Bere Regis & Winterborne Kingston

JULY, 1916.

Bere Regis Church


Holy Communion ........ 8.0 Holy Communion 1st Sun. at Midday.
First Sunday ........... 12.0 3rd Sun. at 8 a.m.
Mattins ................. 11.30 Mattins ................. 11 a.m.
Children's Service or Sunday School 2.30 Children's Service, 2nd Sun. at 3 p.m.
Evensong ............... 6.0 Evensong ............... 6 p.m.

Saints' Days.
Holy Communion .......... 7.30

Week Days.
Mattins ................. 8.50

Longman, Printer, Dorchester

Parish Magazine.
Bere Regis.

SERVICES DURING JULY.

July 2nd—Trinity II.
8.0—Holy Communion.
11.30—Holy Communion. (Choral)
6.0—Evensong.

July 9th—Trinity III.
8.0—Holy Communion.
11.30—Matins.
6.0—Evensong.

July 16th—Trinity IV.
8.0—Holy Communion.
11.30—Matins.
6.0—Evensong.

July 23rd—Trinity V.
8.0—Holy Communion.
11.30—Matins.
6.0—Evensong.

July 30th—Trinity VI.
8.0—Holy Communion.
11.30—Matins.
2.30—Children’s Service.
6.0—Evensong.

Intercession Service each Thursday at Mid-day.

July 25th, is the Feast of St. James, Apostle and Martyr.

June 6th, 1916.

My dear Friends,

It is more than likely that I shall be on the move about the natural time for writing for the magazine, so I am going to make sure and do it at once.

I am out here to try and do religious work, and I am aiming at doing two things:

(a) Getting to know the regular Churchmen who pass through our wards. They ought to feel that their Church does not forget them out here.

(b) And secondly to encourage the unconfirmed men to be confirmed, those who are not communicants to become communicants, and those who are slack about their religion to be more earnest about it.

My conversations with the men I meet make a great impression on me, and I want to try to pass on to you some of those impressions, and I ask you to think about what I have to say.

1. What is going to happen to our English Sunday after the war? Out here, the men are accustomed to Sunday games, Sunday athletic sports, Sunday concerts. They find that they can go to Communion, for instance on Easter Day, and run races in the afternoon without feeling their conscience accuse them of wrong. They like to have their Sunday morning service, and Sunday afternoon sports and pastime. They cannot of course always have either, but what they like is both. A hundred young men are coming back to Bere Regis and Winterborne Kingston who have got used to this sort of Sunday, and who like this sort of Sunday. How are you, Christian people at home, going to act toward these men with this change come over their habits?

2. There are thousands of young men not confirmed and who wish that they were. I expect that I have met a hundred such already. I have given Communion to more than one such a man. A large number of them have moved about a great deal, and confirmation has never come their way. As they say themselves, they ought to have been confirmed before they left school and home. The fact is that we confirm too late, twelve years old, not fourteen should be the normal age. We who are communicants know that nothing gives the sense of the companionship of Jesus so much as receiving His Holy Sacrament. It is waiting to the eleventh hour with a vengeance to leave the explaining of our Lord’s own Service, until a man comes wounded off the field of battle. Many of them have not the smallest idea what communion is, and they are very much interested when it is explained to them. I cannot for the life of me think what sort of rubbish we have been teaching in our Day and Sunday Schools under the name of religion. I can tell you this about it, that it is precious little use to a fellow face to face with pain and death.

3. We were unprepared for the war in other ways besides that ordinarily meant. We have sent out to face an early death thousands, hundreds of thousands, of young men with no knowledge of Christ’s message, knowing nothing of the need of repentance, and the forgiveness of sin, having no habits of prayer or personal devotion, nominally Christians but practically heathens. It is not fair. Churchmen have not done their duty by those who are the Saviours of our earths and homes. And do not tell me that these men do not want religion and do not care about it. The truth is they want religion but do not know what it is, and it is a bit late in the day to begin to try and teach a man when he has got a large hole in his shoulder and a gash like the first slice in a shoulder of mutton in some other part of him, and often something worse than either of them.

This is enough for the moment. What I have said is just the plain truth, as it is forced in upon my mind Day after Day, and as such I commend it to your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

M. A. BERE.
MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

It was very disappointing to have to forego the Services on Ascension Day—but being suddenly called away through bereavement I was unable to arrange for them. I am afraid this caused disappointment to many of you, as well as to myself.

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My sincere thanks to you all for your most kind expressions of sympathy in my great trial and sorrow.

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It was gratifying to see such a good gathering at the Devotional Service for Communicants on the Thursday before Whit Sunday. It showed thoughtful purpose with regard to our Lord's Own Service, and I trust we all found the Service of Preparation helpful.

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There were 62 Communicants on Whit Sunday—and this also was encouraging.

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The letter from Mr. Bere, in this month's issue of our Magazine, will be a stimulus to us all to strengthen our personal religion and attendance at Church.

When our brave brothers return from Active Service let them find us firm in our regard for the Lord's Day, and let them find our Churches filled with earnest, praying people. If not, be sure of it, many of them will ask us the reason why?

—

"The Church Times," July 23rd, reports—

"Speaking at the Annual Congress of the General Association of Church School Managers and Teachers at Brighton, Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P. maintained that Church teaching, disciplined and definite, is of paramount importance to the future of our country, not least because it conceives of patriotism in its noblest and almost sacramental form. War, he said does one of two things to a man, either it deepens his religious sense, or it expels it altogether. Which it does depends immensely upon early training."—After showing how this is manifest already in the French Army, and so, too, in Russia under arms, he goes on to point out—"Once more the craving for definite belief and for its assertion before the world is testified as a primary need of mankind—that we may find therein the supernatural strength to fortify us through periods of catastrophe and anguish and victory. When men are up against the real dangers of the body it is only the real consolations of the Spirit that can satisfy them. He seemed to see the men coming back from the trenches when the war is over, abandoning for ever the respectable conventions of religion, craving for the Communion Service as their great central act of devotion, and above all for definite teaching about it to be given to their children, so that they might all join together as a family week by week in that Supreme Act of Christian Worship. To give that teaching would be the high privilege and responsibility of the teachers to whom he spoke, all through the length and breadth of the land."

These weighty words are well worth our consideration.

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Just as we are going to press the sad news has come to us that Private Frederick Davis, of the Canadian Regiment, has been killed in action, and that Private Frederick Johnson of the same Regiment is reported "missing."

Both of these were well known in this parish, and our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to their relations and friends. They have nobly served their King and Country, and "Greater love hath no man than this than to lay down his life for his friends." Their memory will be honoured, and may they rest in peace!

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Let our prayers be more and more earnest that God will grant Victory to our Arms, and those of our Allies; and that this terrible War may soon be over, and a true and righteous peace be established. Perhaps now we begin to see the time not so far distant, but before then we must still be prepared to go through much Sacrifice. Let us strive to link our Sacrifices to the Great Sacrifice on the Cross—and "if we Suffer with Him," our Cross will be all the lighter to bear.

God guard our dear ones.

AUGUSTUS B. BENNETT.

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BAPTISMS.

May 28th—Anne Findlay Pigé Leschallas.
May 31st—Monica Joan Mary Tayler.

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OFFERTORIES.

May 28th—Rogation Sunday—

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Winterbourne Kingston.

I was very glad to see so many at the Service on
Ascension Day, as I know that at the present
moment everyone is exceedingly busy with farm work,
and in the gardens, and as Ascension Day fell so late
this year, it made it very inconvenient for many.

On Whitsunday we had very hearty services, and
the number of communicants was quite as large as I
had expected, considering that so many were away
from home.

The epidemic of measles has affected greatly the
attendance at the Sunday School, as so many of our
children have been suffering from this exceedingly
unpleasant ailment, but I trust they will all soon be
well and back again.

I am very sorry to say that our Organist Mr.
Walter Wellstead is still very unwell. This is the
only time that I have ever known Mr. Wellstead not
to be in his usual place at the Organ, and I hope and
trust that he will soon be restored to his usual health
and vigour again. He has been unfailingly kind and
courteous to me personally, ever since I came to
Kingston, and his services to the Church are
invaluable.

On Sunday Evening (June 11th) a memorial Ser-
vice for the late Lord Kitchener was held, and after
the Sermon, his favourite hymn "Abide with me"
was sung with much feeling, and the "Dead March"
was impressively rendered by Mr. W. Wellstead.

THE LATE LIEUT. H. G. MANSEL PLEYDELL.

We all deplore very much the loss of our young
Squire, Lieut. H. G. Mansel Pleydell, who has so
gallantly given his life for his country—and all our
hearts go out in deep sympathy to Mrs. Mansel
Pleydell and to his Sisters who are now doubly
bereaved. Many of our boys have been so proud
to serve under this most promising young officer, who
won the affection of all his men by his great courage
and by his kindly thought for their safety and
comfort, and during the short time that he had been
our Squire, he had already endeared himself to us all,
and his loss will be most keenly felt.

DENIS MOORE CANN.

BAPTISMS.

May 28th—Mary Victoria Whiffen.
June 17th—Edna May Sheppard.
June 18th—Victor Wells.

OFFERTORIES.

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