

## RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

We extend to you all our best wishes for a happy New Year. Each new period of time brings its changes, and in the midst of the present period of rapid change and constant uncertainty the Christian finds comfort and strength in the knowledge that "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, and today, and for ever" (Hebrews xiii, 8). As we enter another year we can look back over the past and see the ways in which we have been led. There have been unexpected problems to face, and unexpected joys to experience, and through them all we have been conscious of an Unseen Hand leading us. The experiences of the past are intended to encourage us for the future, and if we have committed ourselves to Christ then we can look forward in the confidence that what He has been to us in the past He will be to us in the future, whatever that may bring. If, in Old Testament days, one of God's servants could find strength in the claim that "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," then we who put our confidence in Christ can most certainly find strength to face 1959 in the knowledge that the Risen Lord has promised "I am with you alway, even to the end of the world."

If we go forward into the New Year remembering that Unseen Presence always with us, we will find that our lives become controlled by Him, and in every emergency we will seek His guidance and His aid.

May God bless you all.

Yours sincerely, C. EDWARD ELTON.

We wish to thank all who have so kindly sent us Christmas cards and their good wishes for the New Year.

## DIARY FOR MONTH

- Jan. 4th. Sun. **Second Sunday after Christmas.**  
8 a.m., Holy Communion.  
10 a.m., Children's Church.  
11 a.m., Morning Prayer.  
12 noon, Holy Communion.  
6.30 p.m., Evening Prayer.
- 8th. Thurs. Church Fellowship in Village Hall, 8 p.m.  
Sound film, "Sea Parish," will be shown by the  
Rev. D. P. Hutchison, of the Missions to Sea-  
men.
- 11th. Sun. **First Sunday after Epiphany.**  
8 a.m., Holy Communion.  
11 a.m., Morning Prayer.  
6.30 p.m., Evening Prayer.
- 18th. Sun. **Second Sunday after Epiphany.**



- 8 a.m., Holy Communion.  
 11 a.m., Morning Prayer.  
 6.30 p.m., Evening Prayer and Holy Communion.
- 21st. Wed. Lecture in Borough Hall, Godalming. "Beauty in Ancient English Churches," at 8 p.m. The Godalming Society.
- 22nd. Thurs. Young Wives' Group at Beech Hill, 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss Higgins, Organising Secretary, Church of England Children's Society.
- 25th. Sun. **Septuagesima, Conversion of St. Paul.**  
 8 a.m., Holy Communion.  
 11 a.m., Morning Prayer.  
 6.30 p.m., Evening Prayer.
- Feb. 1st. Sun. **Sexagesima.**  
 8 a.m., Holy Communion.  
 10 a.m., Children's Church.  
 11 a.m., Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.  
 6.30 p.m., Evening Prayer.

#### YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Mrs. A. J. de C. Studdert gave a most interesting address about the recent tour which she and the Archdeacon made through Russia and surrounding countries, when she visited the Group on November 27th. There was a good attendance at the November meeting and everyone greatly appreciated Mrs. Studdert's visit. The December meeting was held on Thursday, December 4th, when we spent most of the afternoon listening to recordings of Christmas carols, and also in singing some of the well-known carols ourselves. We were pleased to welcome to this meeting a few members of the Witley Young Wives' Group. The Children's Party, which was also held on December 4th, proved to be a very happy time, and a visit from "Father Christmas," who gave a present for each child, brought the afternoon to a happy close.

The speaker at the January meeting (January 22nd) will be the local representative of the Church of England Children's Society, Miss Higgins.

#### THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Those who attended the December meeting of the Fellowship were privileged to see the delightful colour transparencies which had been taken by the Rev. A. H. Hargroves, of St. Thomas' Hospital, when he visited Norway during the summer. We were most grateful to Mr. Hargroves for bringing the slides and for the most interesting talk he gave us. The purpose of his visit to Norway was to conduct English services at Ulvik for English-speaking tourists who were staying at or near that centre. He told us how much the ministry of the English Chaplain is appreciated

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at these centres on the Continent, and how helpful to him the Norwegians were during his stay in their country. The Chaplaincy at Ulvik is provided for by the Commonwealth and Continental Church Society.

The next meeting of the Fellowship will be Thursday, January 8th, when the Rev. D. P. Hutchison, the Missions to Seamen Organising Secretary for this Area, will show us films about the work of the Mission among the members of our Merchant Navy at home and abroad. The title of the film is "Sea Parish," and Mr. Hutchison will also show another film about life at sea.

**Fellowship programme for remainder of the season:—**

Thursday, February 12th.—"The Lambeth Conference Film" (sound and colour).

Thursday, March 12th.—The Archdeacon of Surrey (Ven. A. J. de C. Studdert) will show the film he took during his recent visit to Russia.

Thursday, April 9th.—Dr. Anthony Laughton will show sound films taken in connection with his work in the National Institute of Oceanography. Fuller details later.

The Fellowship now meets in the Village Hall, instead of in the Day School.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**Prayer Book for Rector's Stall**

A new Prayer Book (leather bound) has been presented to the church by Mrs. Paul Hugon, of Torrance, California, in memory of her husband, who died in America in 1958. Mr. and Mrs. Hugon were married in St. Peter's Church, Hambledon, on June 27th, 1908, and celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary shortly before his death. Mrs. Hugon (formerly Miss Lena Standing), had always hoped that she and her husband would be able to return to her home village for the celebration of their golden wedding, but sickness prevented them from making the journey. We wish to record our grateful thanks to Mrs. Hugon for her gift to St. Peter's Church.

**CONFIRMATION AT HAMBLEDON IN 1959**

It is many years since we had a Confirmation Service in St. Peter's Church, and we are glad to be able to announce that the Bishop has kindly arranged for us to have the Confirmation Service in our church this year, on Sunday, October 18th, at 6.30 p.m. Details about Confirmation classes will be given shortly.

**REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Parochial Church Council will be revising the Electoral Roll this month, and if you are entitled to have your name on the Roll will you kindly verify that it has been entered. A copy of the Roll will be found near the entrance door of the church, and application forms are also to be found there. If your name is not on the Roll, please complete one of the application forms and



hand it to the Secretary of the Parochial Church Council (or to the Rector) without delay. The Church Electoral Roll for this Parish was completely revised last year, and, therefore, if you checked your entry on the Roll after that revision, there will be no need for you to do this again this year. There must, however, be several friends who have joined our services during the past year whose names are not on the Roll.

Lay members of the Church of England, of either sex, of seventeen years and upwards, who are: (a) Baptised and declare that they are members of the Church of England and do not belong to any religious body which is not in communion with the Church of England; and who are (b) Resident in the Parish, or if not so resident, have habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment, are qualified to have their names on the Church Electoral Roll.

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

This magazine goes to press just before the Christmas services, and it is not possible, therefore, for us to include a report about these. The decoration of the church for the Festival has, however, just been completed, and we wish to thank all who have so kindly sent us gifts towards the decorations, and also the good friends who have once again made the church look so beautiful for the Christmas services.

#### GUILDFORD NEW CATHEDRAL

As our readers are already aware, an all-out effort is being made in the parishes this year to provide the money needed to complete the Cathedral in time for its consecration in 1960. We enclose a copy of a letter which recently appeared in "The Times," and which explains the present position with regard to Guildford New Cathedral.

A number of further suggestions have been made concerning ways in which individuals may help in this effort. At least one thousand chairs will be needed for the Nave, and a gift of £5 would provide one chair and contribute a little towards providing the Nave itself.

The parochial representative for the Guildford New Cathedral Fund is Mrs. L. P. Haviland, Vale House, Hydon Heath.

#### THE MAGAZINE

We thank all those who so kindly distributed the magazines in the Parish. Their help is very much appreciated.

#### CHURCH REGISTERS

##### **Holy Baptism**

"One Lord, one faith, one baptism."

Dec. 6th. Mark Watkin, son of Harold Martin and Joan Palmer.

##### **Burial**

"Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted."

Dec. 2nd. Catherine Kinch, aged 76 years.