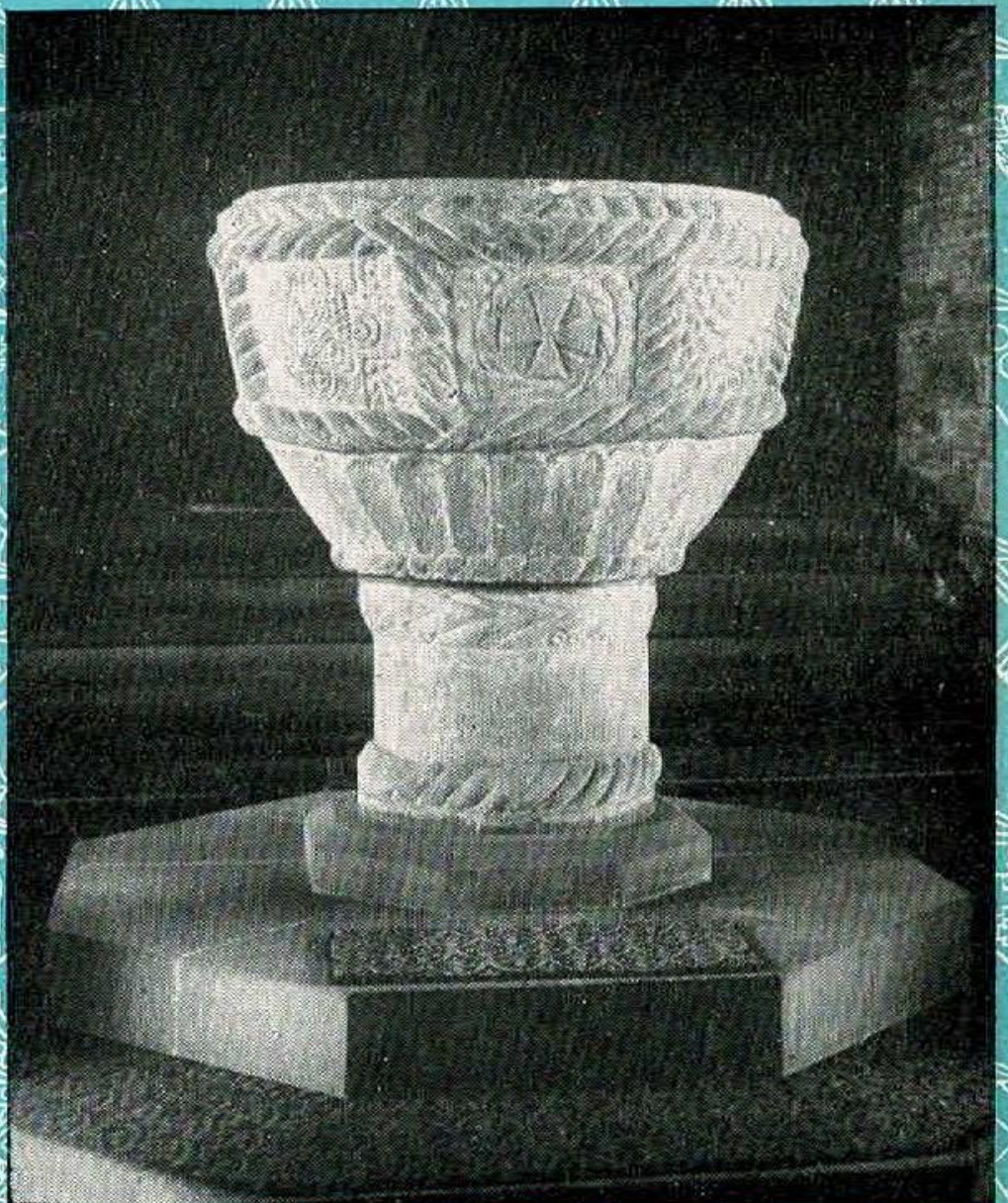




ST. PAUL'S
CHURCH NEWS
NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH



Sunshine on Bideford Font

[Home Words.]

OCTOBER, 1958

FOURPENCE

STAFF :

- Vicar**—Rev. R. W. Goldspink, M.A., The Vicarage, Colyers Lane, Erith (2809).
Curate—Rev. N. G. Norgate, B.A., 185 Avenue Road, Erith.
Hon. Curate—Rev. W. Barrett, M.A., 109 Upton Road, Bexleyheath. (1440).

OFFICERS :

- Churchwardens**—Mr. W. P. Carrier, 237 Bexley Road.
Mr. A. W. Powell, 31 Horsa Road.
Hon. Secretary—Mr. J. New, 95 Horsa Road.
Hon. Treasurer—Mr. Chas. Giles, 31 Heathway.
Hon. Sec. Freewill Offering Scheme—Miss A. L. Russell, 18 Heathway.
Church Hall Secretary—Mr. L. Weeks, 24 Hengist Road.
Community Centre Secretary—Mr. P. W. Ayres, 67 Horsa Road, Erith 4563.
Church Caretaker—Miss Beardmore, 40 Mill Road.
Organist and Choirmaster—Mr. S. G. Ducker, 6 Cheshunt Road, Belvedere.
Organist Emeritus—Mr. J. Crane.
Magazine Editor—The Vicar.
Magazine Secretary—Mr. J. Waddup, 95 Edendale Road, Barnehurst.

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CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER.

- October 2 Thursday,
10.0 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Michael & All Angels).
8.0 p.m. Bible & Prayer Fellowship.
- 5 18th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer—**Family Service**.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 6 Monday,
8.0 p.m. Men's Fellowship.
- 9 Thursday,
8.0 p.m. Bible & Prayer Fellowship.
- 12 19th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 16 Thursday,
10.0 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Luke).
10.50 a.m. Young Wives "Coffee Morning".
8.0 p.m. C.P.-A.S. Film Evening.
- 19 20th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer—**Parade Service**.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 23 Thursday,
8.0 p.m. Bible & Prayer Fellowship.
- 26 21st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer and Holy Communion.
- 30 Thursday,
10.0 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Simon & St. Jude).
8.0 p.m. Bible & Prayer Fellowship.

November 1 Saturday,
ANNUAL GIFT DAY.
The Vicar will be in Church from 10.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m.

- 2 22nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer—**Family Service**.
3.0 p.m. Children's Gift Service.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Requests for Baptism and Calling of Banns of Marriage should be made to the Vicar. At least seven days notice should be given.

Material for inclusion in the November issue of the Magazine should be handed to the Vicar not later than Friday, 17th October.



Dear Friends,

In the last few years a new word has been coined, it is "brinkmanship", a word which sums the agony and peril of millions of people who are again perched on the brink of war.

The trouble in Quemoy seems a long way off but for untold thousands it means at this moment undiluted horror, misery, bereavement, and destruction unlimited. Only a few weeks ago it was Lebanon's turn, and then that of Israel and Egypt, and before that Hungary. We easily forget! There was French Indo China, Tibet, and Korea, and the terror of Algeria today is penetrating to the capital city of our neighbours. All this, and very much else besides has happened within a span of thirteen years since the last great world war ground itself to a standstill.

What is the matter with the world? Is there no answer? Is it that the militant atheism of Marxist Communism, with its goal of world dominion by any means, is more attractive to the depressed nations than the West's way of life. Or is it possible that the professed Christianity of the West is now so threadbare as not to be worth having? One longs to see at least something of the fervour which Communists have for their cause (and it has all the power of a religious faith) evident in those whose heritage is Christian.

There is an answer to all these troubles, but not an answer that is likely to be acceptable to most, that is, a re-discovery of the God who loves and cares. This discovery is one which begins from a kneeling position and therefore will never be popular, but **it is the only way**. No one any longer believes that "man is the master of his destiny" nor that brilliant scientific progress will usher in "heaven on earth". The one hope for mankind is that they might discover the Power of God in their lives through the "Gospel of Peace", for He alone is the "Author of Peace", and His will is "Our Peace".

The Christian testimony today remains unchanged, "When He giveth quietness, who then can make trouble?" and again "Acquaint thyself with Him, and be at peace".

Yours most sincerely,

ROBERT GOLDSPINK.

GIFT DAY.

In accordance with the custom of our Church, the Vicar will be in Church on Gift Day, Saturday, 1st November, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to receive gifts. Members are invited to make their gifts a matter of forethought, prayer, and care in order that the work and witness of the Church may be unhampered financially. Details of the £200 needed have been set out in a previous letter.

On Sunday, 2nd November, at 11 a.m. there will be the monthly Family Service during which it is hoped there will be a number of infants Baptised; at 3 p.m. there is to be a Children's Gift Service to which parents and friends are invited, and at 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

HOLY COMMUNION.

Change of times.

Owing to difficulties experienced by members in attending the Communion Service on the first Sunday morning of the month, after the Family Service, it has been decided that with effect from October, Holy Communion will be celebrated after Morning Prayer on the second Sunday of the month. It is hoped that this will enable more members to attend. In addition the Evening Communion, previously after Evening Prayer on the third Sunday of each month, has been re-arranged for the fourth Sunday evening. The 8 a.m. Celebration will continue each Sunday morning as before, and on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. as announced in Church.

The St. Paul's Appeal.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

It was a great thrill to see the Church so crowded on the occasion of S.P.A. Thanksgiving Service on 14th September. In his thanks to all who helped and would continue to help in the provision of the new parish hall, the Vicar had a special word of thanks to say to the parish visitors who for the whole of the previous twelve months had been engaged in weekly visiting on behalf of the appeal. They had made many new friends for the Church, and a tribute to their efforts was to be seen in the crowded Church that night. The Vicar also thanked all those who had given so generously to make the total of £1,900 to date. The speaker at the Service was the Vicar of Belvedere, the Rev. Ian Maxwell, M.A.

* * * * *

The response to the second year of the St. Paul's Appeal seems at the time of going to press to be very satisfactory. It is hoped that all families of the Church will be able to help by having one of the little home boxes.

Infant Baptism.

One of the greatest pastoral problems facing the Church today is that brought about by the public Baptism of Infants. The law of the land provides that any parishioner has a right to the ministrations of the Church and the Clergy, and this, of course, is as it should be, but we no longer live in an age when almost everyone is a Christian. Within the Anglican Church more than 70% of the nation's babies are Baptised each year, this in itself being a significant and encouraging factor, but it is to be feared that a great many parents bring their children for baptism with little understanding of what it is all about, or with very little preparation for the service in which they are to take part. In the same way it can be said that the normal Sunday congregation has little idea of its responsibility towards the children who are brought to be baptised.

In the future it is hoped that it will be found possible to hold three or four Baptismal services per year, to be held during a Family Service, in order that the babies should be received and welcomed by the "body" of the Church, and that the whole service, including the promises of the god-parents and the dedication of the children to God, should be incorporated into one act of worship with the congregation. It is hoped that these special services will help all those concerned with the baptism of infants to understand the deep implications of the sacrament. The first of these services, will be held, D.V., on Sunday, 2nd November at 11 a.m.

HARVEST FESTIVAL.

It was a great thrill to see God's House so crowded for the Harvest Thanksgiving Services on Sunday, 28th September. The happy atmosphere and real sense of worship; hearty singing by choir and congregation; the Word of God read and proclaimed; and the unique blended aroma of new harvest bread and flowers, fruit and vegetables, leave behind a memory that will linger long.

Many kind remarks were made about the attractiveness and abundance of the harvest decorations this year, and we are particularly grateful to members, and the Sunday School children, for making this possible. Members of the Mothers' Union, with some willing volunteers, were responsible not only for decorating the Church but also for distributing almost a hundred Harvest parcels to those in need the next day.

From the sale of Harvest goods left over, more than £2 was made available towards our contribution for the Church's moral welfare work.

ANGLICAN LAYMEN'S DINNER CLUB.

The Bishop of Rochester's Chaplain to Industry, the Rev. K. W. Jones, with the encouragement of the Dartford Deanery Conference, has planned a new venture called the Anglican Laymen's Dinner Club which has three objectives:—(i) to strengthen the bond of fellowship between the laymen of all the parishes in the Deanery; (ii) to gain knowledge and experience from each other in matters of common interest and (iii) to learn from the Guest-Speakers something more about the Church of England and, particularly, in relation to their own activities.

The meetings will be on Wednesdays in the Masonic Hall, Dartford, beginning on 8th October, and thereafter on the second Wednesday in every month up to and including 8th April, 1959.

Dinner will commence on each of these Wednesdays promptly at 7.30 p.m. and the cost will be 7/- each (this will cover the cost of the meal and a contribution to the Speaker's expenses).

Any man on the electoral roll of each Parish in the Deanery is most welcome to join the Dinner Club. It is hoped that at least 100 men each month, with a maximum of 150, will be able to come and share in what is hoped will be most enjoyable occasions.

The programme up to the end of the year is as follows:—

Date	Speaker	Subject.
8th October	K. S. Ryle, M.C., A.C.A., (Assistant Secretary. Church Commissioners).	The work of the Church Commissioners.
12th November	S. E. Dykes-Bower, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., (Surveyor of the Fabric of Westminster Abbey).	Church Design.
10th December	Rev. Ian Pettit, M.A. (General Secretary: C.E.M.S.)	Man's work in the Church.

All those interested in attending one or more of the above meetings should notify the Vicar or Churchwardens so that the necessary bookings may be made.

THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP.

The Men's Fellowship, which meets on the first Monday evening of each month at 8 p.m. at the Vicarage, will recommence for the winter session on Monday, 6th October. An interesting programme of speakers and discussions has been arranged and all menfolk will be most welcome.

Between Ourselves...

FAREWELL : Once again we find ourselves saying goodbye to one of our Church families who are moving out of the district. This time it is to Mr. and Mrs. Bunting and their three boys of 31 Swanton Road as they make their home at Potters Bar. We hope they will be very happy and make many new friends.

GOOD WISHES : to Miss Margaret Sims, of 18 Collindale Avenue, as she begins a two year course of training as a Moral Welfare Worker at the Josephine Butler Memorial House, Liverpool.

NURSING : Miss Elvira Asker is another who will be greatly missed among our young people and youth fellowship as she begins her nursing career at St. Helier's Hospital, Carshalton.

ABROAD : Mr. Snow has now settled down to his eighteen months tour of duty in Sierra Leone. Our good wishes go especially to Mrs. Snow and her family during this time of separation.

AU REVOIR : to a whole new group of our young people as they begin their college careers. Among those known to us are Peter Strittmatter and Derek Martin to Cambridge University, Margaret Lewis to Leicester University, Jennifer Robins to Southampton Teacher Training College, and Michael Laing to study music for three years at the Guildhall School of Music.

BABY NEWS : our sincere congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Barton on the birth of their little daughter Jennifer; to Mr. and Mrs. Colin Ford (affectionately known to all as Colin and Rosina) on the safe arrival of Timothy Peter—Rosina is now back home after four weeks in hospital; and to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Allen of 50 Swanton Road on the safe arrival of Christine Elizabeth.

WELCOME HOME : to Mrs. Cook of 22 Swanbridge Road after a trying but successful stay at Pembury Hospital, near Tunbridge Wells. We hope Mrs. Cook will soon be her old self again.

JOHN BINGHAM LIBRARY.

Alan Hunt has kindly consented to act as parish librarian. He has already worked out the financial position—we have 5/-! Little opportunity you will agree to expand this work for you. Read the books and in appreciation drop a small coin into the box. If you should have any suitable books that are idle at home would you care to consider presenting them to the Church?—N.G.N.

SCHOOL FOR MARRIAGE.

As previously given out in Church the attention of young engaged couples is drawn to the School for Marriage to be held in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Lowfield Street, Dartford, beginning on Tuesday, 7th October, and on each succeeding Tuesday, up to and including 11th November, from 7.30—9.30 p.m. The speakers will be specialists in their subjects, and the course well worth attending. The enrolment fee will be 5/- per couple. Further details may be had from the Vicar.

NEWS FROM ORGANISATIONS.

Mothers' Union: It was encouraging to see such a good number of members present when our autumn meetings started on 11th September. The speaker, Mrs. Lawrence, in her address on the "Great Forty Days", the time between the Resurrection and the Ascension, gave us much to think and ponder in our hearts.

Members are invited by All Saints Branch, Belvedere, to a united meeting in the Church Hall, on Tuesday, 21st October, at 3 p.m.

The Official Workers Day is on Wednesday, 22nd October, at Church House, Westminster.

A Jumble Sale has been arranged for Friday, 17th October, at 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Room. Goods may be left at 403 Erith Road, or sent to the Hall on the morning of the sale.

The next meeting is on 9th October, when we hope to welcome our Vicar as speaker. Please bring in your Overseas Envelopes at this meeting.

—L.R.

* * * * *

Young Wives: On 7th October the Vicar is to speak to us on the subject of Baptism; and on 21st October Mrs. Hills Cotterill is coming to tell us of her experiences as a Japanese prisoner-of-war.

All members are invited to support the Coffee Morning on Thursday morning, 16th October, at 10.45 a.m. in the Parish Room—proceeds towards our Gift Day contribution.—K.E.G.

* * * * *

Pathfinders: Our first birthday! We celebrated it on 14th September and fifteen youngsters qualified for the Pathfinder New Testament, handsomely crested R.S.V's. Mr. Barrett gave a challenging message for the new year ahead.

Mr. Bye and the Senior Pathfinders will soon be looking for a larger room. They are finding it difficult in the small side room of the Community Centre.

* * * * *

The Youth Fellowship: We made a belated but good start on 19th September—the Vicar speaking at the epilogue.

Our Bible Studies are on 1 John this term; our plan being to go from home to home in the parish, so that Church people can get to know us and we them. Mr. and Mrs. Carrier kindly opened their home to us on Sunday, 21st September, and John Meek, ex Erith Grammar School, and now studying at Oxford for the ministry, spoke to us from the Acts of the Apostles.

Plans for the winter are still in the melting pot—or rather in the throes of the parish duplicator. In October I forecast a visit from a magistrate (better this way round), Mr. Nickalls, Vicar of Barnehurst for the October Squash, and some ghosts at Hallowe'en.—N.G.N.

PARISH PRAYER BULLETIN.

The following districts of the parish will be remembered in prayer at Church during the weeks commencing on the dates given below. It is suggested that church members might make a point of coming to the 8 a.m. Communion Service on the Sunday of the week allotted to their district.

- October 5 **Hengist Road,** Horsa Road, Northumberland Park, Mill Road.
12 **Bexley Road,** Park Crescent, Ling Road, Emes Road, Hurst Road.
19 **Ramsden Road,** Hind Crescent, Buxton Road, Avenue Road, Colyers Lane, Birling Road.
26 **Heathway,** Northumberland Way, Fairford Avenue, Barnehurst Avenue, Coniston Road, Erith Road.

PARISH REGISTERS.

In Welcome :

Baptisms.

August 24	Lesley Ann, daughter of Laurence and Margaret Botevyle.
24	Paul Robert, son of Albert and Vera Campion.
24	Stephen Charles, son of Sidney and Beryl Cottenham.
September 7	Paul Alexander, son of Alexander and Barbara Affleck.
7	Rosemary Ann, daughter of Ronald and Beryl Breeds.
14	Christine Elizabeth, daughter of Eric and Elsie Allen.
14	Gillian Ann, daughter of Joseph and Joyce Beadle.
21	Irene, daughter of Francis and Doris Spendley.

In Congratulations :

Weddings.

August 23	Herbert Sidney Arthur Caiger to Muriel Ethel Russell.
23	John Eric Cole to Brenda May Roper.
30	John Frederick Wickendon to Margaret Aurelia Burridge.
September 6	Thomas George Francis Webb to Valerie Ann Prior.
13	Michael John Joseph Longman to Joan Irene Ricketts.
13	Peter Stanley Botting to Dorothy Lydia Coshall.
20	Norman Frederick Douglas Edwards to Nola Elizabeth Brandon.

In Sympathy :

Funerals.

August 11	Hubert Bagshaw, 58 years, 34 Swanton Road.
16	Harry Bushnell, 87 Northumberland Park.
30	Charlotte Edith Belcher, 84 years, 6 Thurza Road, Dartford.
September 2	Elizabeth Read, 120 Northumberland Way.
2	George Clark, 81 years, 15 Appold Street.
16	Catherine Mabel Stratton, 72 years, 31 Beechfield Road.
18	Charles Jackson, 36 East Holme.
22	Annie Elizabeth Trueman, 28 years, 157 Brook Street.

Flower Guild : October 4—Mrs. Powell; 11—Mrs. Sidders; 18—Mrs. Smith; 25—Mrs. Downes; November 1—Mrs. Waddup.

Sidesmen's Rota.

	8 a.m.	11 a.m.	6.30 p.m.
October 5 ...	H. McCabe.	A. Manning.	A. Mills; J. New.
12 ...	J. Waddup.	L. Weeks.	N. Weeks; J. Appleton.
19 ...	P. W. Ayres.	R. Baker.	J. Bailey; D. Bye.
26 ...	J. Douglass.	F. Farrer.	C. Ford; C. Giles.

Collections.

	Collection	Free Will Offering	Total
August 3 ...	£16 5 3	£2 14 0	£18 19 3
10 ...	£ 9 4 11	£4 16 6	£14 1 5
17 ...	£13 14 9	£2 18 0	£16 12 9
24 ...	£10 17 0	£2 17 6	£13 14 6
31 ...	£13 3 10	£3 7 6	£16 11 4
	£63 5 9	£16 13 6	£79 19 3
August 10 ...	Church Extension	...	14 0
			£80 13 3

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