



# GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

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

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E. Tyson, E. Wilson, Jas. Wilson, Jack Wilson.

Verger : Mr. Hird Kendall.

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**FEBRUARY, 1955**

**PRICE 3d.**

## LENT ARRANGEMENTS

ASH-WEDNESDAY falls on February 23rd, when there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion both at 8 a.m. and 10-30 a.m.

The FRIDAY morning Celebration will be resumed on and after March 3rd.

EVENSONG, with appropriate intercessions, will be said in Church each Wednesday during Lent at 6 p.m., beginning on Ash Wednesday.

### “A SHORT GUIDE”

Readers of the Carlisle Diocesan News inset may have noticed that the Bishop drew attention in his letter last month to “A Short Guide to the duties of Church Membership,” and expressed the hope that the Clergy would bring this Guide to the notice of their parishioners during Lent. This will be done here at Evensong on Sundays during Lent, but meanwhile it may be of some help, to any who have not already seen it, to print it here in full. The question: “What duties are involved in full, confirmed membership of the Church of England?” is a question which is seldom asked, and to which a rich variety of answers might be given, according to the point of view. Here is the answer our two Archbishops (backed by the Convocations and the Church Assembly) have recently made: ——— “All baptised and confirmed members of the Church must play their full part in its life and witness. That you may fulfil this duty, we call upon you: To follow the example of Christ in home and daily life, and to bear personal witness to Him. To be regular in private prayer day by day. To read the Bible carefully. To come to Church every Sunday. To receive the Holy Communion faithfully and regularly. To give personal service to Church, neighbours, and community. To give money for the work of parish and diocese and for the work of the Church at home and overseas. To uphold the standard of marriage entrusted by Christ to his Church. To care that children are brought up to love and serve the Lord.”—Geoffrey Cantuar; Cyril Ebor.

## MOTHERS' UNION

The February meeting will be held in the Rectory Room at 2-30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16th. The speaker will be Mrs. Blagden.

## GRASMERE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

The last social evening for this session will be held on 10th February, 8 p.m. (doors closed till 8-45). Mr. Bruce Thompson will speak on Troutbeck (illustrated by films). Santa Marina Band will play for dancing. Admission 2s.

## “CHURCH ILLUSTRATED”

The new monthly picture paper, giving news from a wider field than parish or diocese, has made a modest start in Grasmere. Lady Chance ordered 10 copies for January, and more have had to be ordered for February. It is not yet possible to order it through a newsagent in the ordinary way, but it is hoped that will be possible ere long. Meanwhile, if you want a copy, please get in touch with Lady Chance, Miss Barton or the Rector. It is not recommended for “highbrows,” or even for those who already take one or other of the regular Church newspapers. But for those who like a lighter fare, served up with plenty of illustration, the “Church Illustrated” seems to be the answer to a long-standing need.

## KING’S MESSENGERS

An enrolment of new members will take place in Church at Evensong on Sunday, February 13th, at 6 p.m. We hope all who have been Messengers in the past, as well as parents and friends, will be present.

As will have been seen in the newspapers, the Church in South Africa is going through a very difficult time. Some of the Church’s schools have been closed, and the church is faced with the task of finding new ways of helping African children. Money is needed, and K.M.’s have been asked to help the S.P.G. South Africa Emergency Fund. We are doing so in various ways, and hope to have a “Games Social” in the Rectory Room on Wednesday, 16th February, 6-8 p.m. The entrance will be 6d. for adults, 3d. for children, and there will be various competitive games (entrance 2d. adults, 1d. children) as well as party games and refreshments. We hope all our friends will support us. Our effort for Africa closes February 28th.

We hope to have our annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, 16th April, in aid of our “Scholarship” effort and K.M. Medical Fund. Please remember us when spring cleaning!

## CHURCH COLLECTIONS—JANUARY

2—£6	19	4	Church Expenses.	
9—£6	10	11	„	„
16—£2	3	1	„	„ (Heavy Snow!)
23—£6	19	4	„	„
30—£5	16	8	„	„

## RAINFALL

8.32 inches of rain fell on 15 days in January

# Carlisle Diocesan News

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My Dear People,

FEBRUARY, 1955.

Six years ago I wrote about the importance of Confirmation and the need for thorough and prolonged instruction of young people who were to be presented for Confirmation, and I emphasised that an essential part of the preparation should be the formation of the habit of regular worship. Preparation should extend, if possible, over a period of at least a year in which there would be three terms of about six weeks each for instruction. During the year the habit of worship should be fostered until it is regarded as a normal part of the Christian way of life.

I know, from my own parochial experience, how difficult it is to carry this out, but it is well worth while attempting, and in many of the parishes in the dioceses it is being done, when the stiffening of the preparation means fewer candidates. In some parishes there is a three year course.

In the light of this, it is interesting to note that in 1954, there was an increase of over 50% on the previous year in the number presented for Confirmation. Furthermore there was a large increase in the number of Adults, for one in five of the 3,727 confirmed was between the ages of 20 and 50 years.

Confirmation is, I contend, one of the greatest opportunities which the clergy have for Evangelism and instruction in the Christian Faith, and most of them are increasingly realising this, but if it is to have its rightful emphasis in the life of an individual and in the work of a parish, the lay communicants must be far more concerned about it and the Parochial Church Council more interested in it as one of primary ways in which its members can co-operate with the Incumbent in the spiritual work of the parish.

I often say that the Church of England would be renewed and revolutionised if 75% of those confirmed in the past ten years had remained faithful, and were to-day taking an active share in the work and worship of the Church—indeed our Church would be well on the way with the task of evangelizing the whole country.

Nothing that the Church Assembly, the Convocations and the Diocesan Conferences could do in the next 10 years would have one tenth of the effect that the loyal and disciplined worship, witness and service of those who will be confirmed would have on the life of our Church and our country.

Now here is a glorious opportunity at hand easy to understand but making great demands on faithful people in thought devotion and effort.

Have you thought how different your parish would be if the confirmed in recent years were fully incorporated and achieve in your parish, and have you considered what you as a lay man or woman could do to help even two or three of your young brothers and sisters about to be confirmed. Well, you could get to know their names before they were confirmed, you could remember them in your prayers, you could show personal interest in their confirmation, you could be at the service for their first Communion, you could let their parents know of your interest, you could send them a friendly note or visit them if you missed them later from worship and in these and other ways strengthen their sense of belonging one to another in the fellowship and family life of the Church of Christ.

I would like some incumbents in the diocese to discuss this whole subject with their parochial Church Councils or other body of faithful people in the parish to see if we cannot go forward along a well defined path to the building up of the Body of Christ and the spread of God's Kingdom. I would welcome reports on the result of such deliberations.

May God strengthen our hands in the work He has given us to do.

Yours sincerely,

*Thomas Carlisle*

### 1945—1955

1945 marked the end of World War II. The following comparisons between the Diocesan Calendars of 1945 and 1955 are set out below.

	Benefices	Vacant	Pluralities	United Benefices	Assistant Curates
1945	283	12	22	16	25
1955	262	18	21	36	27
	Readers	Chaplains (paid)	Graduate Incumbents	Graduate Assistant Curates	
1945	70	16	171	11	
1955	87	33	128	16	

Of the 271 Incumbents in 1945, 96 had occupied their benefices in 1955.

Of 244 Incumbents in 1955, only 56 have been in their present benefices since 1945.

Of the 70 Readers in 1945, 23 are still licensed and 3 have been ordained.

(The above details are supplied by the Rev. Kenneth Harper, Editor of "The Carlisle Diocesan Year Book." The 1955 edition is now available from the Church House. 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d. if sent by post).

### Suggestion

The following is a quotation from a letter from a lay-member of the Diocesan Conference, sent to the Editor of the "News."

"Parsons within a Rural Deanery should exchange pulpits—say six times a year not including holidays or harvest festivals. I suggest this for the sake of the regular congregation, and their parson, not in order to attract more people to Church (though it might well have this effect in some cases!). Most of the laity would appreciate an occasional change of preacher, and I should have thought the clergy would welcome chance to preach to another congregation.

Surely if a parish has a good preacher it should be willing to let others hear him occasionally, and conversely, if it has a dreary preacher, isn't it entitled to some relief?"

### BOOK NOTICE

#### Answers to a Child

An Aid to Parents in teaching their Children about Religion.

By Dorothy Whitcombe. With a Foreword by the Right Rev. Patrick Leonard, Bishop of Thetford. Published by Mowbray—3s. 6d.

Mrs. Whitcombe not only gives the answers but also makes clear the way in which a child's questions about religion should be faced by the parent. This book will also be of much value to those whose children's questions have brought them to think afresh of their own beliefs.

#### Lay Reader

A young lay-reader working in the Carlisle area is anxious to procure a cassock and surplice as reasonably as possible. He is about 5 feet 10 inches and well-built. Particulars of gifts or offers will gladly be dealt with by the Rev. J. W. Dixon, Kirkbampton Rectory, Carlisle.

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