

No. 47.

HOLY TRINITY

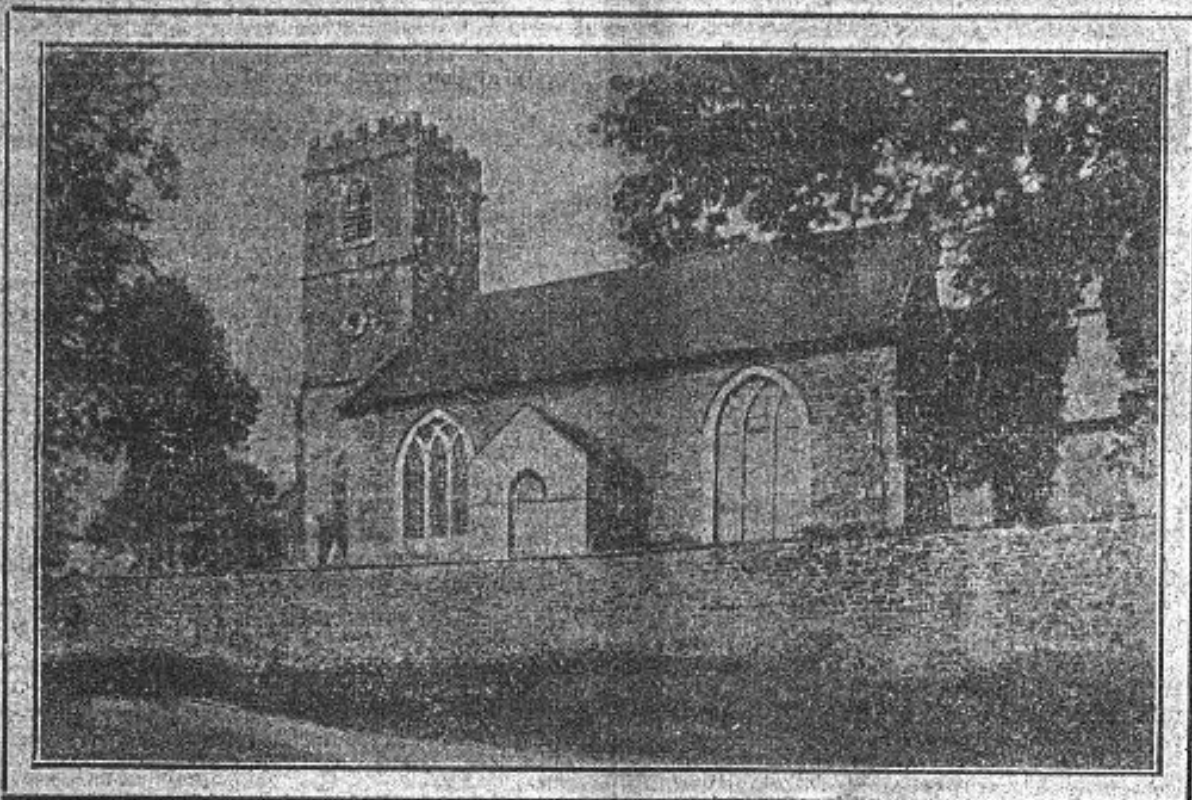
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(FOREST OF DEAN)

PARISH :: MAGAZINE

MARCH

1927



Sunday School: 10 a.m., 2.30 p.m.

Vicar: THE REV. WILLIAM MONTAGU BELLAMY, M.A.

Churchwardens: MR. A. COWMEADOW, MR. J. MEEK.

Sidesmen: MR. T. JORDAN, MR. T. MILLWATERS, MR. J. PREECE, MR.
H. HALE, MR. F. BALDWIN.

Organist: MRS. A. SMART.

Verge and Sexton: MR. E. HARRIS.

SERVICES:

1st Sunday in Month—H.C. 9.30 a.m., Matins and H.C. 11 a.m.

2nd Sunday in Month—H.C. 8.30 a.m., Matins and Sermon 11 a.m.

3rd Sunday in Month—H.C. 8.30 a.m., Matins, Sermon and H.C., 11 a.m.

4th Sunday in Month—H.C. 8.30 a.m., Matins and Sermon 11 a.m.

5th Sunday in Month—H.C. 8.30 a.m., Matins, Sermon and H.C., 11 a.m.

On all Sundays: Evensong and Sermon, 6.30 p.m.

Holy Trinity Parish Magazine.

PARISH NEWS.

The second chapter in this year's volume of life is a record of lamentation, mourning and woe. Illness of various kinds has invaded practically every home, and the visitor who must be admitted, however much we fear his coming, has made frequent calls. Indeed, for two weeks of the month it seemed as though the sound of the passing bell would never cease. The long list of the names of those who have been called away is given in the usual column. We realise only too well what the loss means to those they have left behind. They must needs sorrow. The human heart, fashioned as it is, must in the hour of bereavement cry out:

"Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still."

But it is the privilege of Christian people that their sorrow should be mingled with hope. We laid their bodies to rest in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to Everlasting Life, and though they shall not come back to us, we shall go to them.

In a Parish Magazine one does not like to make mention of personal affairs, but I think I shall be forgiven if I write a few lines by way of loving tribute to my dear old mother, who passed away at the beginning of the month. For the last thirty years of her life she was quite blind, notwithstanding all her time was occupied in knitting garments for the sales which we have held in our three parishes. Her very last action was to ask for her box of woolles which she was filling for our next sale, with a view to handing them to my wife. She had scarcely finished going through the various articles when she quietly expired. We buried her at Publow, where my father was once Vicar, and it was touching to see that the love the people had for her was still the same, after a long absence of nearly 30 years.

One of the great trials of old age is loneliness. That trial my mother endured, and she told me on the morning of her departure that a vision had been vouchsafed her, which had made her glad, and she handed me the following lines, which I quoted in the pulpit, and which I have been asked to reproduce in the Parish Magazine:—

It was a dream, a vision of the night,
A statue of the Cross of Calvary;
Upon it I could see with perfect sight
My Saviour in His awful agony.

And as I gazed, it changed, I knew not how,
The suffering in it seemed to vitalize.
The Figure on the Cross was living now,
The eyes that looked on me were human eyes.
And what a look! so pitiful, so sweet,
Divinely kind, 'twas like a Heavenly ray;
I saw the eyelids close, and at His feet
I knelt, the while the vision passed away.
Only a dream—a vision of the night!
But while I live its memory will remain;
And when I die, and pass to clearer light,
God grant that I may see that look again!

* * *

On Friday, March 11th, I shall complete the fourth year of my Incumbency. To commemorate the fourth anniversary (not the fifth, as I wrote by mistake last month) I propose to hold a special Baptismal Service at 5 p.m., followed by a Tea in the Church Room for the parents, the sponsors, and the newly baptized. Many will have to come from a distance, and if they desire it, and will let me know in good time, I will send a car to convey them.

* * *

The Bishop of Gloucester will hold a Confirmation Service in the Forest Church on Sunday, April 8th, at 6.30 p.m. Confirmation Classes are being held on Sundays, at 2.30 p.m., for men and boys, in the Church, and on Monday evenings, at 6 p.m. in the Vicarage, for women and girls. I will gladly make arrangements for any to whom these times may not be convenient, if they will let me know.

* * *

Lent will begin on Wednesday, March 2nd. There will be Services at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. On the Thursdays a special Service will be held at 6.30 p.m., with a Sermon by a visiting preacher. The Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday morning, at 8.30 a.m. We hope the faithful will make it their rule this Lent to be present.

* * *

The members of the Mothers' Union met for a Service in Church on Tuesday, February 22nd. Mr. Baldwin kindly came over from Cinderford and gave an impressive address on the Virgin's command to the servants at Cana: "Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it." How much happier we should be, and how infinitely more strong and flourishing and helpful would our Church be if only we all took it as a personal command to

ourselves. Hearing without doing is worse than useless. The next meeting is arranged for Wednesday, March 9th, when Miss Bagallay will give the address.

* * *

We acknowledge with many thanks, in aid of the Sunday School Treat:—Mrs. Hartland 2/6, Mrs. F. Nicholls 2/6, Mrs. T. Brain 2/-.

* * *

The members of the Mothers' Union shewed their respect for Mrs. Simms by attending her funeral in a body, headed by the Banner. They also laid a beautiful wreath of flowers, subscribed for amongst themselves, on the grave.

* * *

The Choir from the Littledean Mission Room came over early last month and gave a Service of Song in the Church Room. Unfortunately, owing to illness and bad weather, the number of performers exceeded that of the audience, and from a financial point of view we fear the venture was not a success.

* * *

A Social Evening for the members of the Choir and Sun'ay School Teachers was held in the Church Room on Thursday, February 24th. Illness kept many away, but some fifty were present and after an excellent tea spent the rest of the evening in games and amusements.

* * *

Last Armistice Day I preached a sermon on a Bible curse, and prefaced what I had to say by relating a true story of a family well known to me. On this family, in the days of Queen Mary, a curse was pronounced. The estate should never descend from father to son, and always in the family there should be madness, and all these years that curse has held came. When I was at my old home last month the Vicar asked me if I had heard the latest news of the family. I had not. They told me what had happened. The heir was a boy of seven. His mother, knowing the dreadful traditions, scarcely allowed him out of her sight. A few weeks ago she had to leave him for a short time. Soon after her departure the child sickened of some mysterious disease, which no doctor could diagnose, and within three days he was dead. Who can explain these things! Truly the ways of Providence are past finding out.

* * *

Most of the Schools in the district are closed in consequence of illness. We hope to re-open our Sunday School on the 1st Sunday in March.

BAPTISM.

Feb. 20—Robert John Brian, son of Arthur Benjamin and Sophia Jeanie Christian.

MARRIAGES.

- Feb. 9—Leslie Thomas Meek and Florence Adeline Adams.
 „ 12—Thomas Alfred Comm and Ellen Aldington.
 „ 26—Walter Sidney Thomas and Kathleen Ivy Freeman.
 „ 27—Frank Teague and Minnie Marfell.

BURIALS.

- Dec. 28 (omitted)—Ivor Watkins, aged 28 years, of Ruardean Hill.
 „ 28 (omitted)—Louisa Simmonds, aged 85 years, of Cinderford.
 Jan. 26—Oliver John Jayne, aged nine years, of Ruardean Hill.
 Feb. 2—Verdun William Roy Baker, aged 10 years, of Drybrook.
 „ 9—Hannah Walding, aged 78 years, of Upper Bilson.
 „ 16—Emma Cook, aged 81 years, of Morse Road.
 „ 16—George Bullock, aged 71 years, of Steam Mills.
 „ 16—Mary Ann Simms, aged 52 years, of Harry Hill.
 „ 17—Christopher Cole, aged 53 years, of Ruardean Hill.
 „ 18—Thomas Jonah Preece, aged 67 years, of Hawkwell.
 „ 19—Peter Sumption, aged three hours, Drybrook.
 „ 19—Ann Holder, aged 79 years, of Ruardean Hill.
 „ 23—Cissie Elizabeth Healey, aged of Cinderford.
 „ 23—Alfred Thomas, aged 78 years, of Steam Mills.
 „ 24—Sophia Hyett, aged 62 years, of Steam Mills.
 „ 26—Blandford Thomas, aged of Steam Mills.
 „ 26—Emily Baldwin, aged of Mills.
 „ 28—Sarah Jane Hart, of Drybrook.

OF

Jan. 30
 Feb. 6
 Feb. 15
 Feb.
 Feb.

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