to help with
any spiritual or personal matter,
and to give pastoral counsel.

JILLIAN'S 56 & 10 HIGH STREET

High Class Ladies' Wear

Local Agents for :

ENGLISH ROSE CORSETRY,
GOR-RAY SKIRTS, DON-
BROS WOOLLENS, PETER
FRENCH & MAXTON
BLOUSES.

Prop.: Mrs. L. J. EVANS
Phone: MOLESEY 4802

HAMPTON HILL

SCRIMSHIRE

Specialists in Children's
Wear, Drapery, Haberdashery,
Chilprufe Agency

VICAR'S NOTES

Some changes in the magazine will be noticed—and especially the increase in price marked on the outside cover. This change from 3½d. to 4d. has been made most reluctantly. Since the price was first fixed at the lower figure, there have been only very small increases in the cost of production until now, when there comes a big jump of over ½d. a copy. This is due to various causes, the main one being a large rise in wages within the printing trade. The only way therefore to keep the magazine alive, unless it is to be a drain on general church funds, which we wish to avoid, is to ask people to pay a little more. Some will grumble, no doubt—but of course we grumble when anything goes up! And things are going up all the time—one annoying thing that happened recently was that when the purchase tax on many articles went up by two pence many manufacturers also put on a 2d. rise of their own, hoping doubtless that the Government would get all the blame for the 4d. increase! Nothing like that has happened here—and I must state how fair our printers, the Langham Press, have been all along, in keeping costs as low as possible and working on a minimum margin of profit. And the result is—you can still get this magazine for a whole year for the price of a packet of cigarettes—so there isn't really much to grumble at, is there?

Another alteration that has had to be made for reasons of economy is the setting-up of the standing matter for the whole year. As much of this becomes out-of-date in the course of 12 months, this has been reduced and many details that are liable to change omitted. This reduction has also helped us financially by making it possible to include an additional advertisement. We are grateful for the loyalty and support of our

advertisers, and we would ask our readers to support them in return—and I have been glad to hear of cases where new customers have been gained through an advertisement appearing in these pages, to the satisfaction of both sides.

The Old Year ended happily with the most successful Gift Day we have had—£68 in contrast to £32 last year and £57 (our previous best) in 1951; and with a very joyful Christmastide in a most beautifully decorated church. The New Year also began very happily with one of the most enjoyable parish parties that have ever been arranged.

The heating-system of the church has continued to give of its best, which is just adequate on cold days when our rather-too-small boiler is working at maximum capacity. I have been in charge for the past month, and have been keeping a record of the amount of coke used and the temperatures reached. It has been possible so far on every Sunday, even cold ones, to get the temperature in church up to or over 60° for all or most of the day, but only by starting the fire on Friday or Saturday morning, stoking very frequently, and using large quantities of coke. It is an interesting job, occasionally unpleasant owing to powerful fumes, but it does take up a good deal of time and energy, especially when heat is also needed in the week as well. The Church Council are considering the possibility of adapting the system to oil-burning for next winter. If practicable, this would involve a large initial expenditure, but it would reap dividends over a long period, and would have many advantages. Meanwhile I will continue to do my best to keep the present methods working as satisfactorily as possible to the end of this season, and hope to become increasingly expert as time goes on!

AROUND THE SPIRE

being notes and news about
people, activities & organisations

THE MOTHERS' UNION

At the December meeting we had the privilege of hearing Professor Hooke translating and enlightening us on the meaning—the

uncompromising meaning—of the labourers in the vineyard. There were only a few of us there, but we shall never forget his address.

On January 5th we had our

Carol Service and made a collection for the Church of England Children's Society. The Choir had previously visited Laurel Dene to sing carols.

On January 10th from 3.30—3.45 in church is our session in the week in which the World Wide Wave of Prayer touches our Diocese of London.

A PARISH WORKING-PARTY

At its last meeting the P.C.C. approved the setting up of a Parish Working-Party to meet in Wayside on Thursday afternoons. The idea behind this is to raise money mainly to help fill that apparently bottomless pit, the Renovation Fund.

We intend to make anything saleable, from jam to pickles and Christmas cards and including all varieties of handwork. As you know, we plan an extra big Summer Fête; goods are needed to fill the stalls to several times their usual stock to satisfy all the extra visitors we shall have. But, beginning with the marmalade season, we shall be prepared to sell whenever we can.

What we want NOW is:—

1. People who will offer to organise any particular piece of work.
2. People who can teach any craft.
3. People who (a) will come on a Thursday prepared to do any job that is going, or (b) who will come to learn or do a special job
4. Anyone who will help at all in any way at any time.

Please make OFFERS as soon as possible to the Vicarage or to any member of the Church Council. (And any who at any future date say that they would have liked to have helped but were not asked will receive an appropriate answer!).

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Here are the notes of the business of the Annual General Meeting promised in the December issue of the magazine. Held on Wednesday, 9th November, reports were made by the Treasurer, Mrs. Nichols, and the Secretary, Mrs. Southon, and by Mrs. Gloyns for the Dressmaking Class which is in abeyance for the time being, but will be re-organised if sufficient

demand is made for it. The new Committee was formed by nominations with one committee member elected by votes—Mrs. Johnson. Names and addresses were published in the December copy of The Spire.

Mrs. Dunkerley then took over the Chair from Mrs. Brunt, the retiring Chairman. She reminded the Group of the outstanding services of Mrs. Brunt, who had started the Young Wives over four years ago and had been in office from the beginning, organising and guiding them, with skill and distinction, and with that light touch of directness which is peculiarly her own, until now they were sturdy enough to allow her a well earned rest from the responsibilities of leadership. On behalf of the Young Wives, the new Chairman thanked Mrs. Brunt most fervently for all she had done. The meeting then proceeded to make and discuss suggestions for the 1956-57 programme and a good list was made for the Committee to work upon.

A Brains Trust was held on 30th November at 8.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We were honoured to have as our Team, Mrs. Bligh, Moral Welfare Secretary to the National Council of Women, Miss Scott, Headmistress of Lady Eleanor Holles' Girls' School, and Mrs. Whitfield, Assistant Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare. The Vicar was present and said Prayers. The Brains Trust answered some fourteen questions, previously submitted in writing, with clarity, insight and sincerity. It was great fun and it was very stimulating and thought provoking. There were some who regretted that there was not more disagreement within the Team!

On Friday, 30th December, a Children's Party was given in the Parish Hall. It was a great success. There were games and a splendid tea followed by a most amusing entertainment given by two prominent Funny Men who kept the children enthralled by their tricks, the songs and their patter. At the end Father Christmas came and drew from his sack a gift for each of the seventy-odd small guests. The special Committee formed, with Mrs. Southon

as Chairman, that organised the Party, is to be warmly congratulated on a very good job. Everything went beautifully. Last, but not least, it was a real joy to have amongst us again our old friend, Mrs. Hawkins, looking very well in the robes of Santa Claus.

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Jan. 20.—8.0 p.m. Open Meeting to consider formation of the Hampton Council of Churches. Speaker: The Reverend Kenneth Slack, M.B.E., General Secretary of British Council of Churches (Congregational Church Hall).
- Jan. 25.—Conversion of St. Paul. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group. Speaker: Miss Hutchins, Head Mistress of Kneller School (Wayside).
- Jan. 31.—7.30 p.m. Finance Committee (Vicarage); 8.15 p.m. Church Council (Wayside).
- Feb. 1.—3.0 p.m. Mothers' Union Party (Hall).
- Feb. 2.—The Presentation. 7.15 and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 4.0 p.m. Sunday School Outing to Pantomime on Ice.
- Feb. 3.—8.15 p.m. Council of Churches (Hampton Vicarage).
- Feb. 7.—8.0 p.m. Street Wardens and Prayer Group (Wayside).
- Feb. 9.—8.0 p.m. Meeting to plan for Summer Fete (Laurel Dene).
- Feb. 10.—7.30 p.m. Magazines ready. Distributors' Meeting (Vicarage).

MARRIAGES

- Dec. 21.—Harold Anthony Franklin to Sonia Rosalee Bolton.
- „ 23.—Robert Forrest Webb to Olive Estelle Blay.

BAPTISM

- Jan. 8.—Sally Patricia Bain, 31, Burton's Road.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

- Dec. 1.—Flora Vincent, 108, High Street, aged 75 years.
- „ 3.—Beatrice Violet Wynn Isdell - Carpenter, Bryn Glen, Beaconsfield, aged 83 years.
- „ 7.—Hortense Stevens, Banstead Hospital, Sutton, aged 81 years (at Twickenham).
- „ 16.—Frederick Arthur Smith, 34, Seymour Road, aged 79 years (at Hampton).
- „ 16.—Linda Jean Barnes, Newholme, Hanworth Road, aged 2½ years.
- „ 17.—Mary Agnes Jakeman, 17, Highmoor Road, Caversham, Reading, aged 80 years (Interment of Ashes).
- „ 22.—David Thomas Lewis, 50, St. James's Avenue, aged 51 years (at S.W. Middx. Crematorium).
- Jan. 3.—Frank Trimbee, 27, Anlaby Road, Teddington, aged 83 years (at S.W. Middx. Crematorium).
- „ 6.—Florence Mary Green, Laurel Dene, aged 80 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- „ 10.—Frederick Lucas, 34, Wolsey Road, aged 69 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- „ 12.—Vera May Barrell, 88, Park Road, aged 48 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).
- „ 12.—Bertram Smith, 60, Myrtle Road, aged 69 years.

FROM BEYOND THE SPIRE

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND ZENANA MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The C.E.Z.M.S. has worked for 75 years among the women and children of India, Pakistan, Ceylon and China. Now that no Christian work by foreigners is possible in China, its ex-China missionaries work among the large Chinese population in Malaya. Items of interest this quarter include the following:—

Malaya. Opportunities for Christian work here are endless, especially in the New Villages; the door is not closed to direct evangelistic service. The Bishop of Singapore has recently appealed for groups of three, comprising a nurse with two evangelists to help her. Who will go?

Church of South India. Basic Education is now the official policy of the Congress Party in India. It relates primary education

to the realities of life and is intended to carry out the ideals of Gandhi, to foster village life, and to prevent the drift to the cities. In principle, it is instruction through the life of a productive community (i.e. a village and its industry), built on the Gandhian philosophy of truth and non-violence. It is concerned with the effort to see life as a whole, and to share responsibilities and privileges. Thus, in an agricultural area, the accent would be on cultivation, training the children to prepare the land, plant seeds, gather in the crop, sell it, and learn their reading and arithmetic whilst doing so. Another area might devote its energies to spinning, weaving, etc.

While this is fundamentally a sound idea, it has its dangers; the Gandhian ideal of relationship between work and worship is carried out in an act of common worship, syncretic in character, which cannot be entered into by Christians.

The Church feels that it must show how such a pattern of life can be based on Christian principles, so that a Christian interpretation of this method of education can be incorporated into its own schools. Miss Celia Barber, a C.E.Z.M.S. missionary working with the Church of South India, is now being trained to study this question.

East and West Punjab. The recent disastrous floods have involved many of the Christian population and our missionaries in great distress, destroyed homes, churches and other buildings, as well as crops and cattle. They are the worst in the history of the Punjab; it is estimated that 60% of the rural people have lost their homes and most of their possessions. The demands made upon the Society's funds for rebuilding and repairs will be beyond its power to meet from present resources.

NEWS FROM THE C.M.S.

Christmas Day in Nigeria

A C.M.S. missionary describes Christmas Day at a hospital in Nigeria:—

"Christmas was a time of joy. We produced a Nativity Play in the Hospital Chapel, which we repeated three times. For each performance we had a new born baby (as two arrived on Christmas morning!). This greatly added to the reality, for new born Nigerian babies are pink, and if we had had one which had begun to darken the people would have known that it was not newly born.

"The play was written depicting the Nativity as having taken place in a Nigerian village—the wise men were dressed as local chiefs, and the scene outside the Inn at Bethlehem was typical of any Nigerian village on Market day; the stable we built of leaves and branches closely resembling the outbuildings in which so many mothers in this country have their babies. Nearly everyone had a part in the play; one little boy who was a shepherd had never before heard the Christmas story, and was very thrilled to take part."

Christian Opportunity in Kenya

A member of the Christian Council of Kenya writes:—

"From every detention camp where Christian workers are stationed there come reports of former Mau Mau adherents now begging for Christian teaching. Many of them were at one time members of the Church, but their nominal Christianity could not resist the pressure of Mau Mau . . . Now they are turning again to the Church for something substantial to satisfy their spiritual needs.

"In some of the rural areas of the Kikuyu territory there has been a parallel movement of the Spirit, and urgent requests have been received for Christian teaching. Missionaries and African Church leaders have not been slow to make good use of such opportunities for evangelistic work . . ."