



GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

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MARCH, 1954

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SPRING CLEANING

One of the places in the New Testament where our Lord's sense of humour shines through is where he describes one of the Pharisees carefully washing the **outside** of his cup and platter entirely regardless of the fact that one eats and drinks from the **inside**. Are any of us like that about the annual spring cleaning? The word "Lent" means "spring," and, as every mere man knows, the very word "spring" is like a call-to-arms to every woman. But souls get dusty as well as houses, and every methodical housewife knows that the right order is to start from the inside and work outwards. So the season of Lent was started, in the earliest days of the Christian Church, **primarily** with a view to "internal," not "external," re-decoration.

There is an old saying that "all Lent is Easter Eve," and its first purpose was to secure a period of quiet and thoughtful preparation for the greatest festival of the year. Then, as long ago as the seventh century, the period was extended to begin with Ash Wednesday and to last 40 days, so that Christians could have ample time in which to tidy up their lives and characters, and make them more nearly what they ought to be.

So it's "Spring Cleaning" time. But do let us begin operations the right way round. How absurd it would be if we claimed to have "finished" the cleaning, and the house was spotless from attic to cellar, but no time had been spent on "cleansing the thoughts of our hearts." Perhaps the silliest remark ever heard is "I've no time for Church in Lent because we're 'spring cleaning'!" Surely this is the best possible illustration of "putting the cart before the horse?"

MOTHERS' UNION

Mrs. Harold Ewbank will be the speaker at the next meeting on 24th March at 2-30 p.m., in the Rectory Room.

The following day, 25th March, the Festival of the Annunciation, the Mothers' Union Corporate Communion will be held in Church at 10-30 a.m.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS—FEBRUARY

7th—£3 7s. 0d.	Church Expenses.
14th—£6 5s. 2d.	Do.
21st—£8 3s. 8d.	Do.
28th—£4 0 11	Do.

RAINFALL

6·85 inches of rain fell on 19 days in February. Year's total 15·16 inches.

BAPTISM

5th February.—Moyra Birkett.

BURIALS

9th February.—Isaac Fleming, aged 82 years.

25th February.—George Leonard Borwick, aged 71 years.

On 18th February a Memorial Service, following cremation, was held in Church for Godfrey Lawson, who died on 12th February.

The sincere sympathy of a very wide circle of parishioners and friends will be with each family represented above, and especially with Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. and Miss Borwick, and Lady Chance in their bereavement.

GRASMERE SCHOOL

The Rummage Sale organised by the School, to raise money to purchase a strip film projector and screen, proved very successful, although the sum raised, £21, is still £7 short of what was needed.

There was an overwhelming response to the appeal for goods for the sale and the market became somewhat satiated before the end of the afternoon!

The total cost of the projector, screen and case is £40 of which the Education Authority has promised £12. We have raised £21 and friends are already promising small subscriptions to help meet the balance remaining. Further such subscriptions would be welcome. The staff and scholars of the school are very grateful to all the friends who helped so willingly with the sale.

Readers will have noticed that the old sycamore tree outside the Junior room of the school has been felled. The workmen had great difficulty in sawing when they came to nails well into the middle of the trunk and completely grown over by outer layers. Which schoolboys some sixty years ago knocked these nails into the tree?

GRASMERE SCOUTS

The Scout Troop has grown in numbers lately with the joining of four recruits, Carl Straw, Michael Kirkby, Leonard Bewley and Peter Hildrew. Four or five scouts have almost completed their first class badge and, if all are successful, the standard of attainment will be the highest the troop has known.

Plans are being made to go to Gilwell Park, London, at Whitby for the Annual Camp and a special effort is to be made during bob-a-job week this year to raise funds for this purpose.

Carlisle Diocesan News

MARCH, 1954.

My Dear People,

By the time this letter is circulated we shall have entered the holy season of Lent, set apart by the church for the deepening of our hold upon religious truth, practice and discipline and I would urge all of you to observe it as a God-given opportunity for spiritual renewal.

In the work-a-day world with the many demands of secular pursuits and the pressures of a materialistic age, combined with forces within which make for selfish and self-centered attitudes and action, it is easy to slip away from God and become insensitive to the claims of our Lord Jesus Christ upon our lives. Just as "there was no room for Him in the inn" so he is crowded out of many lives through their absorption in the cares and pleasures and riches of the world. I think that far more people fall away from God in this way than through conscious or deliberate turning from Him in the direction of evil. The prodigal son when he said to his father 'give me my portion' did not intend to become a prodigal. He just said 'give me' and that was a clear indication of his self interested attitude at the time. Self became the main centre of his life, and issued eventually in 'riotous living.' The way back from this condition, this evil way, this 'far country' for him was to arise with deliberation and sincerity and go to his Father, acknowledge his sin and say 'make me as one of thy hired servants.' The difference between 'give me' and 'make me' can be the difference between hell and heaven. All of us need to cultivate the 'make me' attitude, and this does not come easily to any people who are pressed from within or without towards the 'give me' position.

Is there anything that would specially help a man or woman genuinely seeking this right attitude? I know of no greater assistance in this matter than the quiet reading and study of how our Lord Jesus Christ lived out His life in the midst of the temptations, the sin, the difficulties, the dangers, the fears and the hopes which He met in the world.

During Lent I recommend such reading and study with time for reflection as an activity and discipline. His life will draw us, and, as we follow Him we shall gradually want to reflect in ourselves something of His mind, spirit and feeling.

Through Him we shall reach out towards God and in the deeper moments there will arise within our hearts and prayer 'make me' as one of Thy servants.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Carlisle

DIOCESE OF CARLISLE

Parish of Harrington

By Order in Council dated 22nd December, 1953, published in the London Gazette of 1st January, 1954, effecting certain changes in the boundaries of the Parishes of Harrington, Workington (St. Michael), Workington St. John, and Distington, the Benefice and Parish of Harrington is transferred from the Rural Deanery of Whitehaven to the Rural Deanery of Cocker-mouth and Workington.

Appointment

The Rev. J. C. Hancock, M.A., Vicar of St. Hilda, Millfield, Diocese Durham, to the Rectory of Harrington. Patron—Mrs. F. S. Chance.

Mr. S. A. Fletcher, Keswick, has been licensed to officiate as a Lay-reader.

Death

10th January, 1954. The Rev. T. B. Robinson, B.A., Assistant Priest of St. Matthew's, Barrow-in-Furness.

Sandford School

The Principal of Sandford School, Witherslack Hall, Grange-o-Sands, is prepared to receive daughters of the Clergy at special terms.

The school has an excellent scholastic and health record, and any members of the clergy who may be interested in the Principals generous offer, should write to her without delay.

Church Furnishings

The trustees of St. Mary's Church, Carlisle, have for disposal the carved oak reredos and panelling. The reredos was made about 1920 and incorporates some old woodwork formerly in the Cathedral. Some of the panelling, and the fine carved ceiling to the canopy date from the time of Bishop Lytton in the 1760's.

The overall size of the reredos is approximately 16' 8" long by 10' 4" high.

The trustees have also for disposal two carved choir-stall fronts, with open traceried fronts of Gothic character. Size 9' 7" long by 3' 2" high.

Applications should be forwarded to Mr. Graham-Bowman, at the Diocesan Registry, 3, Castle Street, Carlisle.

C. of E. Temperance Society.

Drink Bill for 1952—£788,000,000
Revenue £395,000,000.

Convictions for Drunkenness in 1952—53,888.

Increase for the 8th year in succession.

"THREE YEAR'S" ACTION FUND

End of 2nd Year—

£38,000 Approximately Contributed.

Sixty-four parishes have made their full contribution, or more. Thirteen parishes appear to have done nothing, but others have sent first contributions. This year we need to raise £22,000 to complete the task.

The Appeal will finish in 1954, and we ask all parishes to make a genuine effort to complete the task by the end of the year.

The total of 64 includes Calderbridge

Some of the Bishop's Engagements.

March, 1954.

2—7	p.m.	St. James' Carlisle
3—11-0	a.m.	Registry
4—12-30	p.m.	Eden Youth Centre
5—11-15	a.m.	Administration Committee.
	2-30	p.m. Standing Committee
9—3-0	p.m.	Kirkby-in-Furness—'C'
10	11-0	a.m. The Registry
14	3-0	p.m. St. Peter's, Kells—'C'
16	3-0	p.m. Aspatria—'C'
17	11-0	a.m. Registry
18	7-0	p.m. Upperby—'C'
19	3-0	p.m. Crosthwaite—Keswick—'C'
20—		St. Bees School—'C'
22M		
23M		
24M—		House of Lords
25M		
26M		
27—11-30	a.m.	St. Bees Governors
30—3-0	p.m.	Institution—Levens
	7-0	p.m. St. George's, Kendal—'C'
31—11-0	a.m.	Registry
	2-20	p.m. Training Committee

The Bishop's Clergy School.

There is still room for further applications for the Clergy School (May 17th to 21st). The Secretary, Rev. L. du Toit, St. Mary's Vicarage, Windermere, will be pleased to hear very soon from any others who hope to be present at the School, to be held, as usual at Irton Hall.

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