



# GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

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Rector : REV. R. C. TAIT, M.A.

Wardens : Messrs. John Abbott and W. J. Barton.

Sidesmen : Sir Robert Ewbank, Gen. Sir William Platt,  
Brig. G. H. Osmaston, Messrs. A. E. Anthony, J. W. Hildrew,  
L. Hotson, A. Lambert, Jas. B. Macalpine, P. Peel, E. Tyson,  
E. Wilson, Jas. Wilson, Jack Wilson.

Organist : Mr. W. E. Warner, Mus.B., A.R.C.O.

Verger : Mr. Hird Kendall.

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DECEMBER 1955

PRICE 3d.

## CHRISTMAS

The Rector sends warmest good wishes for Christmas to all readers of the Magazine.

The following are the chief plans for services in Church during the Christmas season. Please note that, in some respects, they differ a little from normal years, since Christmas Day itself falls rather awkwardly this year on a Sunday :

The annual CAROL SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS will be held this year on the Sunday evening **before** Christmas (Sunday, December 18th) at 6 p.m.

On CHRISTMAS EVE (Saturday, December 24th) the Church will be decorated, and gifts of suitable evergreens will be welcome as soon as possible after 9 a.m. EVENSONG will be said at 6 p.m., and the Crib and Christmas Tree will be dedicated. Children, as well as adults are specially welcome at this short service, which will end, as usual, with a few simple carols.

On CHRISTMAS DAY (Sunday, December 25th), there will be Holy Communion at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 11-30 a.m. There will be sung Matins at usual at 10-30 a.m. with all the well-known Christmas hymns, but since most people do not want to go far from home on Christmas Day, Evensong at 6 p.m. will simply be said, and there will be no sermon.

On December 26th, 27th and 28th (St. Stephen's Day, St. John the Evangelist's Day and The Innocent's Day) there will, in each case, be a celebration of Holy Communion at 10-30 a.m.

## GRASMERE CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

It is hoped to hold the annual Children's Party on Saturday, January 7th, at 3-30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

All children in Grasmere under the age of 14 will be welcome, but **admission will be by ticket only**. Names of children, other than those attending Grasmere School, should be sent to Mr. Hildrew by December 20th.

Donations towards expenses will be gratefully received by Miss Campbell, Balldale. It is hoped that those who have given assistance in the past will again help. Offers of service, and of cakes, etc., should be made to Mrs. Murdoch, who has kindly undertaken the organisation of the tea, in place of Mrs. Moberly to whom we are grateful for her valuable help during a number of past years.

## BURIAL

November 2nd—Thomas Preston, aged 80 years.

The sincere sympathy of a wide circle of parishioners and friends will be with Mrs. Preston and her family in their bereavement.

## MOTHERS' UNION

As already announced in the November Magazine, the December meeting is being held on the **first** Wednesday in the month, when Mrs. Blagden will be the speaker. As a further experiment, and in the hope that the time will be convenient to the majority of members, the January meeting will also be held on the first Wednesday—**January 4th** at 2-30 p.m. in the Rectory Room. Will members please note the date now?

## GRASMERE BOYS' CLUB

Following a successful sale in aid of funds, held on November 12th, a General Meeting of the Grasmere Boys' Club was held on 16th November, when the following Resolution was passed unanimously :

"The members wish to place on record their great appreciation of the generous support they have been given so cheerfully by the people of Grasmere which has enabled the Boys' Club to be opened."

The members of the Club desire the widest possible publicity to be given to this Resolution, so that their appreciation may be generally known.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND KING'S MESSENGERS

The Coffee Morning held at the Rectory on November 10th, realised £19 net, and the Christmas Gift Sale in the Rectory Room on December 3rd realised £16 0 0

Following "The Pageant of Evensong" to be held on December 4th, Sunday School will meet as usual on December 11th and 18th, but there will be **no** Sunday School on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

We shall resume on January 8th with a Children's Epiphany Crib Service, to be held **in Church** at 2-30 p.m.

## CHURCH COLLECTIONS—NOVEMBER

6—£12 15 6	of which £1 14s. for ex-Services Welfare Society and £6 11s. 1d. for Earl Haig's Fund.
13—£ 7 6 5	Church Expenses.
20—£ 6 4 5	„ „
27—£ 6 16 0	„ „

## RAINFALL

4.51 inches of rain fell on 14 days in November. Year's total : 54.18 inches.

November was the fifth driest November on record.

# Carlisle Diocesan News

DECEMBER, 1955

ROSE CASTLE,  
CARLISLE.



My Dear People,

You may now and then read in the newspapers that a Vicar has refused to baptise a baby, and the report usually conveys the idea that the parents have been very harshly treated by a clergyman who is inconsiderate and unkind. What lies behind such an incident? Before attempting to answer let me emphasize that to refuse a child Holy Baptism is a very serious action for any parish priest to take and he needs to be very sure of his ground lest he offend against God. When that is emphasized, I must make it clear that what makes possible such an incident as mentioned above is the very great concern among many clergy and laity about the thoughtless way in which some parents seek baptism for their children without acknowledging any kind of religious responsibility.

Although vast sections of our people never attend church and live as if God is irrelevant yet about 60% of all the children in our land are brought to their parish church to be baptised. Some contend that the christening is in many cases merely the following of a social custom mixed up with a bit of superstition. While there may be some truth in this, no such generalisation will give us the whole truth.

It will be well to look briefly at what our Church teaches about Baptism.

1. The Prayer Book enjoins that the Curate shall often admonish the people that they defer not the baptism of their children.
2. The Catechism teaches that in Baptism . . . I was made a member of Christ, the child of God and an inheritor of the Kingdom of God. God is doing in Baptism what only He can do. In the Ministration of Public Baptism the Minister addressing the people says . . . "I beseech you to call upon God . . . that He will grant to this child that thing which by nature he cannot have . . ." The emphasis is on what God does and gives.
3. When an Incumbent is instituted to the care of souls in a parish he solemnly promises with the help of God "to admonish the people that they defer not the baptism of their children" . . . and to be "diligent in seeking out any unbaptized persons in the parish and bringing them to the holy sacrament of Baptism."

All this is in our Prayer Book and Church instruction because of the teaching that baptism is the gateway to salvation.

When we reflect that such strong and clear teaching about the Holy Sacrament of Baptism contained in our Book of Common Prayer was given in times past, it is not surprising that such a large proportion of our people—even of those entirely outside the Church—still seek vaguely some spiritual benefit for their children.

I want to say to all parents that in asking for baptism for their children they are doing right, but in so asking they must realise their own obligations to God and their responsibility for helping their children by word, worship and action to bring their children up as christian children. They should also be careful to choose godparents who will make their solemn promises to God on behalf of their godchild with understanding and sincerity. If parents cannot find such people, they should seek the help of the Incumbent to find such among the faithful.

Will all of you of the laity please realize that when a parish priest is insistent that parents and godparents must show that they acknowledge the solemnity of the holy sacrament of Baptism, and take their obligations seriously, he is only doing his duty and caring for the soul committed to him?

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

Many parishes are supporting the Bishop's plea that church-people should use christian christmas cards—and doing this in practical fashion by offering a selection of such cards for sale either through church organisations or at autumn and Christmas bazaars and sales. **Maryport** is one of many parishes doing this. **Haverthwaite** at its Autumn Fair is devoting a whole stall to christmas cards and calendars.

We give a further reminder to all church people to tune in to the *Home Service Northern Region*, at 8-25 p.m., on Sunday, 4th December, when Miss Ena Mitchell will appeal for *Moral Welfare Work* in Carlisle Diocese.

A Nativity set is now being formed by Mrs. Delmar Banner (Josephina de Vasconcellos) of **Langdale** and her companion sculptors, to be, over Christmas, in St. Paul's Cathedral—where in the heart of London, the figures will be seen by thousands upon thousands, and the beauty of the Incarnation be brought home to many hearts.

The Vicar of **Pennington** has suggested to his parishioners that the Chapel of St. Leonard in the Church should be furnished as a memorial Chapel.

A missionary study group has been formed in **Caldbeck**—its subject is the "West Indies."

For two years Mrs. Graham has been going around Jubilee Road, **Currock** every week, and has collected £102 for the Church Building Fund.

The Mothers' Union of **St. John's, Windermere** has recently acquired a new banner.

A feature of the Church Sale at **Urswick**, was a cake baking competition. The Vicar felt that the gentlemen should once and for all prove their superiority to the ladies in this matter (The Editor of the "News" has no information as to whether the men did prove their superiority!).

Mid-week services are now being held at **St. Nicholas, Whitehaven** on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 12-45 p.m. for half an hour. The services have been devised to meet the needs of business people, shoppers and housewives. They include worship, music and an address.

**Crosscrake** Church is bright and shining after the efforts of a band of ladies who gave a "boon day" to clean God's house.

In the death of Mr. Robert Newall, **Levens** has lost one who was a choir-member for over 50 years, and for a considerable period Church Warden and Treasurer to the P.C.C.

The book of Altar Services in **Barbon** Church which had been in use for 66 years had just been replaced. The new one has been given by the Vicar in memory of his wife who so often worshipped in Barbon Church and had a particular affection for it.

The parish of **St. James's, Barrow**, is planning a Carol Pageant to be presented in Church on the Monday before Christmas. There will be 150—200 children in costume.

In connection with its centenary thanksgiving, **Scotby** is building a Mission Church in Malaya. The contract has been let to a local christian, and it is hoped that the building will be ready for use at Christmas. **Scotby** has responded magnificently, and has raised, by direct giving only, more than the amount asked for.

At **Great Orton** the Bishop of Carlisle recently dedicated a window to St. Giles. It depicts the Saint half-kneeling at his cave's entrance, in the attitude of prayer, and with his right hand pierced by an arrow, sheltering a white doe which has fled to him for refuge. The work is by Mr. Stanley M. Scott, and the window is the gift of the children, parishioners and friends of the Church.

At **Stanwix** Church giftday, just over £500 were received. The Bishop of Penrith preached at the Thanksgiving Service in the evening.

Mrs. Cookson who died recently aged 92, had been a regular worshipper at **St. Mark's, Barrow** ever since the Church was consecrated in 1878. During that time she had been an ardent worker for the Church, both spiritually and socially.

## From Brampton Magazine

Evidently, it still requires to be repeated over and over again that, as far as finance is concerned, the Church of England is in EXACTLY and PRECISELY THE SAME POSITION AS ANY OTHER CHURCH. The funds of the Church of England are neither more nor less than the money provided by past and present Church people.

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