



THE coming of Spring and the glory of Easter are two things which mean so much to so many. The former is felt by everyone who is blessed by being able to live amid the beauty of our English countryside—the bursting into life in fields and lanes as nature unfolds the glory and colour of sunshine. The glory of Easter, however, never fades and without it we should be as S. Paul says, ‘of all men most miserable’.

GOOD FRIDAY

Parish Church, 11 a.m.—One Hour of Devotion.
 S. Nicholas, 6 p.m.—Compline.
 Parish Church, 7 p.m.—Compline.

EASTER DAY

Parish Church, 8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
 S. Nicholas, 9.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
 Parish Church, 11 a.m.—Mattins and Holy Communion.
 Parish Church, 2.30 p.m.—Children’s Service.
 Parish Church, 6 p.m.—Evensong.
 S. Nicholas, 7.15 p.m.—Evensong.

It would be a great help if on Easter Day communicants will come up from their seats without undue delay.

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FROM now onwards the number of visitors to our Parish Church will continue to grow until during the holiday months they will number many hundreds each week. They come from all parts of the world as we can judge from our Visitors’ Book, and they come sometimes in large parties by coach or ’bus while very many others come by whatever means of transport suit them best. Organised parties from various schools come and four L.C.C. schools have already got dates fixed when London children will have the opportunity of learning something of our local history and in particular the history of the Parish Church.

This great flow of people is something more than a matter of local interest to us. It means that the ancient beauty and hallowed atmosphere of our Parish Church cannot fail to make an impression even on the most indifferent, and visitors from overseas and the industrial parts of our own country gain something much more than matters of historical interest. It is true that our ancient village churches reveal something of the close connection between the Church and the nation. This is made plain by the memorials to those who century after century gave their loyal service to both, and they also bear testimony to those families which in the past have done so much to uphold the religious teaching and traditions of their day.

Modern transport has brought our Parish churches into a place of greater influence than perhaps at any time in their history. They are no longer parochial, and vast numbers of people visit them now—often it may be the first visit to any place of worship for a very long time. How often holiday makers on passing through our countryside say, 'Let's go and see the church.' It may appear to be little more than a casual remark, but it often has a deep meaning. It expresses a latent desire for something which cannot be found elsewhere and which is hard to define. It is an echo of a spiritual longing, and so often the quiet and hallowed beauty of an ancient Parish Church supplies that indefinable something which brings a sense of peace and stability in days of constant speed and noise. We know this from the contact which we make in our own lovely church almost daily with those who pass on their way. We feel that it is good that they should know that they are always welcome.

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ON April 4th, the Vicar completes 20 years as Vicar of the Parish.

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Register

Holy Baptism, February 19th.

Alan Martin, son of Arthur John and Phyllis Crocker.

Burial, February 28th.

Alice House, aged 81 years.