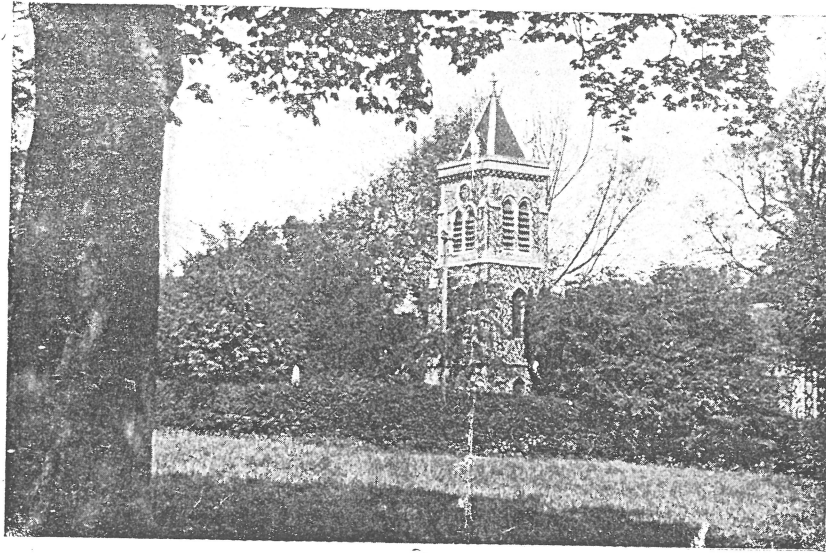


The Church Magazine



Rector.—Rev. G. H. LAWRENCE, M.A.

Telephone—Amersham 139.

Churchwardens :

M. H. P. TREND.

Mr. I. F. ROPER.

Sexton :

Mr. W. HANKEY, "Arran Villa," Lexham Gardens.

To whom all notices of Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals, etc., should be sent.

DUPLEX ENVELOPE SCHEME.

Hon. Treasurer—Mr. E. C. PUGH, Junr.

The Rectory,
Chesham Bois.
May 24th, 1944.

My dear Friends,

I am sorry that I have had to go so slowly during the past few weeks, for it has meant very little visiting indeed, and a general slackening off of other work. I am most grateful to those who have made more rest possible by preaching or taking other services for me. The Rev. C. H. E. Cropper and the Rev. R. G. Milburn have helped me with many services, and Mr. S. W. Fieldhouse very kindly took the Childrens' Church at very short notice. The same helpers are also very kindly making it possible for us to get away for Sunday, June 11th. We hope to get away on June 6th, and we are going to visit some relations at Peppard, and possibly to spend two nights by the river on the way there. It is now rather an inaccessible spot, but you can get there in time by a succession of bus rides.

In May we have welcomed quite a lot of visitors to our Church at the Sunday Morning Services, and we were very glad to have the Parade of the St. John Ambulance on the 7th, and the Home Guard on the 14th. I was sorry that we could not have some youth organisation on Empire Youth Sunday, but as I expected all "organised" youth went to a Church Parade at Chesham in the afternoon, so we had to be content with a very few members of the Chesham Bois Youth Club as addition to the ordinary congregation. However two members of the Club kindly read the lessons, and we were very glad to have them with us. We used the special service arranged by the Church of England Youth Council—a service somewhat on the lines of the Westminster Abbey Empire Youth Service.

I want once again to ask you to make Trinity Sunday a day of special worship and praise. I have never yet succeeded in making people take a real interest in this Festival, and yet I feel that it should be regarded as a day which sums up all the Festivals and seasons of the Church's year and then bids us worship the God, Who has thus revealed Himself in love to us. The Festival is so overshadowed by Whit-Sunday, and so identified with the difficulties of the Athanasian Creed that people leave it severely alone. I should like something better this year. I shall ask the members of the P.C.C. to communicate together at the 8 a.m. celebration, and the members of the Choir at midday.

We had a very nice service on Ascension Day at 9.10 a.m., for our School children. The lesson was read by one of the scholars and a good number of their parents. The school managers were also represented.

With all good wishes,

Your sincere friend and Rector,
G. HENRY LAWRENCE.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

This has recently been rewritten by Mr. S. S. Pugh, and is now done on a sort of "card index" system, but it is by no means complete. We want the names of all men and women serving in the Forces or the Auxiliary Forces. If the name of any member of your family is not on the Roll will you kindly send it to me, or better still to Mr. E. S. Pugh, 9 Elm Close, Amersham? The Parish Church should have on its roll the name of every serving Parishioner, whether they attend the Church or not, but it is impossible to canvass the whole Parish for names. Every reader can help by making this known, or by sending a name which has been omitted from the list.

Will you all kindly help us?

NOTICE OF INTERCESSION SERVICES DURING THE "INVASION."

The Archbishops' request that prayer should be made in our Churches directly the "invasion" commences was considered at the P.C.C. meeting. It was decided that a service of Intercession should be held in our Church at 8 p.m., on the day when we hear of this invasion, and that our Church bell should be rung as a warning or summons, at 7.30 p.m. The service will last for about half an hour. Other times will be arranged for meeting to pray at St. Leonard's Hall, as announced. There is always a meeting for Intercession each day at the Free Church School Room at 11 a.m.

THE CONFIRMATION.

The Confirmation of our Candidates, as is probably well known, had to be postponed from April 30th to May 7th, owing to the sudden illness of the Bishop of Buckingham. The Vicar of Chesham did his utmost, at very short notice, to procure a Bishop for that afternoon, but failed in all his efforts. He did, however, succeed in getting a promise of help from Bishop R. G. Shedden, Vicar of Wantage, and formerly Bishop of Nassau, for May 7th. On that afternoon the following were presented from this Parish: Barbara O. Balls, Delcie L. Hayes, Pamela T. Hayes, Jean L. McCaughtrie, June A. Mays, Patricia M. Price, Pauline J. Urben, Sonia M. Urben, Ronald G. Hearn. Ian R. Hamilton had to leave home on May 1st, and so missed the Confirmation.

Bishop Shedden gave a most helpful, brief, but very pointed talk on the words "Give and it shall be given unto you," and the candidates could not fail to be impressed by the service. We wish them every blessing in their new Church life—and the grace of perseverance.

It is only fitting that I should express our regret not only at the illness of the Bishop of Buckingham, but also at his coming resignation of his office. As I wrote to him, after hearing the news, we have always appreciated his kindly interest in Parish and people, and have felt the spirit of reverence which he has shewn in all the services which he has taken for us. To us at the Rectory he has always shown a most fatherly interest in everything which has happened to members of our family, and we shall very much miss that kindly interest, and retentive memory.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH.

My dear Minnows,

The time has come round for two events in our Children's Church life. First on Trinity Sunday the presentation of our Whitsun farthings (for the work of the Diocese of Oxford, Church building, etc.), and second, for the annual meeting of the members for the election of the new Churchwardens. The meeting will be on Wednesday, June 28th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Rectory. We shall meet as usual in the Rectory garden if fine.

Please remember both these events: get your farthings together, and put down the date of the annual meeting. I am very sorry to part with the services of our wardens who have helped me so regularly and cheerfully. We will do our best to get two more members who will, like them, do their best.

Your affectionate fisherman,

G. HENRY LAWRENCE.

I hope to be away on holiday on June 11th, but our Children's Church Service will be taken by Mr. S. W. Fieldhouse.

THROUGH THE MISSIONARY WINDOW.

Ascensiontide is not only a call to service but it is a challenge. The whole missionary field—home and overseas—is one. The problems to be solved now are terrific; the field vast, yet we do long to do something to meet the world's needs. A special responsibility rests on the Christian Churches to help non-Christian lands.

In the *Evening Standard* recently, a paragraph, containing news of West African natives who are fighting side by side with our men in Burma, gave a letter from a tribal chief. "... all your wives and brothers are well. They are buying fowls to give to their fetishes so that you will all be kept well. I myself am sacrificing daily to the fetish for your safety and the early and successful conclusion of the war."

The Church is in the best position to infuse, into the changing outlook, that sense of spiritual values. Let us feel a real sense of fellowship with the world and pray that our Lord's message at Ascension-tide may be carried "to the uttermost part of the earth."

G.B.H.

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