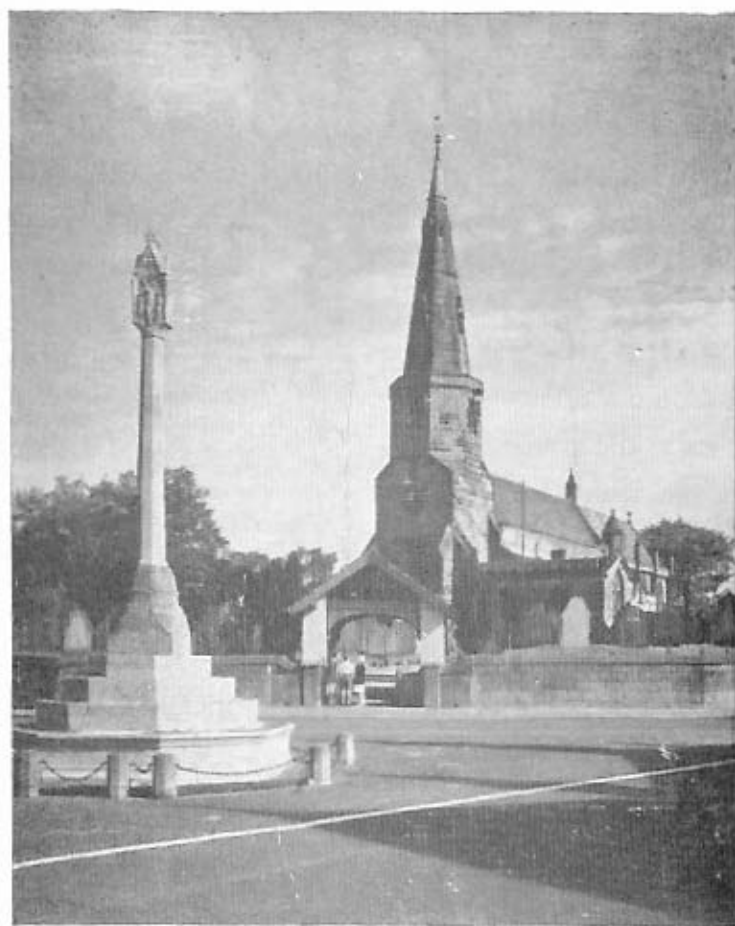


HALSALL PARISH MAGAZINE



Rector: The Rev. Canon W. H. Bullough A.K.C. (Surrogate)
Rural Dean of Ormskirk
The Rectory, Halsall. Tel. 321.

Church Wardens:

MR. R. HEATON, Rector's Warden. MR. H. SARJEANT, People's
Warden.

Organist:

MR. E. CARR, L.L.C.M., 99 New Lane Pace, Banks. Tel. 85650.

Verger:

MRS. E. HUYTON, 28 Gregory Lane, Halsall.

Services at St. Cuthberts

1st SUNDAY IN THE MONTH

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Mattins and Sermon
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

2nd SUNDAY IN THE MONTH

10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

3rd SUNDAY IN THE MONTH

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Mattins and Sermon
6.30 p.m. Evensong with Holy Communion

4th SUNDAY IN THE MONTH

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

5th SUNDAY IN THE MONTH

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Mattins with Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

Holy Baptism: Second Sunday in the month at 3.30 p.m.

Churchings: By appointment

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

PALM SUNDAY **7th APRIL**

- 9.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS
10.30 a.m. MATTINS and SERMON
DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS
6.30 p.m. EVENSONG and SERMON
DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS

MONDAY BEFORE EASTER

Lenten Discussion Group at the Rectory, 7.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY BEFORE EASTER

- 10.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
2.30 p.m. HOLY COMMUNION
7.30 p.m. HOLY COMMUNION

MAUNDY THURSDAY

11th APRIL

- 7.30 p.m. THE EUCHARIST
Followed by the Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY

12th APRIL

- 10.30 a.m. MATTINS and LITANY
2—3 p.m. DEVOTIONAL HOUR

HOLY SATURDAY **13th APRIL**

- 7.30 p.m. LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL
CANDLE with EVENSONG

EASTER DAY

- 9.00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION
10.30 a.m. EASTER EUCHARIST FAMILY
SERVICE
6.30 p.m. EVENSONG and SERMON followed
by HOLY COMMUNION

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please Note EVENSONG will be at 6.30 p.m. as
from EASTER DAY.

EASTER DECORATION

Once again we say thank you in anticipation
of a beautifully decorated Church on Easter Day.
We rely on your gifts during Lent which enables
us to purchase the flowers for the Easter Decora-
tion. To those who give of their time and talents we
are deeply grateful.

THE EASTER OFFERING

According to the ancient custom, offerings on
Easter Day will be presented to the Rector. Those
unable to be present may send their gifts to the
Church Wardens R.H. and H.S.

The Rectory,
Halsall.
20th March, 1974

My dear Friends,

As I write this letter I rejoice in celebrating St. Cuthbert's Day. Thanks be to God for all those faithful souls who have worshipped and worked to ensure that we today may enjoy the beauty and the peace of our glorious St. Cuthberts Church. It was inspiring to celebrate the Holy Communion today and have fellowship with the faithful. Thank you to those who joined me.

Easter Day is at hand! The best Easter greeting I know is this—"Christ is risen, trampling down death." I send it to you with all my heart. These difficult and trying times call for us to direct our weekly worship more and more to the Risen Christ. Is it not absurd to sing paschal hymns only at Eastertide, when every Sunday recalls the Resurrection? The heart of apostolic Christianity is Jesus and the Resurrection.

It is surely in this light—to take an example which exercises many minds at present—that we should see the argument about "modern permissiveness"—Christians who try to be up-to-date by applauding self-indulgence and decrying self-discipline do the church no service—they need to be less selective in their reading of the New Testament.

Yet a reaction into the kind of moral authoritarianism that would enable us to judge (and condemn) our neighbours seems to me equally mistaken and ineffectual. It is not the Law which needs to be proclaimed to the perishing. It is the Resurrection, the life which has been subject to evil and death and has conquered them.

I do not say that many of our contemporaries, we Christians included, would not be better for being reminded of the moral law. Surely the way to this end is not through grumbling, or coercion, but through the example of lives which show the power of the Risen Christ.

I believe that God speaks to each human soul in the accents and tones of Jesus Christ and that faith rises to its climax and is justified when it acknowledges in the words of the Easter Anthem "Christ is risen from the dead and become the first

fruits of them that slept; for as in Adam all die even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

Holy Week is a time when the heart should search out its own reasons so that we may confidently and joyfully re-affirm "Christ is risen" on the glorious Easter Day.

A very Happy Easter to you all.

God Bless you all,

Your sincere friend,

HERBERT BULLOUGH.

WHAT EASTER SHOWS...

Across the pages of history can be found the tale of those many, true and false, reformers and charlatans, prophets and demagogues who swayed people with their message, their way of life.

History is littered with ideas and theories and beliefs; littered with causes and creeds—and the names of persons who promoted them. But who heeds them now?

Man in his unremitting search is a fierce and unforgiving crucible. He seeks a new and better way but he challenges with the most searching fires those who dare presume to point the way. In his unquenchable search for truth, he tests all things and burns up the dross. From the centuries of ideas, endeavours, beliefs, thought, how comparatively little remains.

And yet here it is, once again we keep Holy Week and Easter—well nigh two thousand years on. We know that throughout the world, thousands upon thousands will remember, and enter our Churches. This event is celebrated by more and diverse people and races in more places over the face of the earth than any other event year by year. This is no sudden burst of enthusiasm in the twentieth century for an old idea or belief. It has forever continued from the first Easter until now.

Christ came and preached a new and better way. He was opposed, attacked and done to death. But whether we like it or not there is no mistake about it. He and all that He was rose from the dereliction of Good Friday to the triumph of Easter Day. And He still lives and triumphs—because vast numbers of men and women find in Him the better way they seek; find in Him the help to lift them

up to be the noblest persons they can be. Beholding Him and following Him their inmost souls are content that they have found not only the way, but the truth and the life. Think upon this unassailable truth this Easter.

EASTER MORN

I come, dear Lord, my Friend,
To kneel with sinful heart,
Cleanse Thou my sins,
Strengthen mine unbelief,
Feed me with courage,
Create a new spirit within me,
My Christ, my Hope, my All.

And on this happy Easter Morn
My heart is glad;
You've conquered death,
How great Your suffering;
So sweet Your love for me.

And as I kneel in silence of the morn
You stand before me wrapped in glorious
form,
You are my Friend,
You'll lead me on the way
Until departs my spirit
Soft as the closing day.

"ONE SOLITARY LIFE"

Here is a Man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world, except the naked power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only

piece of property He had on earth while He was dying—and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centre-piece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

I am far within the mark when I say that all the Armies that ever marched, and all the Navies that ever were built, and all the Parliaments that ever sat, and all the Kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

FINANCE

I wish there was no need to refer to this. The fact is, the need is now greater than ever before. We face a gigantic increase in the cost of Church maintenance during this year. The one example which we surely have all heard about is in the cost of oil for Church heating. This has risen from £40 to £104 for one delivery of 500 gallons. An increase of £64 on one load. We need six loads each year so on oil alone the increased cost to your church will be over £384 this year.

Our annual income for keeping the Church going is totally inadequate. Our Sunday collections are incredibly small. They need to be more than doubled — and that is no under estimation! When the half-crowns went out of circulation, two shilling pieces took their place. This made a vast difference. But at the time this happened the majority of our congregation should not have been thinking in terms of half-crowns. Church people were giving half-crowns before the war. When I was a boy in Ashton-in-Makerfield on Sermons Sunday dedicated church members, at the end of the First World War, men, including colliers, on the wages they were getting in those days, gave a gold half-sovereign to the Church, because they loved their Church.

Ten years ago we had a great parish "boost!". The response was magnificent! Some thirty parishioners took out covenants and others joined

the weekly envelope scheme. Today the position is most serious. We need more people to join those who are faithfully shouldering the great burden at the present time. We need more covenanted subscriptions (last year we received over £500 from the Inspector of Taxes on the covenants we have at present). Anyone can take out a covenant if they pay income tax. You can covenant what you put in your weekly envelope, or on the plate, or what you give at Gift Day or any sum from £1 per year upwards. Please help us! If you prefer it please ask for a set of weekly envelopes and make a weekly contribution that is especially if you consider yourself a member of St. Cuthberts Church but for reasons best known to yourself are unable to worship regularly.

As I have already stated I hate to write about matters of finance, but I should be failing in my duty as your Rector if I did not do so. I would with love and respect sincerely ask you all to consider if you are contributing realistically to the Church you serve in view of the rising costs of maintaining this most glorious St. Cuthberts Church.

H.B.

FAITHFUL SERVICE

Thanks be to God for the wonderful and faithful service of Mr. Jack Carr who has cared for our Church-yard. Alas he now feels that he is unable to continue doing all the work in the church-yard. His reward for service is the joy of knowing that he worked daily in the Best Kept Church-Yard in Lancashire. On behalf of the community in Halsall I thank him most sincerely for all that he has done for us. On behalf of all the members of St. Cuthberts Church I shall make a presentation to him after the Eucharist on Easter Day.

As I write this acknowledgement to the work of Mr. Carr the grass is growing fast. There is no one to cut it—is your church-yard now to deteriorate and become like so many others. Will anyone interested in helping please see the Rector or Church Wardens as soon as possible.

Thanks be to God for the wonderful and faithful service of Mrs. Ruth Pounds who has cared for our Church over so many years. The Church has always been fresh and clean and we are all so grateful to Ruth for this. We rejoice that she is able to continue but there is a desperate need for help.

Anyone interested should see the Rector or Church Wardens. On behalf of the worshipping community at St. Cuthberts I shall make a presentation to her after the Eucharist on Easter Day.

H.B.

SERVERS' ROTA

APRIL

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 7 | PALM SUNDAY | 9.00 a.m. | Colin Stopforth |
| 11 | MAUNDAY THURSDAY Eucharist | 7.30 p.m. | Jim Heaton and John Gaskell |
| 14 | EASTER DAY Family Eucharist | 9.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. | Peter Balmer Brian Heaton and Malcolm Serjeant |
| 21 | First Sunday after Easter | 9.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m. | Maurice Core Stuart Simpkin |
| 28 | Second Sunday after Easter | 9.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. | Barry Gaskell Michael Lewis and Keith Stop- forth |
| MAY | | | |
| 5 | Third Sunday after Easter | 9.00 a.m. | Tony Gaskell |

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

April 21: Miss E. Mawdsley and Mrs. Parker.

April 28: Mrs. J. Morris.

May 5: Mrs. H. Serjeant and Mrs. M. Banks.

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

April 7: H. Huyton, A. Grimshaw, H.S. J. Heaton, E. Orritt.

April 14: H. Grimshaw, M. Manners, R.H. W. Pounds, C. Armstrong.

April 21: C. Shacklady, W. White, J.H. E. Serjeant, D. Swift.

April 28: B. Heaton, J. Gaskell, J.B. P. Saunders, T. Grimshaw.

May 5: P. Atiwood, H. Rimmer, H.S. E. Blackhurst, J. Rimmer.

A STRANGE THING IN RELIGION

A dignitary of the Church consulted a doctor, who said: "You must winter on the Riviera."

"Out of the question," declared the bishop. "I have too much work to do."

The doctor said: "It's either the Riviera or Heaven."

"Dear, dear," said the bishop. "I didn't know it was so serious. I suppose it must be the Riviera then."

Things were going rather slowly at a revival meeting when an old darky rose to his feet.

"Brudders and sisters," he exclaimed, "you all knows, an' I knows, too, that I ain't been what I oughta been. I'se robbed hen-roosts, an' stole hogs, an' tol' lies, an' got drunk, an' slashed folk with my razor, an' cussed and swore, but I thank hebben dere's one thing I ain't nebber done—I ain't nebber lost ma religion."

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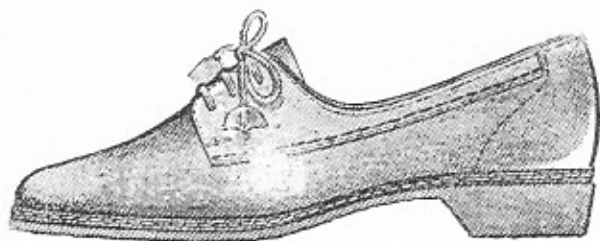
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