BERE REGIS & WINTERBORNE KINGSTON

OCTOBER, 1921.

Bere Regis Church

BERE.

Sunday Services.

Every Sunday 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
11 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon except 3rd Sunday.
6 p.m. Evensong and Sermon
1st Sunday in Month
12 a.m. Holy Communion.
Daily Services at times announced in Church each Sunday.

キングSTON.

Every Sunday
11 a.m. Mattins and Sermon.
6 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
Celebrations of Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday of the Month after Mattins, on the 3rd Sunday at 8 a.m.

Saints' Days.

PARISH MAGAZINE.
Bere Regis Vicarage,  
Wareham,  
September 23rd, 1921.

My dear Friends,  
Looking back on the past month I cannot find much of interest to report. Woodbury Hill Fair is finished and so, I hope, is the whooping cough. The Schools are re-opened after a long holiday, fortunately, a fine one. Just at present we are in a difficult position. In normal times we ought to be preparing for strenuous winter work. But as I am leaving shortly it seems better to leave things for your new Vicar to start afresh rather than to have to begin them and then let them drop. By the time this Magazine has been published I shall have ceased to be Vicar of Bere, and though I hoped to stop on for a week or two after my formal resignation it is uncertain whether it will be possible. Like so many others in the Village, the Vicarage Well is running dry, and want of water may compel us to leave sooner than we anticipated.

When Lord Nelson wrote to Lord Howe to announce his defeat of the French at the Battle of the Nile he told him “I had the happiness to command a band of brothers.” It always seems to me that this is the ideal to aim at in our Church, and I should like to think, now I am leaving Bere Regis, that during my stay here I have done nothing to hinder the growth of this spirit in our midst. Of course, I can see many things that I wish I had done or done differently from what I did. I wish for example, that I had found time to do more visiting. To tell the truth, when I first came here there seemed to be so many other things that needed attention that the visiting suffered. But you have been very good in overlooking my shortcomings in this respect. I thank you for your forbearance. I think I can honestly say that our relationship during the past two years have been of the happiest and that there has been a wonderful feeling of good comradeship manifest from the first. Personally, neither Mrs. Hodge nor myself wish to leave Bere Regis. There are only two reasons why I am giving up. The first is, I believe it is a sound principle to accept new work when it is offered unless there is a strong reason for refusing it and I cannot honestly say that there was any such reason why I should not leave Bere Regis. Secondly, there is the financial reason of which I have spoken before. But you need not imagine that we shall not have many regrets when we leave and I hope that some time we may meet again.

It may interest some of you to know about my new work. The Church, S. Vedast’s, Foster Lane, was built by Wren, the famous Architect, whose father was Rector of East Knole in this diocese. The original Church was burnt down in the Great Fire of London. After that fire the parish of S. Michael-le-Querne was united to that of S. Vedast’s, and that of S. Peter, West Cheap, was united to the parish of S. Matthew, Friday Street. In 1881, the latter Church was pulled down and the parish united to S. Vedast’s. Consequently, S. Vedast’s parish now is the sole survivor of what were originally four parishes. It consists almost entirely of shops, I believe, and its residents are very few in number.

In conclusion I may say this. My time as your Vicar has been so short that there has been little opportunity of seeing whether the life of the Church has prospered or the reverse during it. The test will come afterwards. Now I do hope that there are none so foolish as to imagine that the best way they can show their appreciation of the old Vicar is by holding aloof from the new one. If they do it is the greatest possible mistake. The real test of a man’s work, as I know from experience, is when it continues after he has left. A parish ought not to be, and I don’t think ours is, a one man’s show, where everything collapses as soon as the Vicar is withdrawn. Or to put the idea in another form, the parson ought not to be the foundation stone at the bottom of the building which, if removed, causes the whole edifice to collapse. His place is at the top, so that when he goes he can be easily replaced. What we want to aim at in these days, is Nelson’s ideal of a band of brothers. Barren criticism is useless, quarrelling we have no time for, but to co-operate, to work together in the spirit of fraternity, each endeavouring to contribute his or her share to the whole work, that is the way to get things done so that the Church of God may be in this place what its founder meant to be, “A City set on a hill that cannot be hid.”

Yours sincerely,  
R. C. V. HODGE.

Winterborne Kingston.

The Harvest Festival in this Church was held on September 12th, the last Sunday on which the Rev. A. R. Collins was acting as Curate-in-charge. He has asked me to express his thanks to all who sent fruit, flowers and vegetables for the decoration of the Church,
and to those ladies who were responsible for the decoration. The Collections for the Dorset County Hospital amounted to £4 15s. 6d.

Below is printed the statement of accounts for the Sunday School and Choir Treat. A sum of £1 15s. 0d. has been handed over to the Vicar to pay for the expenses of providing stamps for the Sunday School. We are very grateful to Miss Hames for kindly undertaking to look after the Sunday School while there is no Curate-in-charge at Kingston.

WINTERBORNE KINGSTON SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHOIR TREAT.

Receipts.

Subscriptions—
Per Miss Besant ... £1 19 6
" Mrs. Butler ... 5 0 0
" Rev. A. R. Collins ... 1 18 0

£8 17 6

Paid by Visitors ...
Collected in Church ...
Balance from Treat ...

£2 2 3

Expenses.
Motor Bus ...
Teas ...
Buns ...
Gratuities ...
Sundry Expenses ...

£8 17 6

BAPTISMS.

August 14th—Vera Nellie Hewitt
September 11th—Henry Charles Stickling
" 18th—Pamela Winifred Toms

MARRIAGES.

September 6th—Frederick Tom Haggett and Marjorie Sarah Skinner
September 20th (at Winterborne Kingston)—William Clayton Bennett and Annie Kate Arnold
September 29th—James Wood Harrington and Marjorie Nora Lys

HARVEST FESTIVAL.

The Harvest Festival was held on September 25th. The Services were well attended and the collections for the County Hospital amounted to £13 13s. 3d.

Many thanks to those who were responsible for the beautiful decoration.