The Vicar's Letter.

My dear People,

I shall be commencing Confirmation Classes at the beginning of March with a view to preparing candidates for the Confirmation Service to be held at Bere Regis on Friday, May 19th at 7 p.m. The first preliminary class will be held at the Vicarage on Monday, March 6th at 8 p.m. when I hope to meet all candidates, and the following classes will be fixed up at this meeting.

I shall be glad to have the names of intending candidates at or before this first meeting. Any adult candidates will be instructed at quite separate classes.

Normally candidates must be at least 12 years of age, but the Bishop is always willing to consider exceptional cases on their merit.

Attendance at classes does not mean that candidates must be confirmed nor does it mean that I must present them to the Bishop.

You will find the arrangements for Lent in this issue as Ash Wednesday is on February 16th and there are two Lenten Sundays in February. If there are any special preachers during Lent I will announce their names in the March issue. Normally as regard weather, Lent is not a good time for Churchgoing, but I do hope that many of you will make a real effort of conscience to be at church during this season. I realise, that for many, giving up things for Lent is a thing of the past, but it is even better to try and do a little extra specially if it means real sacrifice, even of friends or television or a nice warm fire.

There is no doubt, I believe, that the religious pendulum has just started to swing the other way. We had wonderful Christmas Services, and the Church on Christmas was full of young people, something which we have not had for many years. I find too that there is a warmer feeling to the Church — among parents there is a spirit of co-operation rather than apathy as regards their children and I believe that at last people are becoming tired of a pointless wander through life and are beginning to look for a goal towards which they can reach. If the swing has really started, it is up to us to encourage it in every way possible and one of these ways is by showing how much our church and religious devotions means to us. What better time is there of showing this than during Lent.

During Lent our large and enthusiastic choir are hoping to sing a suitable anthem every Sunday, I trust this may be an encouragement to you to come and listen, as it will be an encouragement to them to see you there.

How fortunate we are in Bere Regis with our workers — choir,
teachers, bell-ringers, officials and with, for these days, splendid congregations too. We must thank God for the way in which church life in this parish is blessed. Let us see that we increase continually in strength and witness every day and in every way.

Finally – during Lent, as well as the normal Lenten Services and in place of the mid-week discussion, I propose to have an informal meeting every Wednesday. The title of this meeting speaks for itself being 'Coffee and Conversation', and we shall talk about anything under the sun, providing it is not the weather or trivial. This meeting is for every age and every type – be as outrageous as you like, but come.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PAUL TRAPNER.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD.

February 13th. – Miss McFall. Mrs. Tadman.
February 20th. – 1st Sunday in Lent.
February 27th. – 2nd Sunday in Lent.

SIDESHESH'S ROTA FOR FEBRUARY.

Feb. 6th. 11 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfries & Major J. Hudson.
6 p.m. Messrs. H. Dashwood & R. Smith.

13th. 11 a.m. Messrs. G. Ward & P. Lys.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. Barnes & F. Marsh.

20th. 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mullins & K. Woolfries.

27th. 11 a.m. Mr. M. Lys and Col. A. Barne.
6 p.m. Messrs. H. Dashwood & R. Barnes.

March 5th. 11 a.m. Messrs. F. Lys & K. Woolfries.
6 p.m. Messrs. G. Ward & F. Marsh.

VILLAGE CALENDAR.

7th. Mon. 3 p.m. School Managers Meeting.
9th. Wed. Mothers' Union – 7.30 Vicarage.
14th. Mon. 7.30 Parochial Church Council – Vicarage.
16th. ASH WEDNESDAY – See Notice.
24th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

2nd. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

MARCH CALENDAR. (Cont'd...)

March 6th. Mon. 8 p.m. First Confirmation Class.
9th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.
12th. Sun. 3 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service.
15th. Wed. Royal British Legion Women's Section – Spring Sale –
2.30 p.m. Drax Hall.
16th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.
18th. Sat. Put clocks on 1 hour.
23rd. Thurs. 2.30 Deansery Mothers' Union. Festival, Milborne St.
Andrew.
26th. Sun. PALM SUNDAY.
27th. Mon. 7 p.m. Compline.
28th. Tues. 7 p.m. Compline.
29th. Wed. 7 p.m. Compline.
30th. MAUNDY THURSDAY – 7 p.m. Holy Communion.
31st. GOOD FRIDAY – 11 a.m. Mattins.
7 p.m. Devotional Service.

APRIL 1ST. EASTER DAY.
5th. Wed. Annual Congregational Church Meeting – 7 p.m. –
Drax Hall.
13th. Thurs. 7 p.m. Coffee Evening – Mrs. Tadman.
15th. Sat. 4 p.m. Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers Service.
26th. Wed. 7 p.m. Archdeacons Visitations – Bere Regis.

MAY 11TH. ASCENSION DAY – 7 p.m. Friends of Bere Regis Church Annual
Service.
19th. Fri. 7 p.m. Confirmation – Bere Regis.
21st. Sun. WHIT SUNDAY.

JUNE 17TH. Sat. P.T.A. Carnival with Procession.

JULY 27TH. Tues. 7 p.m. Young Wives Summer Market at Broadwater.
16th. Sun. 6.30 p.m. Deansery Evensong at Piddletrenthide.

AUG. 12TH. Sat. R.B.L. Horticultural Show.

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE.

Will those of you who would like to give a lily at Easter please fill
in the list which you will find at the back of the Church from the first
Sunday in Lent, February 20th. I am hoping that we shall be able to
obtain Arum lilies again this year. The names must be down by Passion
Sunday, March 19th. The list will be removed on the evening of that day
and once it is removed no more names can be accepted for inclusion.
HERE BEGINS MOTHERS' UNION.

The inaugural meeting of the re-started Mothers' Union will be held on Wednesday, February 9th, 7.30 p.m. at the Vicarage. We have a very special speaker for this occasion. Mrs. Ship, who is the Speakers' Representative for the Diocese of Salisbury and lives at Paignton, Devon, is coming to talk to the meeting about the part the Mothers' Union plays in the parish, the country and the world and the importance of it.

We are canvassing for new members and I am sending out a letter to a number of people with this end in view. I trust that those who are already members will play their part in advertising the Mothers' Union and in bringing new blood to our meetings.

If any of you would like copies of my letter to pass on to friends and likely people, please let me know and I will see you. have as many as you require.

I invite all Mothers to come to this meeting to see what the Mothers' Union is all about and I am hoping for many new names to write down in the Register.

PHILLIS TRANTER.

THE CHURCH CHOIR.

WANTED ! ... SOPRANOS.

The men's section of the Church Choir has now swelled to such proportions that if we are not to become tonally unbalanced we badly need several more Sopranos. Will any ladies who enjoy singing and might like to join the choir, please get in touch with the Vicar or Miss Smith. Apart from the ordinary service work, which of course, from the point of view of a church choir is the most important, we sing much varied and interesting music, of all periods - from the Medieval to the Modern.

While at the moment we have no vacancies for boys we shall certainly have at least one vacancy after Easter and should be glad to hear of any boys who can sing and enjoy it and might care to join the choir.

Names again please to the Vicar or Miss Smith.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

We are holding a Sunday School Party on Saturday, February 5th in the Drax Hall, and shall be very glad of help in providing food and running the party.

If any of our readers would like to help with offers of food or in any other way, please get in touch with Mrs. Collis or Mrs. England or Mrs. Mulfard.

ELECTORAL ROLL.

Please do not forget that everyone, even if your name is already on the roll, must fill in a new form if your name is to be included in the new roll which will last for six years. Enrolment forms can be obtained from the visitors table in the church, or from the Electoral Roll Secretary - Miss E. Combes, The Bower, North St.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER.

Mid Week Services:

Ash Wednesday 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.

Every Thursday with the exception of March 23rd when there is the Deanery Mothers' Union Festival at Milborne St. Andrew.

Evensong 3 p.m.

The Vicar will give a course of Addresses on the Last Words on the Cross.

Mothering Sunday Service: 3 p.m. March 12th.

Palm Sunday, March 26th. Distribution of Palm Crosses at all Services.

Holy Week:

Monday, March 27th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Tuesday, " 28th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Wednesday, " 29th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Maundy Thursday, March 30th - 7 p.m. Holy Communion.
Good Friday, March 31st. 11 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Devotional Service of the 7 lessons, with special music sung by the choir.

Easter Day: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Mattins. 12 noon " 3 p.m. Family Service. 6 p.m. Evensong.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION.

On Wednesdays during Lent - that is February 23rd, March 1st, 8th., 15th., 22nd., between 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. all who will come are invited to the Vicarage for Coffee and Conversation.

Everyone may come and go as they like. There is no need to come at the beginning or to stay to the end. We hope it will be absolutely free and easy, but a time when we can chat about problems and matters of importance concerning religion, life, and the times.

Do come and join us, even if you do not wish to talk come and have coffee. Feel perfectly free to do as you like but do come.
BERKE REGIS YOUNG WIVES GROUP.

Meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall, Butt Lane, at 7.30. On Tuesday, 8th February - Mrs. Pat House will be showing us how to make pictures from pressed flowers, and on the 22nd the speaker will be Mr. Knight who is a gamekeeper.

Members raised the sum of £10.60p carol singing in the village, for Dorchester Cheshire Home.

BERKE REGIS WOMEN’S INSTITUTE.

The speaker for February will be Mr. Nash, about the work of Cold Harbour Hospital, Sherborne for the Mentally Handicapped.

The meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Drax Hall. We are delighted to welcome new members who would like to join us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

For several weeks, some of the children have been taking home from Sunday School, work sheets to be completed during the week. This is part of a new method of Sunday School teaching which has started in Classes 2 & 3 at Advent.

There are 3 main reasons why we think the work sheets are a good idea: (a) they help the children to remember their lessons for the week, by learning a verse or colouring a picture to illustrate the lesson, (b) parents know what the children have been learning about and are therefore better equipped to answer their questions, (c) Religious learning is not so likely to become something which starts and ends at the Church door, but can be talked over and encouraged at home. We feel sure we can depend on the co-operation of parents in this important matter.

P. Collis - on behalf of Sunday School Teachers.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN’S SECTION.

Branch Meeting in Drax Hall 2.30 p.m. February 16th - Rumix Food mixer Demonstration and Raffle.

A. L. Coles, Sec.

BERKE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

A very interesting meeting was held in January, when Miss McFall showed slides of the various Churches the group had decorated. In February, Mrs. Madam-Neyer is giving a talk on unusual Plants and there will be our Annual Bulb Show.

P. H.

ARE YOU WELL-READ?

QUIZ SET BY F. CATON BADDELEY.

1. THE OLD SCHOOL TIE. About what schools - real or fictitious are these books written: Goodbye Mr. Chips; The Hill; Nicholas Nickleby; Stalky and Co; Tom Brown’s Schooldays?

2. VIRTUES AND VICES. What qualities or idiosyncrasies do you associate with: Mr. Micawber; Mrs. Malaprop; Othello; Shylock; Urijah Heep?

3. BEST SELLERS. Who wrote the following: Last Have I Loved Thee; The Foolish Gentlewoman; The Heart of the Matter; Their Finest Hour?

4. QUOTATION QUIZ. In what books, poems or plays do the following occur?

(a) Beware the Ides of March!
(b) Chaps and Tomato sauce!
(c) ...messing about in boats.
(d) The dog it was that died.
(e) 'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
   Did gyre and gimble in the wabe.

5. MUSICAL SNARES. What musical instrument (a) is associated with Orpheus? (b) sounded in Tere’s Hall? (c) caused the Wedding guests to beat his breast?

6. THE SWAN OF AVON. (a) To whom does this cliché refer? (b) To whom has the authorship of his works been attributed? (c) Whom did he marry? (d) Where did he retire to?

7. PSEUDONYMS. Here are the pen names of five well-known writers. Can you identify them? Currer Bell; George Birmingham; Bos; Ella; Lewis Carroll.

8. ERIC: OR ... ? or what? Give the alternative title; also the alternatives of Twelfth Night and Vice Versa.

9. FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD. Where were the following written: Bunyan’s Pilgrims Progress; Gray’s Elegy; Wilde’s Do Profundis?

10. PUZZLE CORNER. Here is an anagram of the title of a well-known book by one of the writers mentioned above. Try and solve it:

NINA ALLOWED CINDER.

Answers next month.

SIDELIGHTS

A man always has two reasons for doing anything - a good reason and the real reason - J. Pierpont Morgan.

Decide promptly, but never give any reasons. Your decisions may be right, but your reasons are sure to be wrong - Lord Mansfield.

What on earth would a man do with himself if something did not stand in his way? - H. G. Wells.

How lucky I am! Whenever I make a mistake people are sure to discover it. - Confucius.
The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about. — Oscar Wilde.

Of course, there's a lot to be said in her favour, too; but it's not nearly so interesting. (Overheard).

There are two kinds of readers; those who read to remember, and those who read to forget.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.
   — Eleanor Roosevelt.

A mind like a flash of lightning, quick but crooked — Chesterton.

When two men in a business always agree, one of them is unnecessary.

One of the many things nobody ever tells you about middle age is that it's such a nice change from being young.

Very few things happen at the right time, and the rest do not happen at all. The conscientious historian will correct these defects.
   — Herodotus, 2500 years ago.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS.

HOLY MATRIMONY:

BAPTISM:

"SMALL ADS" (15 n.p. every three lines).

WANTED:
Old Music Hall Songs 1920 - 1930. Ring Bere Regis 369 or any Young Wife.