



ST. PAUL'S
CHURCH NEWS

NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH

JUNE, 1961

FOURPENCE

STAFF :

Vicar—Rev. R. W. Goldspink, M.A., The Vicarage, Colyers Lane, Erith
(32809).

Curate :—The Rev. John A. A. Fletcher, c/o The Vicarage.

OFFICERS :

Churchwardens—Mr. W. P. Carrier, 237 Bexley Road.
Mr. Norman Weeks, 24 Hengist Road.

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Community Centre Secretary—Mr. P. W. Ayres, 67 Horsa Road. Erith 34563.

Church Caretaker—Mrs. Polden, 20 St. Paul's 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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"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."—2 Tim. 2 v. 15.

CALENDAR FOR JUNE.

- June 1 Thursday,
2.30 p.m. An "At Home" on behalf of Christian Aid to Refugees—Mrs. Griffiths, 174 Bexley Road.
8.0 p.m. British & Foreign Bible Society
Annual Meeting—St. Pauls.
- 4 1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer—**Family Baptismal Service.**
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 7 Wednesday,
8.0 p.m. Confirmation Service—The Rt. Rev. R. D. Say,
Lord Bishop of Rochester.
- 7—16 The Billy Graham North of England Crusade :
Relayed Services—Queen Street Baptist Church.
- 10 Saturday,
1.30 p.m. Parish Car Rally.
- 11 2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer—Rev. A. L. Hilliard, H.C.F.
- 14 Wednesday,
6.30 p.m. Teachers' and Pathfinder Leaders Mystery Drive.
- 18 3rd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer—**Parade Service.**
3.0 p.m. Anniversary Service. } Rev. R. H.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. } Salmon, B.A.
- 19 Monday,
7.30 p.m. P.C.C.
- 21 Wednesday,
8.0 p.m. **An Evening of Fellowship in Music**—in Church.
- 22 Thursday,
10.0 a.m. Holy Communion (St. John Baptist).
7.45 p.m. Erith & Dist. Council of Churches—Annual
Meeting : Erith Salvation Army Citadel.
- 24 Saturday,
3.0 p.m. **Garden Party.**
- 25 4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.
11.0 a.m. Morning Prayer.
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer and Holy Communion.
- 29 Thursday,
10.0 a.m. Holy Communion (St. Peter).
8.0 p.m. School for Churchmen (5).

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Material for inclusion in the July issue of the magazine should be handed to the Vicar not later than 18th June.



My dear Friends,

What about our children?

No greater responsibility has been placed upon the Christian Church than the Ascensiontide command of Jesus Christ to "Feed my Lambs". In recent years, however, this injunction has become more and more difficult to fulfil, in the sense of giving spiritual instruction to young people. Their own parents often obstruct us in the doing of it. They give no real Christian teaching themselves to their children and do not send them to Church, Sunday School or youth movement to enable us to do it.

Alas, it is obviously true that only a small minority of our children are being given the chance to be won to Jesus Christ either at home, or through our church organisations. But for all the jokes cracked by feeble wits about "old maid" Sunday School teachers . . . **THE BILL IS COMING IN.** It is not so funny now that we can see what this neglect involves. Juvenile and other crime is so appallingly widespread in every strata of social strata and is the current concern in every responsible quarter from Parliament downwards. What is going on all around us is the product of a society, the majority of whom are completely indifferent to the principles and practices of moral and spiritual values.

In a recent survey in Manchester it was revealed that over 70% of youths between the ages of 14 and 25 were untouched by Church, Evening Institute, voluntary organisation or wholesome club of any kind. Greater Londons statistics would not make better reading.

What are we to make of parents who say, "We do not intend to give our children any religious teaching at all: they must make up their own minds." Is there anything in this that we can respect? What they mean is that their children are not even to be brought up as little pagans—because even pagans believe in a god of some sort—but as little secularists who have no conception of the super-natural, no idea of reverence developing in their minds at all; who suppose that the universe is entirely material and belongs to man not God, and whose ideas about life are buttressed by no spiritual sanctions at all.

It must be said kindly but plainly: such talk about leaving children to develop their own religious ideas is utter nonsense. How do you answer a child's deeper questions which begin to come in his tenderest years. Do you really suppose that children can hold their minds in suspense for 16 or 17 years—the most formative years of their lives—and then survey with some measure of detachment the great religious figures of history—Jesus, or Buddha, or Mohammed, or Confucius? Or shall I sing my hymns to science and the nuclear bomb?

It seems utterly foolish for people to think like that. Children have the right to the best that the race has developed in all its long history. To the best in medicine and surgery, in hygiene and social welfare, to the best in education, and the best, therefore, in religion. As a student of comparative religion for some years, it seems to me to be obvious that the best the world ever learned about religion centres in Jesus Christ. I pay a willing tribute to whatever has come to our poor race by the illumination of good men everywhere. I speak with reverence of the holy books of other faiths, but God who "at sundry times and in diverse manners" has spoken in time past by the sages of many religions, spoke at the last unto us by His Son, and that revelation supersedes all others.

THE BILLY GRAHAM NORTH OF ENGLAND CRUSADE

7th—16th June.

The Billy Graham Crusade Services will be relayed from the Maine Road Stadium, Manchester, direct to the Queen Street Baptist Church, Erith, from Wednesday, 7th to Friday, 16th June, inclusive. The services will commence nightly at 7.45 p.m., and will be preceded by community hymn-singing. The Saturday evening service will commence at 6.45 p.m., that is, an hour earlier, and no relay is to be held on the Sunday.

All members are invited to give their utmost support in this fresh attempt to bring Christ to our nation.

Your prayers, your presence, and the taking of your friends to these rallies are vital to the success of the crusade.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

The Children's Day.

The Sunday School Anniversary this year has been arranged for Sunday, 18th June. The Sunday School Choir and children have been hard at work for a considerable time under the direction of Mr. Stanley Ducker, the organist and choirmaster. Those who were present last year at the anniversary services will remember how well the children's choir sang at the three services. The Guest Speaker at all services is to be the Reverend R. H. Salmon, B.A., Curate of St. Michael's Church, Blackheath. Parents and friends are invited to attend all three services to encourage the children and leaders.

VICAR'S LETTER—continued.

Will you deny your children the best faith? If you wish to be really broad-minded can't you be as broad-minded in other ways too? Why not leave your children to their own ideas about manners and social etiquette until they are 17. We know, of course, the folly of this, that if we do not teach them manners they will make them on their own as they go along, and they will be pretty poor ones. So it is with regard to these most important things in life, they will get their own from somewhere, and they'll be pretty poor ones too. They will suppose that the world was made just for them. Egotism and self will guide their actions. Greed will be the key to a great deal of their conduct. Is this not what is happening about us to-day?

It is dawning on parents and child experts that after all children need guidance in everything, and that there is that in human nature which needs moulding and disciplining. Are we going to leave our children to themselves at the very point where they need help most of all? The greatest sufferers from the neglect of religious instruction are the children themselves. To let them grow up without the gracious influence of Christ on their lives is pure tragedy, and a sin against their unformed natures.

"Feed my lambs," said Jesus before the Ascension. "Feed my lambs."

We in the church, want to take our share in fulfilling that injunction. The lambs are best fed in the home, but we are eager to co-operate with the home. I plead with all you who are parents, or have influence on other parents, to take this counsel to heart.

Yours most sincerely,

ROBERT W. GOLDSPINK.

GARDEN PARTY.

Special Attractions.

The annual Garden Party will this year be held in the Vicarage garden on Saturday afternoon, 24th June, at 3 p.m. The Lady Opener is to be Mrs. Peter Swinbank, the wife of our previous Vicar, who will be visiting her old home and parish for the first time for more than five years.

A full programme is being arranged. There will be special items for children including games and competitions, and it is hoped, a model railway large enough to give them rides. Light afternoon and strawberry teas will be served in a marquee on the front lawn. A Floral Arrangement competition is to take place in the marquee and is in two classes, one, for 16 year olds and over, and the other, for children. Floral arrangements should be completed by 12 noon, admission to the competition being 3d. per exhibit. Another special feature this year will be a six-a-side tug-of-war competition between the boys, young people's, and men's organisations. Members are invited to help furnish a congregational Bring and Buy Stall, gifts for which may be left at the Vicarage beforehand. Admission to the Garden Party is 9d. (Adult) and 3d. (Children).

MISSIONARY WEEK-END.

Our recent missionary week-end was one of the most successful and helpful ever. It was certainly true of the missionary market, evening rally, and the able ministry of the Rev. P. J. Ross, M.A., of Nigeria, and Mrs. J. H. Hewitt until recently of Western Pakistan.

The Missionary Market was well attended in spite of the heat wave conditions. The stalls were amply stocked and well decorated, and it was only with some difficulty that the Lady Opener, Miss M. M. L. Pirouet, on furlough from Kenya, was able to decide the best dressed stall. Congratulations to the Youth Fellowship on winning the shield for this year.

The Saturday evening rally, which was a high-light of the week-end, included the presentation of our "missionary tent" to the Rev. Canon A. Lawrence Barham, head of the Ruanda Mission. The tent, a truly magnificent one, which was erected by Mr. John Bowkett and Clive Simmonds, with other helpers, completely filled the lower portion of the Community Centre.

The income from the missionary market is up on the previous year, and to-date is as follows :—

Mothers' Union £14.6.0d; Women's Fellowship £7.1.4d; Young Wives £8.0.2d; Sidesmen £8.16.4d; Sunday School £3.10.9d; Over Twenties £1.17.6d; Youth Fellowship £5.8.10d; Pathfinders £7.4.9d; Guides and Brownies £3.7.4d; Scouts (donation) £4.0.0d; Donations £2.12.0d; Programmes £4.15.0d; Total £71.0.0d. Less expenses, programmes, bouquet, advertising etc., £6.0.0d. Net Total £65.0.0d.

The proceeds have been allotted to the Church Missionary Society, Church Pastoral-Aid Society, and the Church Missions to Jews. A warm thank-you to all who made this possible.

CAR OWNERS, don't forget the parish car and motor cycle rally on Saturday afternoon, 10th June, leaving church at 2 p.m. Further details in the church porch.

WELCOME.

Wednesday, 7th June, will be a great night for twenty-four of our younger and older members who are to be confirmed by the Lord Bishop of Rochester, the Right Rev. R. D. Say, at 8 p.m. at St. Martin's Church, Harnehurst.

In anticipation of the occasion we extend to each of the following the right hand of Christian fellowship into full membership of our Church. They are :—Janice Aylward, Diane Acott, Marilyn Benton, Pamela Busby, Diane Busby, Hilary Delderfield, Susan Howarth, Jacqueline Lumpkin, Margaret McMillan, Susan Mackrill, Nicholas Carrier, Richard Dickinson, Robert Enderson, Roger Notley, Philip Read, Miss Gillian Thorpe, Miss Beryl Baker, Mrs. Anne Hartley, Mrs. Emily Prosser, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Thompson, and Mrs. Gladys Conradi.

Between Ourselves...

GOLDEN WEDDING : Mr. and Mrs. C. Giles of 31 Heathway, will celebrate their golden wedding on 1st July. We wish them every possible happiness in their years ahead.

WORKING HOLIDAY : Sylvia Strittmatter, one of our joint bookstall managers, is spending the next four months at Montreux, Switzerland, where she is doing secretarial work prior to becoming a student at Bristol University in the autumn.

WEDDING BELLS : no happier news has reached us lately than that of the forthcoming marriage of Miss Annie Russell, (Nurse Russell to hundreds of families locally and further afield) to Mr. William Clarke on 3rd July at 11.30 a.m. Congratulations. The news has brought delight to her many friends.

HOME AGAIN : we are glad to know that both Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Sidders have just returned home from hospital after long treatments. Both are making good progress. Mrs. Sherlock of Hind Crescent (Mrs. Rosina Ford's mother) is out of Erith Hospital for a short while but is to return for further treatment. We hope all will soon be fully recovered.

OLD MEMBER : we were sorry to hear that Mrs. Cottenden, for many years a member of St. Paul's, passed away on 7th May, at the home she shared with her daughter, Mrs. Foster, at Polegate, Sussex.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK : of the £531.11.8d. that was raised in the area covered by the Erith and District Council of Churches, the sum of £59 was collected by our workers in the roads apportioned to us. Well done Youth Fellowship Organisers and helpers.

Ordination.

A party of sixteen young people and older members are to attend the Ordination of Mr. John Fletcher, our new curate, on Trinity Sunday morning at Rochester Cathedral. Mr. Fletcher will take up his appointment in the parish, with his new wife, in the first week of July.

The Rev. Peter Absolon, M.A., is to be instituted to Erith Parish Church, by the Lord Bishop of Rochester, at 8 p.m., Monday, 12th June. Members of St. Paul's are warmly invited to attend.

MUSICAL EVENING.

Please remember our third evening of Fellowship in Music on June 21st at St. Paul's Church, in which our guest artiste will be June Mercer—contralto—who will sing "Prepare thyself, Zion" (Bach), accompanied by the String Ensemble. Her second item will be Michael Head's "Sweet chance that led my steps abroad", accompanied by Clive Simmonds, who will also give some solo items, on the piano, by Poulenc. The strings will be augmented by tympani and the items played will include excerpts from Handel's Water Music, and Walford Davies' "Solemn Melody". Reginald Rumbold and Thomas Thomson will play a short movement from the Bach Concerto for two violins and strings (the "double concerto") and, as a special item, Jean Thomson will play a solo piece for viola; Jean Thomson will be remembered by her obligato played to John Bantich's rendering of "My heart ever faithful": other members of the string ensemble are Frank Bilbe, Richard Wood violins, Joan Broadley and Sylvia Mills violoncellos, Michael Lang double bass.

Members of the congregation can, in the meantime, prepare themselves by brushing up Parry's "Jerusalem" and the hymn tunes "Cwm Rhondda" and "Ein feste Burg".

There is no charge for admission but a silver collection will be taken for the St. Paul's Appeal Fund for the New Hall.

NEWS FROM ORGANISATIONS.

Mothers' Union: Many thanks to all who helped towards our Missionary Market effort, when we were able to raise over £14, and also to those of you who helped at Oakhurst on 27th May. Well done!

As a reminder, the Moral Welfare Annual Meeting is to be held at St. Martin's, Barnehurst, on Wednesday, 7th June at 3 p.m. All members are warmly invited.

Please note that our meeting in June is to be on the 15th, and not the 8th, when the speaker will be Mrs. Edwards, and her subject: "The Problems of Adolescence."

We hope to hold a Jumble Sale on Friday, 30th June, and will be glad of any help that members can give. K.E.G.

* * * *

Young Wives: Thank you very much, members, for your help towards our £8 at the Missionary Market. This was the best effort for a long time.

On 6th June, Mrs. Darby of Greenhithe, will be speaking to us on a subject with the intriguing title, "One Small Candle". On the 20th we shall be spending an evening out of doors, weather permitting, on our drive and picnic. Please send in your form if you have not already done so. Further details will be issued near the time.

A large quantity of clothing was sent to refugee relief as a result of our collection in May and the organisation concerned wish to express their appreciation of this effort.

I would ask your prayers for two of our members, Mrs. Conradi and Mrs. Thompson, who are to be confirmed on 7th June. S.L.

* * * *

Men's Association. Tenth Annual Horticultural Show: Our tenth horticultural show is to be held in the Community Centre, Bexley Road, on Saturday, 16th September, at 3 p.m., and is to be opened by Mrs. R. D. Say, the wife of the Bishop of Rochester. Further details as to classes and special awards will be given in the schedules at a later date.

Please make a note of the date, and do all you can to make this a great success. A.G.M.

7th Erith (St. Paul's) Brownies : Congratulations to the following Brownies for gaining the badges against their names : Golden Hand (1st Class) : Janet Owers, Valerie Heron, Susan Bye. Golden Bar (2nd Class) : Gillian Hills, Susan Defrates. Cooks : Leslie Swallow, Marion Delderfield. House Orderly : Leslie Swallow, Marion Delderfield. Brown Owl.

A captain is urgently needed for our 1st Erith (St. Paul's) Girl Guide Company which meets in the Parish Room on Tuesday evenings. Previous knowledge of the Girl Guide movement is desirable but not essential. The Vicar would be glad to hear from a younger married or unmarried woman who has a concern for Christian youth work.

PARISH REGISTERS.

In Welcome :

Baptisms.

April 23 ... Carol Lesley, daughter of Brian and Joan Hartnoll.
 May 14 ... Martin William, son of James and Shirley Covill.
 14 ... Julie Ann, daughter of Edward and Pauline Roberts.
 14 ... Jeremy Stephen Philip, son of Godfrey and Eleanor Webber.
 14 ... David Robert, son of Albert and Margaret Shaw.
 14 ... Stephen John, son of Peter and Josephine Phippen.

* * * *

In Sympathy :

Funerals.

April 27 Reuben Jarret Smith, 64 years, 44 Belmont Road.
 May 9 Ernest George Woodford Key, 84 years, 10 Stonecroft Road.
 10 Ella Jones Roberts, 62 years, 47 Riverdale Road.
 11 Frank Ernest Guile, 57 years, 6 Aperfield Road.
 11 Mary Ann Pritchard, 75 years, 40 Hengist Road.
 12 Edward Smith, 76 years, 35 Hind Crescent.
 12 William Lampard, 80 years, 38 Mill Road.
 15 Elizabeth Wiles, 62 years, 9 Dalmeny Road.
 19 Mabel Emma Eliza James, 77 years, 25 Horsa Road.
 4 Edith Chick, 80 years, 6 Parsonage Manorway.

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Flower Guild : June 3—Mis Hilder; 10—Mrs. Brown; 17—Sunday School; 24—Mrs. Holmes; July 1—Miss Russell.

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Sidesmen's Rota.

	8 a.m.	11 a.m.	6.30 p.m.
June 4	A. Meinertzhagen.	A. Mills.	F. Martin; R. Nicholls.
	11 J. Waddup.	E. Wheble.	P. Ayres; J. Bowkett.
	18 L. Ongley.	C. Giles.	D. Bye; N. Dogliani.
	25 R. Farrer.	J. Bayley.	H. Holmes; J. Loveley.

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Collections.

	Collection.	Freewill	Offering.	Total.
April 2 ...	£20 4 8	£8 2 6	(£5 4 6)*	£28 7 2
9 ...	£15 7 11	£6 7 6	(£3 12 0)	£21 15 5
16 ...	£12 2 0	£8 1 6	(£5 18 0)	£20 3 6
23 ...	£13 0 1	£6 3 3	(£4 3 0)	£19 3 4
30 ...	£14 0 10	£5 9 6	(£4 8 0)	£19 10 4
	£74 15 6	£34 4 3		£108 19 9

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