

ST PETER'S HAMBLETON

FEBRUARY 1979

THE RECTOR WRITES

Lent, which begins on the last day of this month, has traditionally been a time of study and thought by Christians, when we seek to deepen our understanding of some aspect of the Christian Faith. In the next magazine, the Sunday sermon series, morning and evening, will be listed, together with the Wednesday evening addresses. Here is a preview:-

SUNDAY MORNINGS For these I have in mind a theme chosen three years ago by the Chaplain of King Edward's School - "It's hard to believe that God cares that Jesus is real that prayer works". The subjects arose out of questions which he knew were much in the minds of sixth formers there. I believe that similar questions may sometimes come our way too: and we could add others "It's hard to believe in miracles . . . that Jesus was born of a virgin" I hope that this will be a useful line to pursue.

AND FOR SUNDAY EVENINGS, a closer look at one of the great characters of the Old Testament whose life story is told with special fulness.

AND FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESSES, the earlier stages in the life and missionary service of Paul. These addresses could in part be illustrated by a few colour transparencies which would help us to picture the scene more vividly, and so to understand better this fascinating and important stage in the early days of the Christian Church.

More details next month.

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 1979

4 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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 at Heath Cottage

8 Thu. 8 pm Parish Fellowship (Village Hall):
Mr David Symonds shows a film of a
tour in the Highlands of Scotland

9 - 11 HOUSE-PARTY WEEKEND AT FAIRMILE COURT

11 SEPTUAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. Clive Cooper
and Sunday Club

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

14 Wed 8.15 pm Bible Study and Prayer (Rectory)

18 SEXAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am and 6.30 pm

10 am Children's Church

11 am Morning Prayer: Public Baptism

6.30 pm Holy Communion

7.45 pm Young People at Heath Cottage

25 QUINQUAGESIMA

Holy Communion at 8 am and 10 am

10 am Series 2 Holy Communion: Rev. Patrick Ashe

11 am Morning Prayer: Rev. Patrick Ashe
and Sunday Club

6.30 pm Evening Prayer: Canon A.C. Turnbull

7.45 pm Young People at Little Woodlands

28 Wed. FIRST DAY OF LENT

11.30 am Holy Communion

12.30 pm Hunger Lunch at The Rectory

AND IN MARCH

4 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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 at Heath Cottage

7 Wed. 8 for 8.30 pm LENT COURSE BEGINS IN RECTORY8 Thu. 8 pm Parish Fellowship (Village Hall)
Mrs C B. de Vere Green "Fans"11 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Holy Communion at 8 am

11 am Morning Prayer: Sunday Club

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

7.45 pm Young People at the Rectory

CHURCH FLOWERS

February	4	Mrs D Symonds
	11	Mrs E A Wieler
	18	Mrs J Cave
	25	Mrs M Stevens

The list for the first six months of 1979 is posted in the Church Porch, and we shall be most grateful if ladies will kindly set their names against the dates they choose.

FREE WILL OFFERING SCHEME

Total for December 1978 - £112.51 E F Denny

CAROL SINGING FOR C. OF E. CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A carol party went round the village on December 18th, and collected £33 for the Children's Society. Many thanks to those who came and sang, to those kind people who entertained us, and to all who gave so generously.

If two small carol books are found, please could they be returned to Feathercombe.

M.R.P

THANK YOU

It is a pleasure to be able to thank our members that yet again last year our Church giving increased in something like the same proportion as the cost of living. Clearly our members understand (without constant appeals) that we need to advance our giving every year in this way if our Church income is to "stay as it is". We are sincerely grateful for this sense of responsibility.

Our missionary giving was similarly advanced. The Church of England as a whole gives only very feebly to God's work overseas (where the needs are enormously greater), and we are very glad indeed to help to redress the ill-balance.

Nowadays most Christians need to review their giving once a year, particularly if their own income has increased. Here are some thoughts:-

- (i) ABOUT WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES NO gifts are too small so long as they are given regularly. Many a pensioner, or housewife, or young person, may only be able to make a small gift. Do not be afraid to start small. Miss Denny would provide you with your set of weekly envelopes if you ask; and of course she keeps the matter entirely confidential.
- (ii) ABOUT COVENANTS More than 60 of our members have made a "covenant", promising to give a certain annual sum for seven years. Then Miss Denny (who looks after covenants for us) is able to reclaim from Inland Revenue the tax on that amount, so that about 30% is added to the value of your gift. Is this not tremendously worth doing?

If you were to leave Hambledon before the seven years is up, your gift could easily be transferred to another church.

If you were to lose your job or be unable to pay, you could simply ask the Church Council to release you from your covenant.

A covenant could be signed (thus adding the "30% bonus"), but the money could actually be given through Weekly Offering Envelopes. Many do this.

The scheme is really very simple, and one would have thought more of our members could make use of it. Miss Denny would gladly answer queries.

- (iii) ANOTHER GOOD IDEA Many might want to gain the advantage of the "30% bonus" by signing a covenant, but would like to give to missionary societies and other charities, and might want to retain freedom to alter the beneficiaries from year to year (even though the covenanted total remains the same). This can be done through the Charities Aid Fund. A covenant is made with them, and annually the donor instructs them how to distribute the annual gift plus the 30% bonus. They do all the donkey work. It is a simple and excellent scheme. Mr Cecil Chapman or the Rector would gladly tell you more.

COMMUNITY HEALTH IN INDIAN VILLAGES

Tear Fund has written to thank us for our gift of £68.20 from the Christmas Hunger Lunch. Our gift was allocated to their Christmas project, a group of 16 hospitals in rural India, where there is increasing emphasis on the prevention of common diseases in community health programmes.

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

Our Parish Council has arranged an informal open seminar, to which all interested are warmly invited, on the broader aspects of planning in our village. The date is Friday 23 February, in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The County Planning Officer, Mr Peter Harris, has accepted an invitation; and invitations have also been sent to the District Planning Officer, to Major Mervyn-Smith our representative on Waverley District Council, and to Dr Jonathan Wood our representative on Surrey County Council, as well as others.

CONFIRMATION COURSES

A small group of young people are now preparing, (probably for the Confirmation Service in Godalming on 19 May), on Saturday afternoons at 5 pm in the Rectory.

Some adults have expressed interest in a "refresher course", but after reflection it has seemed better to defer this until a little later on. The Rector will keep in touch with those who have already spoken to him, and also with any others who like to enquire.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

The fortnightly Wednesday evening Bible Studies will be working through the book of Acts during the coming months. We meet in the Rectory at 8.15 pm on 31 January and 14 February. After that, the special Lent Course (weekly from 7 March) takes over until Holy Week.

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY GROUPS

The 10.30 am discussion groups for ladies continue throughout February,

on Tuesdays at the Rectory

on Wednesdays at Longacre, New Road.

All ladies are most welcome even if they are not able to come every week

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Godalming area service will be held at 2.15 pm in Godalming Parish Church on Friday 2 March. The speaker is to be Mrs Clarence Foster, from Guildford. Several cars are likely to be going from Hambledon and it should be possible to give lifts to ladies who enquire.

PERSONALIA

PETER RODERICK, after waiting in much discomfort for many months, has now had the operation to provide a new hip joint. He was walking on it within two days! We hope later that he will be able to tell us that this second operation is proving just as successful as the operation on his other hip four years ago. MR STANDING has had a chest infection which called for a long spell in bed and careful nursing at home. He is now steadily improving.

We send our sympathy to MRS BLACKMAN of Church Lane, whose mother died shortly after Christmas.

SAM HAMPDEN PARKER, at the early age of seventeen, has won a scholarship to Pembroke College, Oxford. He is to take this up in 1980 to read Agricultural and Forest Sciences. Our warm congratulations to him.

THE HON. MRS WINTON DEAN has had to go to Milford Hospital so that she can be made to rest under their observation. We hope this is not too irksome to her and that she is able to be home again soon.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

The Parish Party in January brought our friends in really good numbers, in spite of the cold weather outside. The games, led by various members, went with a swing; and the excellent refreshments, provided by many of our kind ladies, were greatly appreciated by us all. It was a really happy evening.

At February's meeting, in the Village Hall on Thursday 8th at 8 pm Mr David Symonds is presenting a film about the Highlands of Scotland. We hope many will come.

On 8 March Mrs C. de Vere Green of Hydon Wood Cottage, is to give us a talk on "Fans" illustrated both by transparencies and also by some beautiful examples. She is an acknowledged expert on this subject, and many of us will want to come and learn.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Christmas gathering of the Women's Fellowship held on 20 December, took the usual form for Carol Singing; but, as last year, we enjoyed having with us six members of the Youth Group to help us, one of whom brought a guitar. Caroline Atkins took over the running of the meeting, and Jennifer Vranich told us about the activities of the Group. Then Caroline Brandon spoke to us about her first term at Hull University, her experiences of the way God guided and led her.

The next meeting of the Fellowship will be on Thursday, 22 February, when Mrs Ashe of Busbridge will be giving an illustrated talk on her recent visit to South East Asia in connection with Project Vietnam Orphans.

S.M.S.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Everyone left the Hambledon W.I. meeting on Wednesday, 10 January, full of ideas and determination to experiment with the nine British Hard Cheeses displayed by Mrs Ogilvy, and to be more selective in future when buying cheese. Mrs Ogilvy gave a brief history of cheese making and its wonderful food value, which was recognised by the Romans, who used it to sustain their soldiers on long marches. Cheshire is the oldest British cheese, dating back to the 12th century. The members enjoyed tasting the cheese provided by the Dairy Council.

The president, Mrs Crowhurst, conducted the business meeting. Mrs Brunt thanked the speaker, and Mrs Wilson won the raffle. Tea was served by Mrs Jeffery.

E.G.F.

HAMBLETON VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 13 February at 8 pm.