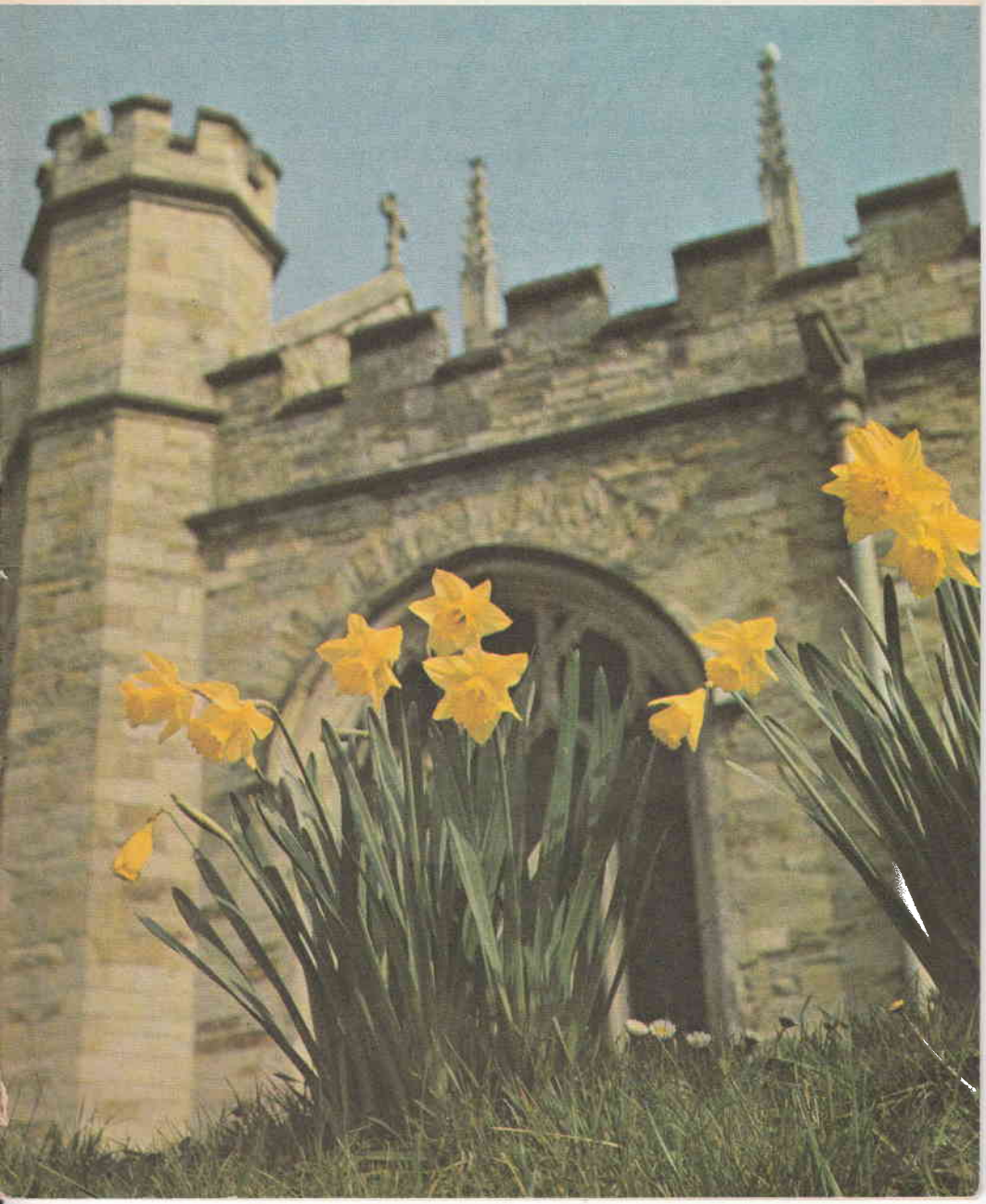
marston news

parish church of st. nicholas

No. 193 Price 5p MARCH



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH — OLD MARSTON

Vicar : Rev. Paul N. Rimmer, M.A.
11 Elsfield Road, Old Marston. Tel. : 47034.

Reader : Mr. W. H. Saumarez Smith, O.B.E., M.A., Bishop's Wood End, Cuddesdon.

Parish Worker : Deaconess O. J. Lodge, 5 Elsfield Road, Old Marston. Tel. : Oxford 47956.

Vicar's Warden : Mr. V. C. Cardy, 110 Staunton Road, Headington, Oxford. Tel. : 61116.

People's Warden :

Secretary of the P.C.C. : Mrs. M. Harlow, Fir Tree House, Old Marston.

Organist : Mrs. E. A. Garner, "Barn Gates," 31 Oxford Rd., Old Marston. Tel. : Oxford 41888.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion : 8 a.m.

Parish Communion : 10 a.m. Parish Communion (followed by Coffee). **Crèche** at the Vicarage.

Evening Prayer and Sermon : 6.30 p.m.

Holy Baptism : Second and Fourth Sundays of the month at 3 p.m. unless otherwise announced. Notice must be given.

Holy Matrimony : Banns to be given in at the Vicarage.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion : Wednesdays at 7.15 a.m.
3rd Friday at 10.30 a.m. with Laying on of Hands for sick.
And at other times, as announced. (See Notice Board).

The Daily Services of Morning and Evening Prayer are usually said each day at 7.15 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. (except on Saturdays). Wednesday : Morning Prayer is at 9.15 a.m. but it is **advisable to consult the notice board in the Church Porch.**

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS AND MEETINGS :

Children's Instruction : 10 a.m. in Church Hall during Parish Communion for ages 3½ to 10 years.
Also at 11.15 a.m. Kindergarten and Nursery in Church Hall.
Juniors in Church with a Family Service on 1st Sunday of each month.

Mother's Union : As announced, 7.45 p.m. at the Vicarage.

Young Wives Group : Alternate Wednesdays, 7.45 p.m. in Church Hall.

Bellringers : Practice Night — Friday nights, 7.45 p.m.

Brownies : Monday, 6 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

Girl Guides : Monday, 7.30 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

Cubs : Tuesday, 6.15 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

43rd St. Nicholas' Scout Troop : Friday, 7.15 p.m. in Scout Headquarters.

As the covers are printed in advance you are advised to consult the Notice Board in the Church Porch, in case of alteration of times.

PARISH CALENDAR : MARCH 1974

Mar. 1. Women's World Day of Prayer.
7.30 p.m. Service at St. Michael's, New Marston.

„ 3. LENT I. 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. **The Parish Communion.**
11.15 a.m. Family Service for Parents and Children.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Illustrated Documentary on the THIRD WORLD.

„ 5. Tuesday. 9.15 a.m. Housewives Communion.

„ 6. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
8.00 p.m. Discussion on THIRD WORLD following previous Sunday's illustrated talk (at Vicarage).

„ 10. LENT II. 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. **The Parish Communion.**
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism (after previous arrangement).
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

„ 13. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
8.00 p.m. Meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

„ 15. Friday. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

„ 17. LENT III. (St. Patrick's Day)
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. **The Parish Communion.**
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

„ 20. Wednesday. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.

„ 21. Thursday. THE ANNUAL GENERAL CHURCH MEETING in the Church Hall at 8.00 p.m. Coffee 7.45 p.m.

„ 24. LENT IV. Mothering Sunday
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. **The Parish Communion.**
11.15 a.m. Special Service for Mothering Sunday for Parents and Children.
3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

„ 25. Monday. **The Festival of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
7.15 a.m. Holy Communion.

„ 27. Wednesday. There will be NO Service of Holy Communion on this day at 7.15 a.m.

31. LENT V. PASSION SUNDAY
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.0 a.m. **The Parish Communion.**
11.15 a.m. Children's Instruction.
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

As many of you will have already heard I have been granted a " sabbatical." This is technically a time for study and also a period when one can " stand back " from one's ministry and take a fresh look at it. I have chosen as a topic : " Patterns of Christian Renewal," which, as it has been said, could take in everything from new liturgical developments to replacing the Church Hall dishcloths !

I hope (D.V.) to fly to New York on March 25th, and will be visiting various churches and centres of religious interest in the States. My wife will be joining me during the Easter holiday and we shall be staying with the Havill and the Howe families—old friends of St. Nicholas Church—in Indiana and Connecticut. During the remaining part of the sabbatical I hope to be able to visit the Taize Community in Burgundy.

During my absence the Rural Dean, the Churchwardens, and Deaconess Lodge will have the main responsiblilty for arranging the services, and making arrangements with regard to banns of marriage and baptisms. In case of emergency please contact Deaconess Lodge (Tel. 47956). I am most grateful to everyone who has made this sabbatical possible, and hope to be back for the services on Whit Sunday, June 2nd. Of course all plans are to some extent provisional, and may have to be changed at the last minute. I have been invited to preach in the Havill's local church at Princeton, Indiana on Easter Day, and also hope to see what is left of the Naval Air Station at Bunker Hill. It was there I made my first solo flight, was awarded 10 demerits, four hours marching with a rifle, and two days loss of leave for " undershooting " the runway !

With sincere greetings to you all, and looking forward to seeing you all again soon,

Yours sincerely,



THANKS to all who took part in the Poppy Day Collection 1973. The amount was up on previous years and the total donations for the Marston area amounted to £330 with £10 from St. Nicholas' Church. Also gratitude from the Royal London Society for the Blind who acknowledge the amount of £33.64 sent to help with their work among blind children from the Committee of the Three Horseshoes Footbal team as a result of their sponsored walk.

Cut It Out

CUTTING something out in Lent, deliberately and of free will going without some small luxury or indulgence, is one of those old Christian disciplines which seems to have gone by the board these days. It's a fair bet that, if some of those street interviews, popular on TV programmes, were used to ask people what they did about Lent in this way, most would just look blank.

But wait. There is more to this than meets the eye. Some ancient disciplines—to use a very unpopular word nowadays—have an odd tendency suddenly to come to life again and seem important. This can happen after many years during which they have seemed nearly dead and gone. Deliberately going without for the good of one's soul is one of them and it may well be that the economic crises of today may force this upon us.



Luxuries or necessities

Consider the facts. Too many of us are being too much pressurised to buy too many things we could well do without. That is one of the prices we pay for living in a society where somebody is always trying to sell us something. The amount of money spent by the average citizen on luxury goods of all kinds, including drink, tobacco, household gadgets, ambitious holidays—you name it, they've got it—has increased beyond all bounds in recent years. Anybody would think we're all becoming richer and richer, which in fact is far from the truth.

IN THIS ISSUE

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Your Letters *p. 36*
Psalms of Life Feature *p. 37*
Junior Page *p. 41*
Women's World *p. 43*

But that is not the point. The point is that luxuries before very long become regarded as necessities. And when they reach that level, they become things which we think we cannot do without. Something very significant has happened to us at that point. We have become enslaved.

It is just as possible to become hooked on the idea of a high standard of living as it is to become hooked on a drug. A high standard of living, expressed in terms of material possessions, is in fact a drug. And to kick the habit quite often involves severe withdrawal symptoms. In other words, it's uncomfortable to do without.

Lent makes sense

But it's worth it. And, like many other sound and wise actions, it is best begun quietly and modestly. To put it plainly, Lent, with its emphasis on self-discipline for God's sake, is a good idea. It makes a great deal of sense in the kind of society in which we live.

What are you going to cut out in Lent? That's your business. What am I going to cut out in Lent? That's my business. If we all cut something out, we shall not have changed the world. But we shall have made a very important private demonstration—an act of rebellion, if you like—against the tyranny of the consumer society. Why not have a go—for God's sake?

SIGNET

THE SIGN

Not ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified

MARCH 1974 No. 831

3	**S**	**1 in Lent**
10	**S**	**2 in Lent**
17	**S**	**3 in Lent**
24	**S**	**4 in Lent** Mothering Sunday
25	M	**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
31	**S**	**5 in Lent**

Shafts of Light

'And you are children of God's promise' Gal. 4.28 (N.E.B.)

'In essence "Motherhood" means love and kindness, wisdom, knowledge, goodness . . . A kind loving mother who understands and knows the needs of her child will look after it tenderly just because it is the nature of a mother to do so. As the child grows older she changes her methods—but not her love . . . This way of doing things, with much else that is right and good, is our Lord at work in those who are doing them . . . It is His will that we should know this . . . indeed like this I could see that our indebtedness, under God, to fatherhood and motherhood—whether it be human or divine—is fully met in truly loving God.' Julian of Norwich: Revelations of Divine Love

SISTER SUSAN SLG

AIDAN WHITTINGTON TALKS TO. . .

Dean Edward Patey

DEAN of one of the world's largest cathedrals, controversial writer on youth questions and social problems, and keen advocate of Christian involvement in the secular, Edward Patey of Liverpool combines a love of Anglican liturgical tradition with an almost boyish zeal for experimental Christian outreach.

He sees a modern cathedral in a vast industrial city as having many roles. 'It is important to maintain the traditional function of presenting Anglican worship at its best: but we must also create acts of worship to meet the community's needs and to reach the outsider. Community celebrations and 'happenings' are major ways of communicating the Gospel today, more so than just 'talking at' people. Last year we had over thirty special services for such local organisations as schools, hospitals and professional bodies. Increasingly people discover worship by doing it. That's particularly true of young people and students—they love coming to the cathedral. They find it a real place of happening. We have had some very exciting youth occasions and all-night events. Also, we make cathedral rooms freely available to local bodies concerned with the community's welfare.



photo: United Press International

Deeply involved

Dean Patey emphasises 'the cathedral's ministry must start with the city, rather than with the Church.' He is personally deeply involved in Liverpool's civic affairs.

'I believe that our duty to God and our duty to our neighbour are inextricably interwoven. Ethics are not an optional extra after theology—very often, it is only as you battle through social and moral questions that you come to a true understanding of the Gospel.'

From being involved with young people, Patey has learned 'they don't want principles first, but help with how to behave and act in specific situations.' In working out the Christian understanding of social questions, such as race or sexual morality, Dean Patey insists from experience 'you shouldn't start with the Creed and then apply it to society, but start with the community and go from there to the Gospel.' Of the whole debate about the so-called 'permissive society', Dean Patey says. 'I consider that certain aspects of the permissive society are healthier than the repressive, authoritarian society which preceded it. On the whole, the freer treatment of sex in films, media and the novel is better than repression. What was called 'modesty' in the past was often based

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The Editor of THE SIGN will be glad to hear from readers. All letters, if accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, will be answered personally and should be addressed to: Canon Purcell, 'Your Letters', THE SIGN, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG. A 50p Book Token will be sent to the writer of any letter published.

Black and White

In one of his articles in The Sign, *the Very Rev. Edward Patey, Dean of Liverpool, writing on* Problems of our Times, *said that coloured immigrants 'had no wish to lose their national identity' and that 'their presence is a great enrichment of our national heritage.' This drew from one reader the following reply. The editor does not necessarily agree with the opinions of correspondents.*

I found Mr. Patey's article on 'Black and White' somewhat disconcerting. At least he does admit there is a problem, unlike most of our politicians, who pretend that it does not exist, although they were largely responsible for creating it. Referring to the last two paragraphs, I respect the fact that 'immigrants have no wish to lose their national identity'. Neither do we. It is rather an anomaly when he goes on to say 'the presence of immigrant communities is an enrichment of our heritage'. I very much doubt if the indigenous population of Brixton and Southall (to name only two) would agree with this statement. Most of them would say that it is the beginning of the downfall of our heritage.

Not intolerant

I do not think that I am intolerant. I have had coloured people into my home in the past. I have worked in backward countries and, through my job, helped to contribute to their development. I did not expect any special privileges. I am, however, now beginning to resent the special treatment some people consider we should accord to coloured immigrants here. There really is a lot of muddled thinking, or no thinking at all. To bring scores of people into Britain of, in many cases, a completely different way of life and lower standards is bound to lead to trouble. Many of the original coloured immigrants themselves think we are crazy. J. W. Neve.

Question Competition

Can you answer the following question in not more than 100 words: **Christ faced three great temptations in the wilderness. What are the three greatest temptations which ordinary people have to face nowadays?**

Write your own letter in reply and send it to Question Competition, The Sign, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG. A £3 Book Token will be awarded to the winning entry. Closing date March 29th.

What is a Christian? *This competition brought forth a large number of very thoughtful entries, the prize goes to Mrs. Williamson of Banningham, Norfolk who has really got to the root of the matter:*

'The essence of Christianity is love, because God is love. Therefore a Christian has a great love of humanity, and a delight in all things God-Made. He avoids profanity, and makes a point of fair dealing in business. He can be trusted by his neighbours because he shows interest in their well-being, unobtrusively.

He may be a poor man or rich, he will never be worldly. Self never comes first with a Christian. His anger is stirred by cruelty and inhumanity, and he has more courage because of his convictions than the ordinary man.'



photo: John Ray

Psalms of Life

'We spend our years as a tale is told.' *Ps. 90.9.*

As a Matter of Fact...

A unique ecumenical centre is now fully operational. Located in Skelmersdale, the centre is sponsored by Anglicans, Methodists, Baptists and the URC, with cooperation from local Roman Catholics. As well as a chapel, the centre includes a Citizens' Advice Bureau, lecture theatre, day centre, coffee bar and luncheon club.

Don't Knock the Box

Christians who criticise religious broadcasting on television should remember that they get it free says the Rev. A. L. Gowdey, an industrial chaplain in the Rochester diocese. With around 300 hours of religious television broadcast every year, many people are brought into contact with religious truths, he comments.

Monks Found Advice Centre

Three brothers for the Society of the Sacred Mission have moved into a Sheffield semi to provide an advice centre for students and local people. The house is in a partial slum area, and the brothers plan to involve themselves in community life.

Can You Help?

An appeal to extend the Christian chapel at Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria, has been launched by Christians at the university. The non-denominational building is packed to capacity for every service, and an extension is urgently needed. Donations should be sent to Michael Mortimore, Department of Geography, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

Any Questions?

People sometimes ask if there is any Anglican equivalent of Catholic Enquiry Centre, which advertises extensively in the national press. The answer is that there is certainly an enquiry centre, run by the Church Information Office at Church House, Westminster. Its purpose is to deal with questions referred to it by post, telephone, or personal calls, by people who wish to have information on questions concerning the Church of England. When we phoned them the other day, they told us that they were receiving 13,000 questions per annum, which works out at one every ten minutes. Anyone who wants to add to the number should ring 01-222 9011 and ask for Extension 207.

Personal Call

A pertinent quote from Trinidad's Anglican Review: 'The good shepherd calls his sheep by name, not by numbers.'

If you have an interesting paragraph for this page, send it, cut out or copied out, to Micheal Jacob, c/o The Sign, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG.

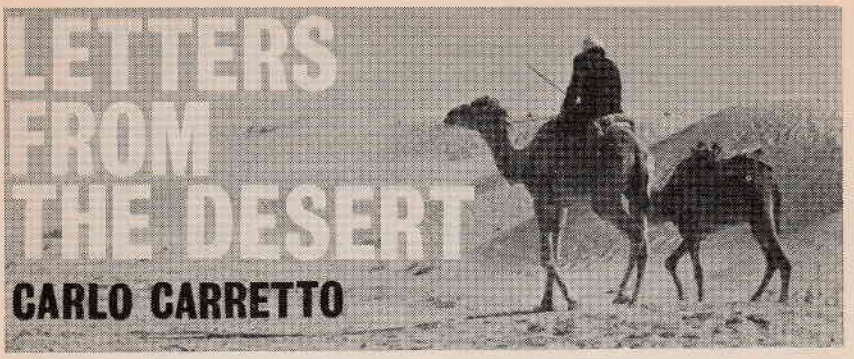
Aidan Whittington—Dean Edward Patey

on fear. It is positively good to get away from the taboos and the silences —much of this new discussion is very liberating for many people. Of course, too much emphasis on the mechanics of sex can be damaging, if not put in the context of persons in relationship, but if we truly believe in God as Creator, we shouldn't be frightened of the way He has made us!'

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

The religious man is the one who believes that life is about making some kind of journey; the non-religious man is the one who believes there is no journey to take.

Monica Furlong
TRAVELLING IN



Carlo Carretto, at the age of forty-four, after an active life in the service of the Church in Italy, felt an unmistakable call to leave everything and go to the desert. These letters have become a spiritual classic. In this third passage he speaks of the nature of prayer.

THE story of our earthly-heavenly life will be the story of our prayer. Thus, above all it is a personal story.

Just as no flower is exactly like another flower, and no star exactly like another star, so no man is exactly like another man. And since prayer is the relationship between one particular man and God, it is different for every man. So no prayer is exactly like another.

Understanding prayer well means understanding that one is speaking with God. Thus there are two poles. One, very tiny and very, very weak: my soul. One immense and powerful: God.

But here is the first paradox, the first surprise: that he who is so great should have wanted to speak to me, tiny as I am.

It is not I who wanted prayer. It is he who wanted it. It is not I who have looked for him. It is he who has looked for me first.

The hope on which my prayer rests is in the fact that it is he who wants it. And if I go to keep the appointment it is because he is already there waiting for me.

If he had remained in his silence and isolation, I would not have been able to break mine. Nobody has ever concentrated for long on talking to a wall or a tree or a star.

I have been speaking with God all my life; and I've only just begun!

Prayer

There's another thing to say about prayer. It doesn't come from earth but from heaven. The cry which fills my breast and makes me exclaim, 'God I love you!'; the force which makes Farragi, the blind Moslem, repeat as he walks on the track at my side, 'How great God is!'; the cry of David, 'Have mercy!'; the exaltation of Mary, 'Magnificat!'; the tear sparkling in the penitent's eye, 'Jesus have mercy on me!'; the sudden ecstatic gasp of the scientist before the wonders of the universe, all these are the words of the Holy Spirit.

It is the Holy Spirit who fills the world and makes us cry 'Father', and inspires the current of prayer within us.

A prayer we can call ours

To be precise, we must add there's a prayer we can call ours, that is, born on earth in the heart of man.

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But there's nothing special about this prayer. Often it's a bit of spiritual pettiness: asking for things which aren't for our real good and which would be bad for us if they were granted to us, filling our mouths with pious words of fear, of loneliness or pain.

Jesus had already warned us of this: 'When you pray, do not do as the heathen do . . .'. If we wish for a comparison between the value of this prayer (let us call it 'not inspired') and the other true one dictated in us by the spirit of the Lord, let's say that the difference between the two is like the difference between what philosophers have said about God, and what the Bible and the Church have said about him.

After endless argument and deliberation the philosophers hardly succeed in agreeing on the existence of God. The Church has a warm, living, spiritual knowledge of God even if it is obscure and hidden in the 'darkness' of faith.

We need only to listen to what Jesus has told us. It's enough to listen to the Gospel and put into practice what it tells us. In short, it's the will that counts, not words.

The spirit of Jesus

God's inspiration searches out our will. The spirit of Jesus settles where the will desires it, because it is love. And two are needed to make love.

When I bow before his love he is not slow to come; rather he has already come, for he loves me much more than I, poor creature, can ever love him.

And love shows itself in action, as for the Prodigal Son. Rising up is a fact, leaving the pigs is a fact. The soul must say with sincerity, 'Now I will arise and go to my Father'.

©1972 Orbis Books, New York. These extracts are taken from *Letters from the Desert* by Carlo Caretto, published by Darton Longman & Todd at 90p. Available from any bookseller.

One Column Bible Commentary

WILLIAM NEIL

THE season of Lent has always been associated with the Temptation of Jesus when, as the gospels tell us, our Lord fasted in the wilderness for forty days. After his overwhelming experience at his Baptism, when his self-questioning about who he was had crystallised into the realisation that he was indeed God's promised Messiah, he sought solitude to think out what this would mean. Mark's gospel (1 : 12) suggests that it was in no mood of calm reflection but in turmoil of mind. The Spirit of God which had come upon him at his Baptism now 'drove' him up into the silence of the Mountain of the Temptation.

Matthew (4 : 1–11) and Luke (4 : 1–13) describe three ways in which Jesus was tempted, and in each case Jesus rebutted the temptation by falling back upon words of scripture. All three temptations have one thing in common. They are all short cuts to success. Jesus now knows he is the Messiah and that his task is to bring people back to God. There could be easy ways to do this: to give people the peace and plenty, health and happiness they wanted, or to prove himself to be Messiah by some spectacular demonstration of power or by rallying popular support to found a worldwide Messianic empire. One by one these short cuts were rejected and in the end, as we know, Jesus chose the hard way of the Servant of God, whose ministry of self-giving love was bound to end on a Cross.

JUNIOR PAGE

It was a model aeroplane that taught Richard to read. He was nearly seven when I first knew him, and he couldn't really read at all. He didn't see why he should bother. Until, that is, his uncle gave him the model aeroplane kit.

'Help me to make it, Dad,' said Richard.

'Sorry,' said his Dad. 'Saturday afternoon—I'm just off to the match.'

Richard tried to fit a few bits together, following the pictures on the leaflet, but it was far too difficult a job for that. 'Mum, *help me!*' he finally roared at the top of his voice.

Mum came in from the kitchen at the double. 'Calm down, calm down,' she said. 'All you have to do is follow the instructions. What does it say first?'

Reluctantly, Richard looked at the printed words. '*Lo*—something *and cement upper and lower wing halves together*,' he read, almost without stopping. His mother goggled at him. 'How on earth did you manage to read that?'

Richard grinned. It wasn't so difficult, really—once he had a reason for trying!

God, who made our world, gave us some helpful instructions about using it, through men we call his prophets. Some people never took any notice of these, and missed a lot in life by not doing—but many other people tried very hard to do what God wanted. They often wished that they understood better just what he did want.

It's much easier when someone *shows* you how—even if you can follow the instructions quite well. That's what God thought, too. So in the end he sent Jesus to show us all how to live in his world.

Pamela

to next page for Competition



Being able to make things is one of the ways in which men are like God. Some people have special gifts of this kind—they can make marvellous music or pictures or pottery or machines that give pleasure and help to thousands of people. Others just quietly enjoy dressmaking or building models. We can all enjoy making something—and let's remember to thank God for that.

POETS' CORNER

The winning entry this month is published below and receives a £3 Book Token. Other winning entries for this competition will be printed throughout the year. Send your entries to Poetry Competition, The Sign, The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG:

IDENTITY

Who is this
Man without a conscience
With such claims, forgiving, unrepentant?

Who is this
Man without a label
With such words, all categories changing?

Who is this
Man without a rival
With such signs, transfiguring creation?

Who is this
Man without a tombstone
With such scars, but bringing resurrection?

Who am I? Did I get the question
Secondhand, or ask it when I met him?

REV. C. M. IDLE

Junior Page continued

Competition

What do you like to make? Pictures, poems, models, dresses—or what? Draw me a picture that shows you at work. Add your name, address and age, and send it to Pamela at 'The Sign', The Alden Press, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EG. Prizes for the best.

Competition Results. June *Prayer for the homeless* Mary Forster, Shepton Mallet; Fiona Garstang, Ulverston.
July '*Wild country*' *painting* Kerry Baker, Shifnal, Shrops.; Peter Lewis, Winchester; Rosemary Lane, Maidenhead; Katherine Lauder, Epsom. *Highly commended:* Simon Carey, Ramsgate; Louise Day, Bury St Edmunds; Wendy Brunt, Mansfield; Valerie James, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, Eire.

Nurse's Notes



Teething

THE first tooth will normally appear at about six months. Some babies will push up the first one at five to six months. Many more will delay from the normal six to nine or ten months.

Whenever they come they can cause quite a commotion. Don't be surprised if there is a fever. Stop all milk and food, and give water or fruit drinks for twenty-four hours to lower the temperature.

Children continue to have teeth at intervals until the last milk molars rise at about six years. Pushing up a tooth from the submerged position in the gum to the erect position in the mouth must take a lot of energy. This lowers the general resistance to infection. For this reason colds, bronchitis, infected adenoids, tonsils and middle ear infection can occur, and recur, with subsequent tooth eruptions. There are usually general distress signals, like headaches, sore throats, tummy aches, and restlessness in sleep, that tell you when teething is taking place. Look carefully in the mouth. You don't need a doctor to diagnose an erupting tooth! If the tip is visible then take a hint from nature and rest the child. Cut out school for a couple of days. Don't force food at meals. Avoid drugs for headaches. A good sleep on the settee is the best cure. If you take these small precautions then the chances are that you will avoid trouble.

Women's World

The day the movers came

THE day started quite well. Three men arrived promptly at 8.30 a.m. True, there should have been four, but one had 'packed it in' they said, 'fed up with the job'. By 10.30 a.m. nothing seemed to have happened. The men had vanished to 'look for tools'. By 11 a.m. they were back, and a very few pieces of furniture went out slowly. But by 12 noon they were all sitting in the van and talking. At 12.30 they appeared, and announced that their leader was leaving. They did not think two of them could carry on. They would now have to go for 'liquid refreshment'. At 1.30 they came back, and then vanished again.

About 4.30 p.m., the two men appeared again, with two strangers, press-ganged from a pub as was clearly evident, and a few small boxes went out slowly into the van. The men seemed over merry in view of the situation. I went to the phone, and must have been positively unpleasant. At last the Manager appeared, a nice kind man, but clearly distraught. That made two of us.

As is so often the case when crisis threatens, urgent diocesan business had claimed my husband all day, just when I was in need of consolation. For by now it seemed clear we would never move.

Just when all seemed lost, a bouncing young man suddenly arrived in the house. 'I'm Terry' he said, 'We'll be back tomorrow and get this lot finished.'

I did not believe him, and as everyone left, I gazed appalled at the chaos. Just then my husband appeared. 'Had a successful day, dear?' he asked.

Strangely enough we did get away. Terry was as good as his word. But



photo: Graham Tatlock

at least I shall not need a big Spring Cleaning this year.

IN THE HOME: Spring Cleaning

Though Spring Cleaning is no longer an accepted part of every household's annual routine most of us like to freshen up our homes after the dark winter months, and if the freshening up process has a lasting effect so much the better. Wood and parquet floors look beautiful if well polished but not many of us can spare the time for such a chore. An effective way of keeping your wood floors shining is to paint them with a protective sealer such as 100% polyurethane. The floor should be well cleaned first with wire wool to remove old polish and accumulated dirt. Two coats of polyurethane are necessary but the first should dry thoroughly and be sandpapered before the second is applied. If properly done floors treated in this way will keep shining for from eight to ten years and only need rubbing over with a dry mop to remove dust. For heat resistance and easily kept surface, tabletops and sideboards can also be sealed.

For speedy brightening up of dirty

paintwork try using washing up liquid. Powder detergents should be avoided as they may discolour the paint. Greasy paint in the kitchen usually responds to linseed oil applied on a soap pad.

Equal quantities of paraffin, water and methylated spirits emulsified by shaking in a bottle make a good window cleaner. Apply with a clean cloth, allow to dry and then polish with a soft duster. The mixture can be used for mirrors and pictures but should not come in contact with the frames.

Impregnated cloths are another cleaning aid for use throughout the year. Mix one teaspoon of good silicone furniture cream with ¼ pint boiling water, soak a dry clean duster in it and allow to drip dry. The duster can be used until dirty, then washed and the process repeated. You will find it gives an extra gleam to your dusting, particularly if the duster is warmed first.

Ready mix recipe

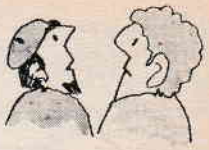
Whether you are engaged on a Spring Cleaning marathon or simply going to be especially busy, say in the school holidays, here is a 'ready mix' recipe you may find useful.

Sift 3 lbs self-raising flour with 3 level teaspoons salt. Chop 1 lb margarine into small pieces and rub into flour as if for pastry. The crumb-like mixture will keep in an airtight container in the refrigerator for a couple of months and can be used in a variety of ways. With pepper and salt or herbs it makes a pizza base or a crust for savoury casseroles. Use sugar instead and you can have scones or topping for stewed, frozen or tinned fruit. Add whatever flavourings you like to the mixture and enough fresh milk to produce a manageable but not sticky dough. Bake in a hot oven Gas Regulo 8 or Electricity 450° F.

Anne Arnott

LIFE WITH BARNABAS

By Graham Jeffery



He must be French. I can follow every word.



More like Russian you mean: else how would I understand?



No, my friend, I assure you he's American; I know the language perfectly.



That's funny; I would have said he was African through and through, else how would I understand?



Of course, there are some things you can understand in any language.

MONTHLY STORY BY ANN LEWIS

Martha and Mary



illustration: Patricia Frost

'TAKING thought for the morrow' begins early in life and a main breeding ground is school.

Homework is, in most homes, an eleventh hour operation. If it has been organised so that books are not being spread in panic in Monday's bacon and marmalade, then the 'evil' will be grumbled at on Sunday night.

The bare kitchen table accommodates Elizabeth and the recalcitrant school blouse. An increasingly frayed seam is unpicked yet again, the ragged unevenness of the zip plain witness of its surprising wiles.

Sally encourages her elder sister: 'Why don't you magic it? I can do magic, look! When I do this, my face is upsidedown in this spoon!'

Elizabeth sighs angrily. 'Why don't you be quiet!'

'Yes,' butts in Toby, 'I'm trying to work. Mum, there's a sum here about a family addressing envelopes: it's daft.'

The problem is read through painstakingly. Then it's grabbed by the scruff, shaken, turned insideout, thrown down on the floor, and wept over in despair. Much later, through labarynths of division, multiplication, vulgar fractions (and remarks), the incredible conclusion emerges that in one hour Dad has managed to address two and two-thirds envelopes.

Sally has been quiet all this time. A rattling pencil from her end of the table makes Elizabeth look across idly.

'I've done a beautiful warm golden sun. And there's the blue sea, and that pink thing there with legs is—' A scream from Elizabeth cuts the description short.

'That's my library book you've spoilt! *Now* what'll I do? Oh, I hate you! I hate school! I hate everything!' The door bangs and she flounces off to her guitar for solace.

The day's accounts

Mother frets through the day's accounts and wonders how on earth that small basketful of goods could have cost all that money.

Another sum cries out for attention: one of those devil-devised teases about trains. There ought to be something

in the regulations banning them. 'Oh for goodness sake, take it to your father; he's good at figures. You'll find him next door reading the paper or watching telly.'

'He isn't,' contradicts Sally, 'I heard him go out just now.'

'Probably can't stand the racket in here,' says Mother.

'Not true,' banters Father suddenly in the door-way; 'I've been across helping Bob mend his boiler.'

By the time the last line is ruled across the page, the debris tidied and palates soothed with tea, knotted brains and nerves have congealed.

'What's on for tomorrow Love?' Mother asks.

'No idea,' says Father, 'Too tired to remember!'

'The lawn wants doing. It's terrible. Oh, if only there wasn't this dreadful rush.'

For what purpose

And what for? We jostle and strive to win acclaim in school and the world, to doll ourselves up in academic or affluent glory; we leap onto the merry-go-round of good works, and end up over-rarified, exhausted or plain disillusioned.

The window cleaner summed it up rather neatly. 'My sister's boy went to Cambridge. Gave it up for sheep farming in New Zealand. Shattered his father; he expected him to sign on in the family business. Oh, by the way, did you know? You've got a crested wren nesting in your garden. Beautiful little bird. Very rare these days.'

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GARDENING NOTES

At the Good Gardeners' Association Demonstration Gardens, Arkley Manor, Arkley, Herts., which is open from time to time to readers of The Sign, we are developing a scented garden. In it there are shrubs, perennials, biennials and annuals, all of which give out a specific fragrance at some period of the year or in the daytime, be it early or very late. It was during the planning and laying out of this garden that we started to consider whether aroma was fragrance and whether scent was aroma.

There is very little doubt indeed that the aromatic plants are those which have what may be called the more medicinal scents—'pinene' for instance —menthol and citral; the sort of aroma one associates with herbs like mint, sage, thyme and garlic. Fragrance comes from the most beautiful roses or from some of the best gardenias. There is a sophistication about them and maybe a contented drowsiness also. The aromatic plants on the other hand give out an odour which is refreshing.

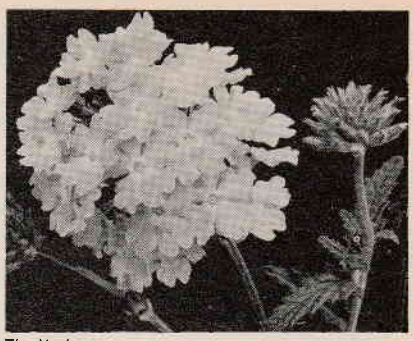
Sweet Briar

There are some plants of course that one doesn't quite know which category to put them in and Sweet Briar is one of these. It is, of course, the Rosa eglanteria which in Kent I had planted around the rose garden as a hedge. The aroma it gives off has an appley flavour about it, and my wife insists that it must, therefore, go into the aromatic group. I like the Artemisia abrotanum though it has, to me, an unpleasant scent and this is a plant I cut back early in the Spring each year for after this it sends up a mass of feathery green leaves which look tremendously attractive.

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, likes to walk about the garden with a little twig of Lemon Scented Verbena

in her hand. This she smells from time to time and it obviously gives her a great deal of pleasure. I cut this shrub back each spring and then it produces lovely long shoots and tapering leaves and lilac coloured flowers; plant it as we do right on the corner of a path and then as you walk by you cannot help brushing against it and then its aromatic fragrance almost speaks. Look for it in the catalogue as the Lippia citriodora.

It is wonderful to have a collection of Monardas. This is commonly known as the Bergamot in the country and its great value lies in its aromatic leaves. Some people say that they can discern a tinge of eau-de-cologne about them while others are quite frank and feel that the fragrance is elusive. There is a bright scarlet kind and another that is almost pure pink and a third that has a mauve tinge to its flowers.



The Verbena

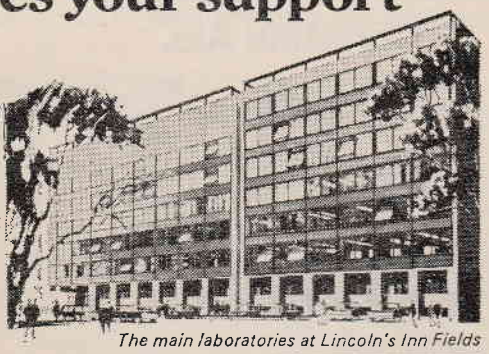
There is no doubt at all that the scented thymes are aromatic—I never write about them without thinking about that magnificent carpet-like garden put down by my friend the late Vita Sackville-West, at Sissinghurst Castle. Fortunately, she used to throw open the gardens from time to time so that the public could see it for themselves.

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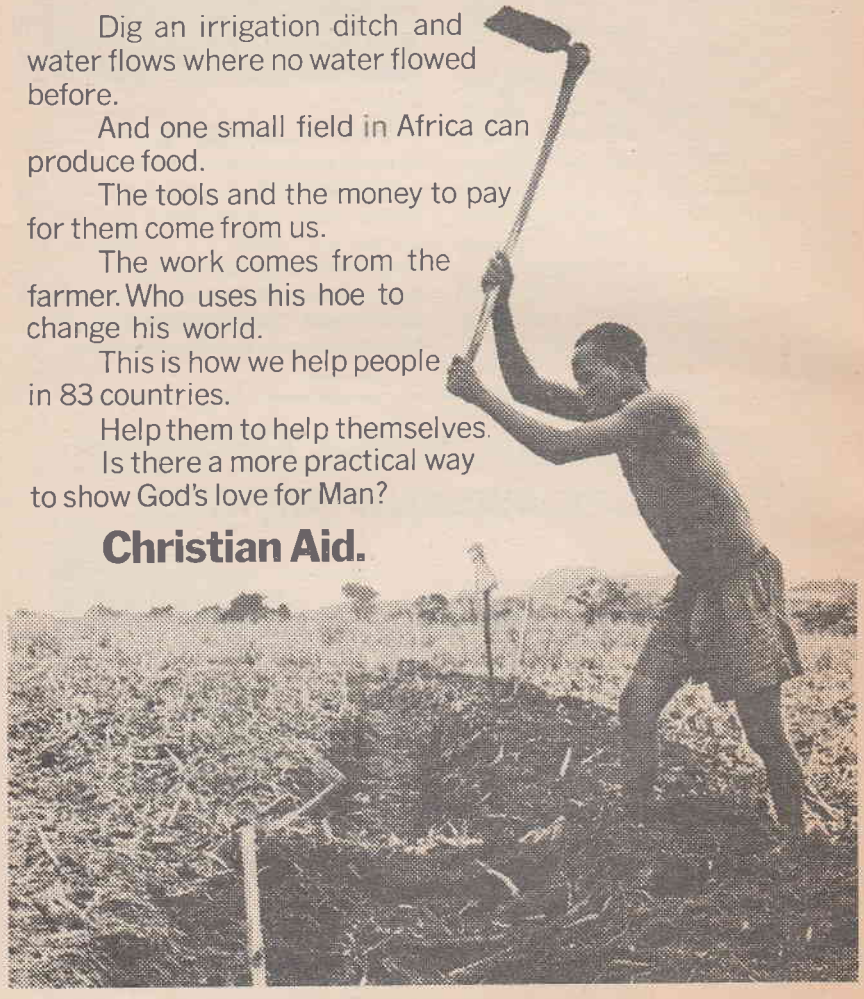
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ABOUT PEOPLE

Our sincere congratulations and our love to Mrs. Agnes Kensington who celebrates her 90th Birthday this month. Mrs. Kensington used to live at Church Cottage next to the Church and since moving out of the Parish comes to worship at St. Nicholas whenever she is able and it is always a joy to see her with us. She is now happily settled in Wyndham House. May God bless her in these new surroundings. We shall always remember her with affection.

Good wishes and " God speed " go to Mr. and Mrs. Masters who hope to visit their family in New Zealand. We wish them every blessing and safe journeyings.

Also congratulations to Bernard and Denise Leach who will be celebrating their Silver Wedding Anniversary as this magazine goes to print. We wish them health and happiness and may God bless them and their son Adrian in the coming years.

It is with great pleasure that we send our good wishes to Monsignor Wilfrid Doran of St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, Headley Way. Monsignor Doran celebrated 40 years in the priesthood on 24th February. May his future ministry be richly blessed. We send him and the people of St. Anthony's our love and greetings " in the name of the Lord." We have had the pleasure of welcoming Fr. Doran at St. Nicholas' Church and recently he preached for us during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

We send our **good wishes** to all those preparing for marriage and congratulations to those married recently: Gregory Schmidt and Jane Thompson; Alan Gibson and Jane Bleay.

We **welcome** into God's Family those baptised during the past month: Michael James Organ; Lee Matthew Smith and Yvonne Stowe.

Our **apologies** to Anne Sutton whose name should have appeared with Karen Arthur in the February Magazine for their gifts—proceeds of their carol singing.

CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH

Mothering Sunday falls this year on Sunday, March 24th and we shall look forward to welcoming all parents and children at our special service at 11.15 a.m. This will be **in addition** to the Family Service on the 1st Sunday in March and also the 1st Sunday in April which falls on Palm Sunday.

ALTAR FLOWERS

During Lent it has been our custom not to have flowers on the Altar, but if anyone wishes to put them in the Chapel for an anniversary, etc., Deaconess Lodge will be pleased to make arrangements for these.

March 10th. Chapel Flowers : Mrs. Tomlinson.

Easter Altar Flowers : Mrs. Jennings.

CAN YOU HELP ?

" Help the Aged " need some ladies to staff centres to receive and pack clothing for their Oxford & District Appeal on Tuesday and Wednesday, 23rd and 24th April. If there is anyone who could help please contact Deaconess Lodge, 5 Elsfield Road. Tel. No. 47956.

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our love and sympathy to Mrs. Laura Bentall on the sudden death of her husband Len. Mr. Leonard Bentall was a faithful member of the Over 60's Club and will be greatly missed. We assure Mrs. Bentall and her family and relations of our prayers at this time and also our good wishes for her own speedy recover to good health once more.

RINGERS NOTES

At the Annual General Meeting the following were elected :—

Mr. Roy Jones — Captain
Miss Deborah Parker — Deputy Chairman
Mr. Alec Gammon — Secretary
Mr. Stephen Jeffrey — Steward.

It was decided to have a Ringers' Outing on Saturday, 11th May, possibly to Cheddar.

Gratitude for services to the Society was expressed to Miss Isobel Nye, Reg. Brown and Leonard Porter.

The Oxford City Branch practice meeting was held at Marston on 19th January.

A quarter peal was rung as a compliment to Deborah Parker on her 18th Birthday.

At the A.G.M. of the Oxford City Branch, Mrs. Phyllis Nye, Michael Smedley and John Martin were elected to the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The St. Nicholas Society would be pleased to welcome any former ringers to practice or service ringing.

CHURCH & LOCAL CLUBS, SOCIETIES, ETC.

CHURCH

Bell Ringers. Sec. : Mr. A. Gammon, 50 Oxford Road.

Brownies : Brownie Guider : Miss I. Read, 6 Cotswold Crescent - Tel. 47370

Cub Scout Leader : Mr. A. J. Roberts, 54 Cherwell Drive. Tel. 40879.

Girl Guides :

Parish Magazine : Deaconess O. Lodge, 5 Elsfield Road. Tel. 47956.

Mothers' Union : Hon. Sec. : Mrs. D. Cardy 110 Staunton Road, Headington. Tel. 61116.

Parochial Church Council. Sec. : Mrs. M. Harlow, Fir Tree House, Oxford Road.

Scouts. Scout Leader : Mr. N. J. Hughes, 53 Arlington Drive.
Group Scout Leader : Mr. W. Furber, 30 Colley Wood. Kennington. Tel. 34061.

Stewardship : Miss E. Warburton, Cross Cottage, Old Marston. Tel. 47339.

St. Nicholas, Marston Wives :
Group Leader : Mrs. R. B. Wells, 14 Raymund Road. Tel. 40357.
Secretary : Mrs. P. Lessiter, 62 Cherwell Drive. Tel. 43120.

Bible Reading Fellowship :
Sec. : Mrs. R. Lucas, 9 Talbot Road, Oxford. Tel. 55739.

Marston Times Editor : Mr. A. Raban, 9 Clays Close. Tel. 65130.

LOCAL

Allotment Association. Sec. : Mr. R. Bowen, 135 Oxford Road.

British Legion. Marston & District Sec. : Mr. F. Thompson, 5 Temple Street, Oxford.

Marston Players : Roy Harvey, 18 Minster Road. Tel. 41228

Marston Residents' Association : Secretary : Mr. G. A. Hine, 21 Raymund Road. Tel. 40482.

Over 60's Club : Secretary : Mrs. W. Tomlinson, 35 Oxford Road.

Parish Council. Chairman : Mr. J. E. Busfield, "Mallards," Mill Lane.

Parent-Teacher Association
St. Nicholas : Mr. Norman C. Jones, 52 Elms Drive.
Harlow School : Mrs. J. Hodgkins, 31 Elms Drive.

Women's Institute : Miss E. Warburton, Cross Cottage, Old Marston. Tel. 47339.

USEFUL INFORMATION

District Nurses, 6 Broughton's Close, Old Marston. Tel. Oxford 44417.

Health Visitor : Miss Kneisel. Phone KIDLINGTON 3502.

Infant Welfare Clinic : The Village Hall, Thursdays 2—4 p.m.

Library : The Village Hall, Old Marston.
Monday and Wednesday — Closed.
Tuesday — 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.
Thursday — 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
Friday — 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Over 60's Club. St. Nicholas Church Hall, Mondays at 2.45 p.m.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths : St. Nicholas' Church Hall, Elsfield Road, Old Marston. Thursdays 4 to 4.30 p.m.

Village Hall. All Bookings to Mr. Tasker, 35 Mill Lane, Old Marston.

St. Nicholas' Church Hall and Committee Room. All Bookings to Deaconess O. J. Lodge, 5 Elsfield Road, Old Marston. (47956).

Nursery School. All enquiries to : The Village Hall during School hours.

Play Group. All enquiries to : St. Nicholas Church Hall during school hours.

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We hope all readers will patronise the shops advertised in this Directory where excellent service is assured :

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Connick, 12 Cherwell Drive.....Tel. 61736

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Hayle's Self-Service, Oxford Road, Old Marston.....Tel. 49668

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Ladies' & Gent's :
S. T. Greenaway, 402 Marston Road, Oxford.....Tel. 48726
Graham Hair Fashions, 9 Salford Road.....Tel. 41632
(late night : Friday until 7.30 p.m.).
Michael, Hair Fashions, 16 Cherwell Drive, Marston.....Tel. 63842

Hardware Stores and Paraffin Delivery Service :
Marston Hardware, 8 Cherwell Drive, Marston .....Tel. 61668

Newsagents, Tobacconists, Confectioners and Stationers :
Baxters (Oxford) Ltd., 7 Old Marston Road, Oxford.....Tel. 42123 and 22 Cherwell Drive.
B. J. Norton, 13 Salford Road .....Tel. 48932

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S. Kushmar, 47 Ferry Road, Marston.....Tel. 47189

Radio and Television, Rental, Sales and Service :
W. R. Hammond & Son Ltd., 404 Marston Road, Oxford...Tel. 47706

Taxi — Car Hire (Long or Short Journeys) :
Marston Taxi Service, Mr. & Mrs. Leach, 5 Oxford Road, Old Marston.....Tel. 47197

Wavy Line Groceries, Provision and Frozen Foods :
Cherwell Stores, 2 Cherwell Drive.....Tel. 61667

'Spring daffodils at Bodmin' from a transparency by Keith Ellis
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