

MARSTON NEWS

The News-Letter of St. Nicholas Church, Marston, Oxford
delivered to every home in the Parish

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

My dear Friends,

"Last times" are always sad, and as your Vicar I cannot approach Good Friday and Easter without a feeling of sadness. Sadness because it will be my last with you as Vicar, and sadness because although the Church will be almost full I shall be reminded of work I have not done, and of people who ought to be there but are not. Yet, I know there will also be a wonderful note of triumph, firstly because of all that our dear Lord Jesus Christ has done for us and means to us, because also of all that as a Church we have done together and accomplished, and because too of remembrance, especially on the Feast of the Resurrection, of dear ones of our family and of our Church who have fought the good fight and left us the inspiration of their faith and life on earth.

"Last times" are a solemn reminder of the shortness of our stay here upon earth, and none of us knows whether this or any Easter may not be our last. Yet none of these "last times" should make us unduly sad, for those who are in Christ are united in Him, in spirit and in the worship of the Church, although bodily apart for a time, and one day will be gloriously together in His Presence.

With my affectionate greetings,

Your friend and Vicar,

GORDON D. SAVAGE.

GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER

Good Friday, 11 a.m.: Morning Prayer. 12 to 3 p.m.: Service and Meditation, with short addresses by the Rev. F. S. Cragg, sometime Rector of St. Aldate's, Oxford. (Come for the whole or any part of the time.)

All who profess and call themselves Christians try to observe this day by a visit to God's house and by some act of self-denial.

Easter Even (April 20th): The decoration of the Church will begin at 10 a.m. Gifts of flowers and any help will be very welcome. Especially primroses (? or other small flowers) for the Churchyard Text.

Easter Day, April 21st, 8.15: THE EASTER COMMUNION (also at 7.15 a.m., 12 and 7.30 p.m.).

7.15 a.m.	Holy Communion	8.15 a.m.	Holy Communion
*11.0 a.m.	Morning Prayer	12.0 noon	Holy Communion
*3. 0 p.m.	Family Service	4. 0 p.m.	The Easter Baptisms
*6.30 p.m.	Festival of Lessons and Hymns	7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion

*These are simple Prayer Book Services for the whole family, each member of which is welcome. At the Family Service at three o'clock each child is invited to bring an egg or small gift (to be taken to children in Oxford Hospitals on Easter Monday). Visitors to the Parish are warmly welcomed.

"The Ancient Custom of Easter Offerings": The Churchwardens wish to intimate that the Collections in Church on Easter Day (together with any sums sent to them by those unable to be present) will be given as a personal gift to the Vicar. This does not apply to the Weekly Offering Envelopes.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, MARSTON

Vicar: The Venerable Gordon D. Savage, M.A. (Archdeacon of Buckingham Proctor in Convocation), Marston Vicarage, Oxford. Tel. Oxford 47054. (The Vicarage is 11 Elsfield Road, and the Vicar may usually be seen at the Church or Vicarage on Fridays, 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m., or after any Service.)

Parish Worker: Miss M. S. Liles, c/o The Vicarage.

Churchwardens: Professor V. T. Harlow, C.M.G., D.Litt., Fir Tree House, Oxford Road; Mr. B. G. Oliver, Marston Road Post Office.

Is your Name on the Electoral Roll? It is important that every baptised person of seventeen years and over should have his or her name on the Electoral Roll of the Church. In particular, every person who makes use of the Church for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Sunday School, Pram Service, Mothers' Union, etc., should be sure to be enrolled. The Roll will this year be revised from April 3rd to April 13th. Ask the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens for an application form.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Monday, April 29th, at 7.45 p.m. This may be described as the "Annual General Meeting" of our Church, when members receive reports on the activities of the Church, and then afterwards elect the Council, the Sidesmen and other representatives for the ensuing year. This year, the Church is again inviting everyone living in the Parish, whether members of the Church or not, to be present, though voting will be restricted to those qualified to vote. The evening will probably be divided:

7.45 to 8.30: Reports on 1956, Questions, Discussion.

8.30 to 9. 0: Tea and Social Intercourse.

9. 0 to 9.30: Elections for the ensuing year.

Please note that information relating to the Annual Meeting will be posted on the notice-board in the Church porch from April 20th to April 28th. The Vicar will gladly speak with anyone uncertain about the way in which the business has to be done.

All who have the welfare of the Church at heart are invited to attend this Annual Meeting at which the officers of the Church review what has been done and share with you their encouragements and disappointments, as well as their hopes for the future. It is a great encouragement to the Vicar and Wardens when the Annual Meeting is well attended, so *please note the date* and make an effort to attend.

Easter Day. All are invited to share, by gifts of flowers or money or help, in the decoration of the Church on Saturday, April 20th, 10 o'clock onwards. We shall specially welcome you and your visitors at the Services on Easter Day. The Rev. F. J. Taylor, Principal of Wycliffe Hall, will assist at the 8.15 Service and will preach at the 11 o'clock Service. Children's gifts will be received at 3 o'clock. On Easter Monday the gifts, and flowers from Church, will be taken to all parishioners in hospital and all those who are "shut in". (Please send names to the Vicar.)

Restoration Fund. Latest details will be given in the May issue of the gifts received to date. In the meantime, warm thanks to all who supported the SACRED CONCERT on March 22nd. The net sum of £15 10s. 0d, was handed to the fund. The cost of hiring the hall was kindly provided by a member of the Church. It was a joy to welcome our friends of the Cowley Road Methodist Church who came to sing to us.

Anonymous Gift. The Vicar takes this only way of thanking the one who sent a sum by registered post on March 19th for the purchase of a new cassock. And also for the typed poem, "Sunday Night", which was left in his seat in Church on Easter Sunday evening three years ago. These gifts and the loving thought which prompts them are precious indeed.

Marston Church School. It will be known that when the Village School would pass out of the hands of the Vicar and Churchwardens, contrary to the intention of the founders in 1851, and be sold. After protracted negotiations with the Ministry of Education and the Diocese, and very largely due to the sympathetic and careful consideration on the part of the Bishop of Oxford, these buildings have now reverted to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Marston in perpetuity. This has not taken place without diligent attention to the interests of the Village and Church by the present Churchwardens and Vicar. The cost of this two-year negotiation, including legal fees, is about £45.

Some Future Dates to Note. May 4 (Sat.), Marston Market recommences; May 5 (Sun.), Sunday School Anniversary; May 11 (Sat.), Diocesan Youth Festival; May 19 (Sun.), "Husbands and Wives" Marriage Reunion Service; June 2 (Sun.), visit of the Archdeacon of Oxford; June 12 (Wed.), Choir Outing; July 2 (Tues.), Christening Reunion; July 6 (Sat.), Church Fête; July 10 (Wed.), Missionary Festival; **July 11 (Thur.), Confirmation.**

Scouts and Cubs. At a meeting on March 21st Mr. Gordon Rock received his warrant as Scoutmaster. Afterwards parents and friends elected Mr. Hayles as Chairman, Mr. Tasker as Treasurer, and Mrs. Edens as Secretary of the Group Committee, and all friends as well as parents and relatives of Scouts and Cubs are invited to an "At Home" in the Reading Room on Wednesday, April 10th, at 7 p.m., when films will be shown after coffee has been served. The Scouts will hold a Jumble Sale on April 13th.

Scripture Union Rally. Many young people as well as older ones read the Bible every day. All of those friends, as well as any others, are invited to a united Scripture Union Rally in London on April 13th. We propose to take a party from Marston to London early that morning to visit places of interest, and then in the afternoon to attend the Rally. The cost for the train and Underground for the day will be 8/- return for young people and 16/- for adults. Please tell Miss Liles if you are interested.

Easter Monday Ramble. Why not enjoy the beauties of the country by joining the Pathfinders' Ramble on Easter Monday, April 22nd? We propose to take a bus to New Hinksey (leaving St. Nicholas Church at 9.54 a.m.), then to ramble over lovely country to Abingdon; there, the Harwell Pathfinders and young people will join us for refreshments and an afternoon of games. There will be several buses returning from Abingdon later in the day. The adult fares for the day will be about 2/6, and the young people 1/3. Bring a sandwich lunch and tea with you; drinks will be available en route. Check details on the notice-board in the Church porch on Easter Day.

Camps. The Church Pastoral-Aid Society is again organising camps this summer for boys and girls who need a thoroughly good holiday, at the same time friendship with Christians from other churches. Young people from this Church are especially invited to the one held from August 3rd to 10th. If you are interested, please speak to the Vicar or Miss Liles as soon as possible. The charge is only nominal.

Cromwell Club. Congratulations to our Youth Club, who came second out of thirty-two other youth clubs in the Inter-Area Quiz Competition.

QUIZ

Anyone may still enter for the monthly Quiz. Prizes will be awarded to winners aged twelve and under, and to others over twelve years. Please send your entries to the Vicarage by April 15th.

PART A (12 years and under)

1. How many times did Peter deny that he knew the Lord Jesus at His trial? (St. Matthew 26, verses 69-75.)
2. For how much money did Judas Iscariot deliver Jesus to the Chief Priests? (St. Matthew 26, verses 14-16.)

3. What were the words of Jesus' prayer to His Father in the Garden of Gethsemane? (St. Matthew 26, verses 36-46.)
4. St. Matthew 26, verse 30, says: "When they had sung a *hymn*". Do you think it means a psalm, or a hymn similar to the ones we use?
5. Complete this text: "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but (four words). (St. Matthew 26, verses 36-46.)

PART B (13 years and upwards)

1. Why did St. Peter deny Jesus? (St. Matthew 26, verses 31-75.)
2. What did Jesus mean, after the woman had poured ointment on His head, when He said: "She did it to prepare Me for burial"? (St. Matthew 26, verses 6-13.)
3. In Genesis 39 we read these words three times: "The Lord was with Joseph". Why do you think the Lord was with him?
4. Is a *kiss* a sign of love? (Genesis 45, verses 1-15, and St. Matthew 26, verses 48-50.)
5. Finish this verse: "The fool hath said (seven missing words). (Psalm 53.)

Laid to Rest: Joseph Hume Hume-Rothery (Feb. 16); Amelia Buckett (Feb. 22); Ethel Wood (Feb. 28); Phyllis Piper (Mar. 8); Olive Maud Griffin (Mar. 9); Minnie Holliday (Mar. 13); Mary Ann Walker (Mar. 20).

Baptisms and Weddings: List in May issue.

A Thought: You may be too big for God to use you, but you will never be too small.

A Verse to Treasure: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above . . ." (Col. 3: 1-2).

FOR YOUR DIARY, APRIL, 1957

Every Sunday: 8.15, Holy Communion. 11, Morning Prayer.
6.30, Evening Prayer. Additional notes given below.

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- 7 S. (*Lent V*) 12, H.C. 3, Family Service.
10 W. 7, Scouts and Cubs "At Home" (R.R.).*
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- 14 S. (*Palm Sunday*) Summer Time begins. 11, Rev. W. H. Medcalf.
3, Palestine Costumes Talk. 6.30, Rev. F. S. Cragg.
17 W. 7.45, Young Wives' Group (Rev. A. C. Jarvis).
19 F. (*Good Friday*) 11, M.P.; 12-3, Three Hours.*
20 S. 10, Decorate Church.
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- 21 S. (*Easter Day*)*
21 to 27. "Bob a Job" week.
23 Tu. 2.45, Mothers' Union (Rev. A. C. Jarvis).
25 Th. 10.30, Holy Communion.
27 S. (5, Vicar to be installed at the Cathedral.)
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- 28 S. (*Easter I*)
29 M. 7.15, *Marston News* Distributors. 7.45, Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*
30 Tu. (St. Mark's Day, transferred from April 25th)
- MAY
- 1 W. (SS. Philip & James)
4 S. 10, Marston Market recommences.

* See further details elsewhere in this issue.