Parish Church of St. John Baptist
BERE REGIS,
DORSET.

Vicar and Rural Dean: THE REV. R. C. HERRING.

Churchwardens:
MR. R. SMITH, Heath View.
MR. F. MARSH, Southbrook.
MR. P. MINTERNE, Egdon Close, Deputy Warden.

Sidesmen:
MESSRS. P. PITFIELD, E. RAWBONE, G. DREW,
H. PITFIELD, C. BERRY, A. TOOP, J. PARSONS & M. BARNES.

Secretary and Treasurer P.C.C.: MR. C. BERRY, Sitterton, Bere Regis.

Parish Clerk: MR. J. BATTRICK.

SUNDAY SERVICES.
Holy Communion ... 8 a.m. and 2nd Sunday after Matins.
Matins ... ... 11. a.m.
Children's Service ... 2.30 p.m.
Evensong ... ... 6 p.m.

St. Nicholas
WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

Churchwardens:
MR. SHEPPARD, The Nottings.
BRIGADIER LIPSCOMB, The Old Parsonage.

Treasurer:
MR. BURGESS, Muston.

SUNDAY SERVICES.
Holy Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays, 9.30 a.m.
Sunday School 2.30 p.m.
Evensong 3.15 p.m.
HE New Year will be well on its way by now and doubtless everyone will have passed through the mental revision of the past year. We have seen unexpected things happen and other things which were expected have not happened.

From the past we may have learned much and to correct its failings and do better in the year which lies ahead. The fact that the future is unknown is in itself an encouragement. Have we ever stopped to think how deadening life would be if we could see ahead. Life would lose its purpose and we should become helpless fatalists completely lacking any inspiration.

The Christmas broadcast by the Queen was original and notable for the tribute which she paid to just ordinary people like ourselves, and here as in all things which she says we can discern a background of deeply religious thought,

How do the following words apply to many of us:—
‘We are amazed by the spectacular discoveries in scientific knowledge which should bring comfort and leisure to millions. We do not always reflect that these things also have rested to some extent on the faithful toil and devotion to duty of the great bulk of ordinary citizens. The upward course of the nation’s history is due in the long run to the soundness of heart of its average men and women...
‘May you be proud to remember as I am myself, how much depends on you, and that even when your life seems most monotonous what you do is always of real value and importance to your fellow men.’

These words from our Queen should be of inspiration and encouragement for this still New Year.

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Both of our Churches were beautifully decorated for Christmas—as is always the case, and we are most grateful to all those who helped in this direction.

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We congratulate the Parish Church Choir, under the leadership of Miss Smith, in raising the sum of £16 7s. 7d. as the result of carol singing at Christmas tide. This sum as in previous years will be sent to the hospital for blind children at Palamcottah in India.

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The Vicarage has been up for sale for some time but no-one has been sufficiently interested so far as to buy it. The present house has been the residence of the Vicars of Bere Regis for several hundreds of years and although a great part of it was destroyed by fire
in 1772 some of the old part still remains. We have every hope that the Retreat will become the Vicarage when necessary alterations have been made and this includes a certain amount of demolition. It should prove much more suitable than the present Vicarage in many ways.

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We shall be faced very soon with heavy expenditure on the lighting of the Parish Church as much of the wiring must be renewed. When the time comes for a special appeal for funds we feel sure that the response will be generous.

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The Services during February will be the same as last month and the Vicar hopes to be allowed to start light duty which will be restricted to one Service each Sunday and that will be Evensong at the Parish Church.

Will parents please note that the Children’s Service will be held regularly in future on Sunday afternoons and we hope that children who have been missing lately will return.

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Register.

Holy Baptism.

December 12th, 1954.
Pearl Angela, daughter of Kenneth Arthur and Jean Ada Way.

Angela Carroll and John Charles, children of James Richard and Florence Venetia Kellaway.

Holy Matrimony.

John Hunter Read and Doreen Mary Collison.

Burials.

December 31st, 1954.
Gillian Mary Merefield, aged 19 years.

At Winterbourne Kingston.
December 16th.
John Oliver Mitton, aged 84 years.