

May 1960



DURING this month we keep one of the greatest Festivals of the Christian year—Ascension Day, May 26th, and coming on a weekday we can easily overlook the day itself.

The Christian faith is the most powerful force for good in the world. There are other faiths which keep men's minds on the earthly level which are little more than moral precepts. The Christian Faith looks up and seeks and finds its power from on high. It was necessary that Christ should Ascend—His earthly work was ended. He knew that His departure from earth in his Ascension would be a blessing to His followers—they would actually gain by losing Him. This was indeed strange for we would expect the reverse to be the real case. Christ's personal relationship to us is wholly independent of His bodily presence. Before His Ascension He told His disciples—'tarry ye here at Jerusalem till ye receive power from on high'. We know that this Power came on the first Whitsunday or Pentecost, and it is this same Power which is given to us through prayer and through Sacramental Grace. The work and witness of the Christian Church throughout the ages is the witness to this Power and in the lives of men and women today. Hence the importance of Ascension Day.

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EASTER was a happy day in both of our churches and although a shortage of flowers was feared, we can say that neither church could have been more beautifully decorated. Congregations were good but there are always some whom we miss. The Vicar greatly appreciated the kind and generous Easter offering from both churches.

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SUMMER outings will soon be starting and consequently congregations will be reduced, but there is a service at the Parish Church every Sunday at 8 a.m. May this be a reminder both to those who go on outings—and to those who do not. Communicants at the Parish Church should be far more numerous than they are.

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CHILDREN of the diocese were invited to a great service in the Cathedral on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the consecration of the present cathedral and they were asked to bring gifts of money for which the children could give a present to the Cathedral. Representative children from the Parish Church and also from S. Nicholas attended the service and presented their gifts. As a result a most beautiful and unique map of the diocese now hangs in the Cathedral. It is very detailed and is in beautiful colours and gilt. This was the work of the same artist who worked our Roll of Honour in the Parish Church.

JUNE 2nd is the date of the Vicarage Garden Party and we are glad to know that Mrs. Deakin has kindly promised to open the Party. There will be many of the usual attractions and we hope some which are not usual. Please be sure to note the date.

Then on June 9th the S. Nicholas Party will be held in the beautiful garden of the old Parsonage, which is being so kindly lent again by Brigadier and Mrs. Lipscomb. Apart from the many attractions on these occasions nothing could be more typical of a beautiful English setting than the garden and flowers. We hope that many visitors will come from Bere Regis and show their goodwill towards the daughter church of S. Nicholas. Remember the date, June 9th.

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CANON PECK, who often helped at the Parish Church and was to have come again in July, died very suddenly early this month at a meeting of clergy. He will be remembered by many with affection. He was a kind and gentle person who could not have made an enemy but had made a host of friends who are better people through knowing him.

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Register

Holy Baptism.

May 8th. Beverley Jeanne, daughter of Dennis Bernard Thomas and Eileen Georgina Maidment.

May 8th. Kevin Paul, son of Frederick George David and Janet Elizabeth Spicer.

Burial.

May 9th. Dorcas Hewitt, aged 54.