

MARSTON NEWS

The News-Letter of St. Nicholas Church, Marston, Oxford.

A LETTER FROM YOUR VICAR.

My dear Parishioner of Marston,

This letter enters every home in the Parish, and this month I have two special matters I wish to mention :

OUR SUNDAY OF REUNION AND DEDICATION, September 20th.

How good it is to meet one another again after the holidays ! We come back refreshed, ready for the fray. How good it would be if we could all meet in Church on September 20th, when most people will have finished their holidays, first of all to thank God for the time of renewal, and also in the joy of meeting together as a united family, to ask God's blessing upon the activities of the winter before us. I should like all people who regard themselves in some sense as members of St. Nicholas to join with us on that Sunday, if possible for all the Services. Let us together face the challenge of the future and dedicate ourselves to the tasks ahead. I need your support and help, and I hope to indicate on that day some of the plans for the future and the part which you can play.

WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS TO MARSTON !

Reference is made on another page to the rapid growth of our parish, and nearly each week we hear of a new family coming to live in one of the new houses or one of the 200 caravans. There are many problems connected with this rapid development, but at least the Church can provide one vital thing : it gives **you** a very warm welcome to Old Marston and invites you to find true and profitable friendship both in the Services of the Church and in the many activities run under the auspices of the Church. Look on the Vicar as a friend who will link you with like-minded friends and who will help you to share the family-spirit which marks our community. Do join with us, for we believe we have something which can help you, and we need what you have to teach and help us. Here are two practical suggestions (a) In order to help newcomers to find their feet, I have prepared a "St. Nicholas Guide to Marston," giving much general practical information, including times of buses and useful names and addresses. Be sure to ask me for **your** copy if you have not already received one : (b) May I invite you to meet me and my wife, and other members of the church, at our "Bring a Friend" Service at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, September 20th, followed by tea in the Reading Room after the Service. Whoever you are, whatever you are, wherever you come from, **you** are very very welcome, and you will feel the warmth of our welcome. So note the date now, and I shall look forward to seeing you and speaking with you then.

With warm wishes,

Your Vicar, and your servant for Jesus' sake,

Gordon Savage

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST. NICHOLAS, MARSTON, OXFORD.**

The Church with an Open Door and a Hearty Welcome.

Vicar : The Rev. GORDON D. SAVAGE, M.A., Proctor in Convocation,
The Vicarage, Marston, Oxford (Tel. : Oxford 47034).

About Ourselves. Thank you for the warm welcome given to the first printed issue of "Marston News." It will now be issued each month and delivered to every house and caravan in the Parish. If you hear of some family which does not receive it, please let the Vicar know. There may be more than one family in a house, or it may be that in some families more than one copy is required: we shall be delighted to oblige on request. Suggestions concerning the contents will be welcomed by the Editor, who is the Vicar. Any notes you wish to be considered for inclusion in the next issue should reach him by the 20th of the month.

Winter Programme. Much care has been given to the Church's Winter Programme, with a view to giving the best combination of meetings without clashing with other regular activities in the Parish. Accordingly "Monday Night at Eight" will be on the second and fourth Monday nights of each month from October to April inclusive. The Young Wives will meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month (and the meeting on the first Wednesday will be thrown open to all women). In order to suit the convenience of the children who use the 'bus to get to Sunday School, the School will in future be at 2.30 on Sunday afternoons, and it will finish in time for the children to catch the 3.30 'bus. Special attention is drawn to the change of the "Bring a Friend" Service (and tea in the Reading Room afterwards) from the second Sunday to the **third Sunday** of each month; to the Mothers' Union Corporate Communion being changed to the **fourth Sunday** of the month at 8.15; and to the Evening Communion in future being on the **second Sunday** of the month at 7.30. This is all made very clear in the "September Diary" on the back page, and it will be announced in church and on the notice boards.

Calling All Children! The Sunday School recommences on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 13th, at 2.30. This is an invitation from the Vicar to every child in the parish, from 3 years of age to 11, to come to Church on Sunday afternoons at 2.30. "Something to do: Something to sing; Something to hear about!" Above all, you will hear about the love of Jesus, about God and about the Bible. So do join us for this "Children's Happy Hour." There are special classes for the 12 and 13 year-olds, and there are Bible Classes for those older still.

Happy Birthdays! (the Vicar would be glad to be notified of errors or omissions). Sept. 1, Linda Haines, Robin Vernede, Jenny Wren; 4, Patricia Webb, John Richards; 8, Sylvia Clark; 9, Barbara Ward, Juliet Vernede; 10, Robert Jeacock, Julia Walker; 11, Peter Haines, Lesley Waugh; 12, Marilyn Peach; 13, Christopher James, Gillian Osborne; 15, Carol Baughan; 16, Avont Barratt, Ann Green; 17, Martin Hathaway; 19, Pauline Miles; 20, David Taylor, Geoffrey Bridges; 21, David Sperry; 22, Lynne Dear; 23, John Bleay; 25, Graham Belson; 26, Richard Brown, Joy Savage; 27, Shirley Whipp; 28, Stephen Winstone; 30, Angela Robinson.

Harvest. Let our little church be filled with thankful people on Sunday, Sept. 20th. We shall be delighted to have the privilege of hearing our Rural Dean at the Evening Service. Gifts, Decorations and help will be welcome on Saturday morning, Sept. 19th.

Thank You to JOHN MCGINN (age 12) for the gift of a black Cassock for the Choir; to SYLVIA CLARK (age 12) for the proceeds of a little "Bring

and Buy Sale" in her home for the Sunday School Fund; to NOEL DEAM (age 10), CHRISTOPHER JAMES (age 10), ALLAN SAVAGE (age 9) and ROBIN ERNEDE (age 9) for help in distributing the last issue of "Marston News"; to JILL WILES and others for so beautifully colouring the full-scale drawings of the Coronation Regalia; to various members of the Cromwell Club for their practical help in different ways. And also to many adult members of our Church for help freely and generously given in many ways, to the one who has had the coffin-trestles renewed and repainted, another who had oiled the woodwork of the Churchyard gates, another who has spent a long time making careful and expert repairs to the electrical heating system, a member of the choir who has provided a book-rack for the Vestry, and bell-ringers who have carried out repairs in the belfry; to the ladies who wash the surplices and repair the cassocks, another who has spent many hours in diligent and beautiful needlework on Church fabric and vesture. And thank you to the Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers for the peal of Grandsire Doubles in honour of Elisabeth Savage, when she was baptised by the Bishop of Dorchester on July 18th.

Personalia. Congratulations to PETER MAY on winning a place at Southfield School; a warm welcome to Mr. R. W. PENNY, formerly of Forest Hill School, as he joins the staff of the Marston Primary School this month; good wishes and a safe return to PROFESSOR and Mrs. HARLOW on their six-week tour of Central Africa, where Dr. Harlow is lecturing under the auspices of the British Council; congratulations to Professor C. C. J. WEBB, on yet one further distinction in being elected to an Honorary Studentship of Christ Church: thank you to FIONA ADDIE (Mrs. Cardwell) for her broadcast, clearly received in Marston, on Aug. 7th.

Growth of "Old" Marston. The population has been increased by some 300 people by the new housing; a further 50 houses are due to be completed by the end of the year. There are plans in hand for another 256 houses, of which 156 are expected to be completed and occupied within two years. The needs of this new area have our anxious thought. By 1956 the number of children between the ages of 5 and 11 will probably be between 480 to 500 at the least; and in addition there will be about 150 more children of secondary school age. A Conference on this problem was held at the Vicarage recently and some important recommendations made. The decision to leave Marston in the County is not likely to slow up the building programme; in fact plans are in hand to build a further 350 houses on the east side of the Oxford Road and the above figures do not take this into account.

"Room To Let." The Vicar receives requests from factory-workers, nurses, students, dons, and farm-workers concerning any 'digs' or rooms or flats in Marston. If you have any room available either temporarily or permanently, please let the Vicar have a note with details, so that he may pass the information to enquirers.

Cost of "Marston News." Thank you to those who have made contributions towards the cost of production, Mrs. WOOD, Mr. and Mrs. ROBERTS, Mr. and Mrs. R. HAYNES, Mr. and Mrs. KENSINGTON, Mr. and Mrs. PASSEY. All offers of help towards the cost of production and in the work of distribution are very welcome!

Photographs. Old Marston has its own efficient and reasonable Photographer, ready to attend Weddings, Sports and other occasions: Mr. Raymond D. Hunt, "Wards Field," Northern By-Pass, Marston.

Choir and Bell Ringing. There are some vacancies for keen boys, ready to be taught how to sing, and for men and women, whether older or from the teens upwards, who wish to learn the art of bell-ringing.

SEPTEMBER DIARY, 1953.

Some dates for your Diary. Please note them, or pin this up in your home. For further details of regular Church Services, see Guide.

1. Tu. Marston Parish Council, 8 p.m.†
 5. S. Mr. John Hay, our M.P., at Cross Farm.†
 6. S. **Trinity XIV.** 8.15, Holy Communion; 11, Morning Prayer; 12, Holy Communion: *6.30, Evening Prayer.
 8. Tu. Marston Primary School New Term.† Women's Institute, 2.30.†
 13. S. **Trinity XV.** 8.15, Holy Communion; 11, Morning Prayer; *2.30, Sunday School recommences; *6.30, Evening Prayer; *7.30, Holy Communion.
 16. W. Young Wives re-assemble, Alan Court, *7.30.
 16. W. 18 F. and 19 S. are Ember Days, on which we pray for those to be ordained.
 20. S. **Trinity XVI. Our Day of Reunion and Dedication.**
8.15, Holy Communion (all Church officers, leaders, teachers, etc., specially invited). 11, Morning Prayer: "After the holidays . . . what?" *6.30, Evening Prayer ("BRING A FRIEND" Service, and at the Reading Room afterwards). Subject: "What does it mean to be a Christian?"
(See Special Note on front page).
 21. M. **St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist and Martyr.**
 22. Tu. Mothers' Union, Service in Church, *2.30.
 26. S. Harvest Decoration of Church, 10 a.m. onwards.
 27. S. **Trinity XVII. HARVEST THANKSGIVING.**
8.15, Holy Communion (M.U. Corporate). 11, Morning Prayer (Scouts and Cubs Parade). 12, Holy Communion. *2.30, Children's Gift Service. *6.30, FESTAL EVENSONG, Preacher: The Reverend G. E. DAY, Rural Dean of Islip.
 29. Tu. **St. Michael and All Angels.**
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3. S. Summer time ends to-night.
 4. S. **Trinity XVIII.** 8.15, Holy Communion; 11, Morning Prayer; 12, Holy Communion; *2.30, Family Service for Children, Parents and Friends; *6.30, Evening Prayer.
- † These items are not arranged by the Church, which takes no responsibility for errors or omissions.
* Buses connect with these times and with the end of the meeting or Service as well.
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Hymns and Flowers. What is the connexion? If you have some family anniversary which you wish to mark, why not ask the Vicar for some favourite hymn, or voluntary? Anyone wishing to give or arrange flowers may offer to do so, but if you have not the time to do this, would you care to pay for the flowers which will decorate the Church on the Sunday nearest to the Anniversary concerned?

This Month's Puzzle: What lesson does St. James give in his Epistle from the bits in horses' mouths? (Congratulations to ANNE WARD on a correct answer to the last puzzle).

This Month's Laugh: The Vicar's letter in a recent issue of a certain Parish Magazine began thus: "My dead Friends . . ."

This Month's Thought: "A Philosopher sees less on his tip-toes than a Christian on his knees."

A Text to Treasure: "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out"—Our Lord's words in St. John 6.37.
