Parish Church of St. John Baptist
Bere Regis,
Dorset.

Vicar and Rural Dean: The Rev. Paul Tranter, B.A.

Churchwardens:
Mr. R. Smith, Heath View.
Mr. F. Marsh, Southbrook.
Mr. J. House, Lower Stockley Farm, Deputy Warden.

Sidesmen:
K. Woolfries, P. Wyatt

Secretary of the P.C.C.: Mrs. G. Howard
Treasurer of the P.C.C.: Mr. S. Borton
Parish Clerk and Verger: Mr. E. Rawbone.
Organist: Miss G. B. Smith, A.T.C.L.

SUNDAY SERVICES.
Holy Communion . . . 8 a.m. except 1st Sunday and 2nd Sunday after Matins.
Family Communion . . 11 a.m. 1st Sunday
Matins . . . . . . . . . . 11 a.m. except 1st Sunday
Children's Service . . 2.30 p.m.
Evensong . . . . . 6 p.m.
Family Service . . . 3 p.m. 2nd Sunday

St. Nicholas
Winterbourne Kingston

Churchwardens:
Mr. C. Sheppard, The Nottings.
Mr. A. V. Simpson, The Stores.

Treasurer:
Miss Sheppard, The Nottings.
Organist: Miss E. Sheppard.

SUNDAY SERVICES.
Holy Communion 2nd Sunday, 9.30 a.m.
Sunday School 11 a.m.
Evensong 3.15 p.m. 1st, 3rd and 4th Sunday; 7.15 p.m. 2nd Sunday
Matins 10 a.m. 5th Sunday. Family Service 3.15 p.m. 5th Sunday


January 1969

THE VICAR’S LETTER

My dear Friends,

For a motto or text for 1969 I give you verse 12 of Romans 14: "So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to God."

Now I have not chosen this with the idea of telling you that God is always watching us and that we are accountable to Him for every thought, word and deed we do. This is, of course, true and we must remember that we are God's Servants, to do His will and His bidding, and we are accountable to Him for the whole of our lives. But in this particular instance I have chosen it with a rather different viewpoint in mind. Let me explain - in this modern age there is a tendency for the individual outlook to count less and less. To see this we have only to look at the failure of Independents to obtain seats either at local elections or General Elections.

On the whole, people today like to have their thinking done for them and prefer to follow the mass of their friends and neighbours. This is partly due, no doubt, to the whole idea of the mechanisation of modern life where articles are turned out by the million all exactly the same in every detail. I do not propose here to go into the question as to whether this is a good thing in our daily lives or not, but what I am quite certain of is that when it comes into our own moral and private lives it is a very bad thing indeed.

To do this or that because the other fellow does this or that is quite unmoral and completely unChristian.

Before God we are individuals and as such accountable to Him.

Can we not in 1969 be individuals and not sheep?

Thinking and asking for ourselves alone, with the fixed idea that it is not man to whom, at the end, we shall have to answer, but to God alone.

I feel sure that in all the difficulties and decisions of life we shall have to face in the coming year, this thought can strengthen and help us more than anything else.

God made us individuals with our own part to play in life, and He meant us to add our own particular lines of thought and
visits to neighbouring parishes and in welcoming other congregations to Bere Regis and Winterbourne Kingston. Now, after four years it must come to an end.

It may be found possible to continue a form of Common Life on a Deanery basis, and this is shortly to be discussed in the Deanery Clergy Chapter.

There are serious difficulties in the way, but it may be found possible to overcome these - if so you will be notified in due course if a scheme is possible and if it is approved by the Parochial Church Council.

For the moment we visit Mapponden on January 12th, for Evensong at 7 p.m. This unfortunately falls on the same day as the Plough Sunday Service at Bere Regis, but I very much hope that in spite of this as many as possible will try and come on the very last visit we shall be paying.

The coach will leave Bere Regis at 6 p.m., picking up at Winterbourne Kingston at 6.10 approximately.

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**Village Calendar**

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<th>Jan.</th>
<th>6.</th>
<th>Epiphany, Holy Communion 9, 30 a.m.</th>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Wed, 2, 45 Winterbourne Kingston M, U, Corporate Communion</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Thurs, 7, 30 Bere Regis M, U, Corporate Communion</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Fri, Choir and Sunday School Outing to Pantomime</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Plough Sunday Service 3 p.m., Procession moves 2, 45</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Mon, P.C.C, Meeting 7, 30 Vicarage</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>Mon, 3, 15, School Managers</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>Thurs, Diocesan Conference</td>
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<th>Mar.</th>
<th>4.</th>
<th>Tues, British Legion Jumble Sale 3 p.m., Drax Hall</th>
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<td>May.</td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>Fri, Confirmation Service Bere Regis</td>
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<td>June.</td>
<td>31.</td>
<td>Sat, St. Nicholas Garden Party</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Wed, Sanctuary Guild Bi-annual Meeting</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Sat, Bere Regis Garden Party</td>
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<td>July.</td>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Tues, British Legion Garden Party, White Lovington</td>
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**Mothers' Union**

The Quarterly Corporate Communion of the Bere Regis Mothers' Union will be held at 7, 30 p.m. on Thursday, January 8th, being the second Thursday in the month.

**Plough Sunday**

The First Sunday after The Epiphany, Sunday January 12th, Procession...
behind Plough leaves Old Barn Service Station 2.45 p.m.

SERVICE IN CHURCH 3.00 p.m.

Please come and join in the procession

CHRISTMAS POEMS
BY THE CHILDREN OF BERE REGIS SCHOOL

At Christmas there is joy
For that little boy
Born in a stable was he,
And Shepherds and Wise Men came to see
At night when everyone was in bed
The Angels came to the shepherds and said
Go to the stable and you will see
A tiny little King Baby.

Christmas is near
As all people hear
Snow is falling
Children are calling
Christmas Eve is now
When all the shepherds bow
Mary the Mother bore a son
That was the day all earthly things were done,
Up goes the holly at Christmas
Children put up their stockings at Christmas
All the birds have flown away at Christmas
Christmas morn is never forgotten
Because that’s the day that Christ was born.

On Christmas Eve
O, Jesus is born
In a manger
To keep us from all danger
With ox and ass above him stare
Mary the Mother to guard him there,
Joseph the Father
Loving to watch
The Wise Men are startled
A bright sudden spot
A great big star came from the East
And the three wise men set out
And followed the star

Then they came to a barn
And worshipped the Babe.

The air is touched by the snow and the frost
I throw a snowball at my friend,
She throws one back while all the time
We forgot Christ was born.

Just a stable without cradle
A cry was heard from a crib
Just look at that poor little Kid
Wrapped in swaddling clothes
While his Mother tried to doze
Three Wise Men came about dawn
Seeking for the Child forlorn.

No room for the baby in Bethlehem inn
Only a cattle shed, no room on this earth
For the dear Son of God no where to lay his head
Only a Cross did they give to my Lord
only a bar or two so
What did they give for my dear Lord to live
only a stone cold tomb.

Not a thing did stir when Jesus
Came to earth, Angels gathered
Around the manger that was Jesus’ birth
Jesus was born to love not to die in cold blood,
Herod was very cross at this
Didn’t worship him at all
Jesus didn’t care for this
Mary lovingly gave him a kiss.

( The Poem by Lesley Poore will appear next month. Ed.)

BERE REGIS GUIDE DOG

Less than £30 was needed to reach the required total of £250 to
train our Guide Dog. These are the Collections and Donations to date:
Misty’s Collection 76. 16. 9d.
Donations and Dog Show Oct. 5th. 46. 6. 0d.
Interest on Deposit 2. 4. 3d.
Congregational Church Meeting 4. 5. 0d.
Donations and Ladies’ Football, Oct. 19th. 20. 5. 0d. ....
Further Donations 2 2 0d.
Open Day - Woodbury Side 52 1 7d.
Contributions from ZelSTONE W.I. 1 1 0d.
ProcesSional Contributions December 7th. 6 10 0d.
Floral Group Donation 10 0 0d.

Total £220 11 7d.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

At the Annual General Meeting on 10th December, the following Committee was elected for 1969.

President : Mrs. A. Barne, Chairman: Mrs. E. Herridge
ViceChairman: Mrs. B. Cobb, Hon. Sec : Miss A. Lys
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. D. W. Tadman Assist. Hon,
Treas. : Mrs. H. Anderson

Mrs. Armstead, Mrs. Benjafied, Mrs. Chilcott, Mrs. Cross, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Keith, Mrs. Lys, Mrs. Sandys, Mrs. Norris.

It was decided that the Group would give £10 towards the training of "GuideWell Nean REGIS" - the Guide Dog for the Blind being reared by Mrs. Cahill.

At our meeting on Tuesday 14th January, 1969, Miss P. Sunderland will speak on "Growing Plants and Bulbs". She will judge the three classes for members - (1) Bowl of Hyacinths, (2) Seven Paper White Narcissi, (3) Pot Plant - this to have been in possession of owner for three months or more.

M.A.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON MOTHERS' UNION

The Quarterly Corporate Communion will be held on Wednesday January 8th at 2.45 p.m. Will members please note that the Service has been moved from the evening to the afternoon, as for 1969 the ordinary monthly meetings will be held in the evenings.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH MARKET

The Feast of St. Nicholas was a most appropriate day on which to hold the St. Nicholas Market. Once again it was a most successful and happy occasion. Owing to indisposition we were sorry that Mrs. Burdett was not able to open the Market and our good wishes were sent to her. The Market attracted a large number of buyers, and with a variety of stalls attractively laden with a variety of goods, trading was brisk. At the end of the evening the Vicar expressed thanks to all those who had given and worked for the Market - without buyers and givers such an event would not be possible.

R.M.S.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

INCOME

Donations £5. £1. 0 17 0.
10/-: 10/-: 10/-: 0 7 10 0.
Stalls : 
New 8 15. 1.
Mothers' Union 6 16. 0.
Children's 6. 2. 0.
Cakes 5. 1. 0.
Produce 4. 0. 0.
Bottle Tombola 6. 2. 6.
Going for a Song 5 10. 6. being profit 88 5. 4.

In lieu of Bran Tub 2. 0. 0.
Door 3. 10. 3.
Name of Doll 1. 12. 6.
Competition for Grocery Hamper 6. 0. 6.
Main Competition 25. 0. 0.

£85 12. 4.

EXPENDITURE

Printing of Draw Tickets 1 17. 0.
Hire of Village Hall 10. 0.
Balance in hand 10. 0.
Total being profit 88 5. 4.

£85 12. 4.

Payment to Bank - Restoration Fund - £83 5. 4d. E.M.S.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

'HITCH YOUR WAGON TO A STAR'

The Wise Men of old who lived in the East spent their time in studying the stars - finding out all they could about them and writing down their discoveries. A new star appeared and it suggested to them the birth of some very important personage - so convinced were they that they set out in search taking with them precious gifts.

Travelling was no easy thing in those days, and a long desert journey difficult and hard. The patience and faith of these Wise Men kept them steadfast to their purpose. They came to the city of Jerusalem, but no new King was born there. In Bethlehem of Judea they were told Christ should be born. So they travelled six miles further south, until the star stood over where the young Child was. They forgot their long journey, their tiredness, for they saw His Star and were going to Worship Him, so "they rejoiced with exceeding great joy" we are
It must have been joy indeed - they went in, fell down and worshipped Him, opened their treasures and gave their gifts.

The star stood over where the young Child was. The Star of Bethlehem influences our lives today. We are seekers, in the same way as the Wise Men were. We are seeking God. How do we discover Him now at the present time? The Wise Men saw God made known to them in the Child Jesus. We can know Jesus too by faith, we have the record of the Wise Men knowing Him, and many others as well who found God by seeking and endeavouring; and we can find Him in the same way.

The Star still shines with its many twinkling lights - there is the light of kindness and goodwill, the light of honesty and truthfulness, the light of uprightness of character and fair play, the light of obedience, mercy and courage. The rays of the Star shines forth with high ideals, for the Christian life is by no means an easy life. We need to hitch our wagon, as we journey along the roadway of life, to the Star of Bethlehem, to the way of the Christ-Child, Whose Birthday we have just been celebrating.

As we enter the New Year of 1969 may we experience something of the joy of the Wise Men, who in following the Star found the Christ-Child. In the words of Christina Rossetti -

"What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him -
Give my heart."

E.M.S.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

BERE REGIS

HOLY BAPTISM

November 24  Susan Jean Poore
December 7    Fiona Jane Murray Rogerson
December 15   Teresa Ann Hale
               Harvey Atwell

SMALL ADS
(2/6d for three lines)