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ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HAMBLEDON
AUGUST 1979

THE RECTOR WRITES

I would like to ask for your prayers over the coming months for one of the younger members of our congregation, Paul Atkins, who during this last week has flown out to Bangkok to work for one year among Cambodian refugees in Thailand.

Many of us have heard from the Rev. Patrick Ashe of the wonderful work being done by Project Vietnam Orphans, in which he and his family are specially involved. Now Paul is giving them twelve months service. On arrival in Bangkok he will be shown round several refugee camps by Robert Ashe, then given a crash course in the Thai language. He then goes to Surin, a town some three hundred miles North East of Bangkok, near the Thai border. He will work daily in the big refugee camp there, especially to help the refugees to initiate self-help training schemes. One day some country may offer them a home; but in the meantime they need a lot of help. Two nurses, including Jane Ashe, will be there too in the P.V.O. team.

Also during this last week Timothy Cundy and his wife (a daughter of Mr & Mrs John Hansford) set off to teach in the Solomon Isles. Missionary work comes alive for us when our own friends hear God's call, and go. Pray for them all, that God may protect and guide them, and make them a blessing to many

1 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer(Rectory)

5 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in modern English

7.45 pm Young People meet

12 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

15 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer(Rectory)

19 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 6.30 pm

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer and Public Baptism

6.30 pm Holy Communion

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

26 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am

10 am Series II Holy Communion

11 am Morning Prayer

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at Little woodlands

29 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

AND IN SEPTEMBER

3.

2 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am and 12 noon
10 am Children's Church : Public Baptism
11 am Morning Prayer
6.30 pm Evening Prayer in modern English
7.45 pm Heath Cottage

9 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at 8 am
11 am Morning Prayer and Public Baptism
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

10 Mon. 7.45 pm Parochial Church Council Meeting
12 Wed. 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

CHURCH FLOWERS

August 5 Mrs P. Gardner
12 Mrs E.A. Wieler
19 Mrs M.B.P. Stedall
26 Miss E.F. Denny
Sept. 2 Mrs E. Hardy
9 Mrs E.A. Wieler

FREE WILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for June 1979. £259 - 95p.

E.F. Denny

CHURCH REGISTERS

Confirmation at Guildford Cathedral on 10 July:--

Lucy Constant
Josephine Redman

Marriage

7 July Timothy Keith Pearson and Julie Ann Reeve

TURKEY and PATMOS

(Jottings from David and Eula Symonds recent tour)

During our eight-day stay in Turkey, the sites of three of "the seven churches which are in Asia" (mentioned in Revelation 2 and 3) were among the places we visited. We also saw performing bears, watched local experts perform national country dances to the accompaniment of strange instruments, ate many unknown foods, drank much excellent orange squash (for the temperature was over 100°F), and in the evenings heard expositions from relevant passages from Acts and Paul's Epistle to Ephesians. By way of relaxation there was bathing in the Aegean from the palm beach forty yards from the hotel verandah on which we ate our meals.

The three of the "Seven churches" which we visited were Smyrna (now called Izmir), the third largest city in modern Turkey, with a population of 2 million), Laodicea (now an unexcavated ruin), and Ephesus, the most fascinating place we visited. Our guide told us that Roman Ephesus, in N.T. times must have had a population of 250,000 without counting slaves. Temples to the honour of Roman emperors have been excavated and the ruins reconstructed; the ruins of the public library and other civic buildings were standing, and we were able to walk down the marble roadway on which the feet of Paul, Timothy, and the Apostle John must have trod during the first century.

The greatest moment of all, however, was when we stood in the ancient theatre, carved out of the hillside, with tier upon tier of semi-circular stone seating. Crowds of 25,000 could be accommodated in a full house, and the acoustics were almost as good as the smaller, but more famous theatre at Epidaurus in Southern Greece. The leader of our party read to us the story in Acts 19 telling of the riot, and we could not but think with admiration of the courage and tact of the Town Clerk who quelled the fury of the mob which faced him on that occasion.

The temple of the goddess Diana, whose honour had inspired the anger of the mob, has yet to be excavated from the swamp in which it is immersed, and the guide told us to return in the year 2079 if we would like to see it in reconstructed glory!

Some of needed to revise our idea of Patmos, if, indeed, we imagined a rocky island in which John was incarcerated, with stone quarries in which offenders against the Emperor Domitian worked. Perhaps such a description suited the conditions of the first century. The twentieth century, however, reveals a pleasant island of 25 square miles and with an irregular coastline. Our hotel, one of three along the water-front, was comfortable and modern, in Skala, the largest of the three villages Patmos can boast. Along the water-front, past open-air restaurants, go buses, cycles, lorries, and motorcycles, while Mediterranean cruise liners, which call three times a week, discharge their tourists to "do Patmos" in three hours.

The second village, Chora, is more than 1,000 feet above sea level, and can now be reached by bus up a zig-zag road. A few years ago the back of a donkey was the only alternative to a stiff climb. The Greek Orthodox monastery of St. John dominates the village: it was founded the year after William the Conqueror died and is full of priceless treasures - icons, frescoes, ecclesiastical robes, jewels and manuscripts, including part of an early manuscript of St. Mark's Gospel. Half way down from the Monastery may be seen the cave where St. John is supposed to have lived, more it appears as a hermit than a prisoner; and the spot where he rested his elbow as he wrote the book Revelation is showed to the credulous.

6.

PERSONALIA

Mrs Leach, who has been far from well for a long time at home, has twice had to be admitted to St. Luke's Hospital for nursing care during the past few weeks. Mrs Yoemen has also been in hospital, at The County. Timothy Coleman, in avoiding a hidden and most unfortunately parked van here in Hambledon, had an accident on his motor cycle, broke his right forearm, and damaged some knee ligaments, so that both had to be in plaster. We send our very best wishes to all our sick friends, and also to Mrs John Taylor whose mother died recently.

AFTER THE FIGHTING IN UGANDA

Extracts from a letter to Mac and Sheila Bolton from their Ugandan friend, a Christian.

"There was a terrible war here ... When we returned we found nothing in the house and the office burned. All our property was taken, plates, cups, forks, spoons, 4 beds, blankets, sheets, shoes, a bicycle, shirts, shorts, trousers, coat, dresses, a radio, my whole library, watches. My savings bank account book was burnt in the office and my ledger in the bank was burned. I was preparing to buy a piece of land. So I don't have any money now...

Traffic is moving now because petrol has come. Food is coming into town. Some schools have opened. There is no electricity except the hospital which is using a generator...I have heard that Budo was looted like other schools... The Vicar at St. James Cathedral told us 150 Europeans will be coming from Holland to build a community centre at Ruharo. Two of them have arrived already; we met them in Church. We are happy because Europeans have started coming to Uganda again... Please try to send us some old clothes which you are no longer using; and old novels... we don't have any books to read. Especially if you can buy The Advanced Principles of Accounts by A.J. Favell...mine was looted. "

(Ed. Please contact Mac or Sheila Bolton if you can help)

JUNE ORGAN RECITAL

7

Following Christopher Mabley's fine organ recital on 28 June a total of £36-50p was given in a retiring offering, and we have been glad to send this to Tear Fund for the relief of distress**

As promised, we publish the Recital Programme below:-

Sonata 3 in A

Mendelssohn

from Suite Gothique

Léon Boellmann

(ii) Menuet Gothique

(iii) Prière a Notre Dame

Toccata

Georgi Mushel

Rhosymedre

Vaughan Williams

Toccata and Fugue in D Minor Bach

** The organisers of Tear Fund have written to thank us for this gift, and to say that they are currently sending large grants to relieve the hungry and homeless from the civil war in Nicaragua. Also (to assist several missionary societies working in the huge swampy region in Central Sudan where travel is almost impossible for 6 to 8 months of the year) they are helping the Missionary Aviation Fellowship in some capital expenditure to provide air service.

MID WEEK BIBLE STUDIES

The fortnightly Wednesday Evening Bible Studies at the Rectory continue during the month of August. We meet on August 1, 15, and 29, at 8.15 pm, continuing our informal studies in the book of Acts.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church also continues as usual during the holiday weeks (at 10 am on August 5 and 19).

Sunday Club, however, is in abeyance until the school Autumn term begins.

8.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The speaker at our June meeting was Mrs Sue Sansom. The subject of her talk was 'How to cope' in both small incidents and major ones. She explained how, with God's help, big things could be divided up, and coped with in small parts. We all learned from her talk, which will help us all at some time.

The Fellowship closes now for a summer holiday recess, and reopens on 25 October.

M.E.H.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr Alan Perry of Television News gave a very comprehensive account of his work as News Editor for the B.B.C. when he spoke to Hambledon W.I. on "News and Current Affairs on Television". He told us of the great strides forward made in 25 years, and how they are now planning further improvements with an electronic camera which will simplify production procedures. Miss Mary Parker thanked the speaker.

It was an open meeting and members of other institutes were welcomed.

Mrs May won the Craft Competition, and Mrs Collingbourne had the winning raffle ticket. Tea was provided by members of the committee.

E.G.F.

THE VILLAGE HALL

The new convector heaters are now installed, and the bills have been paid. The committee would like to thank all those whose support has made this possible. The response to the appeal was most generous, and donations reached the magnificent total of £326.

R.G.W.