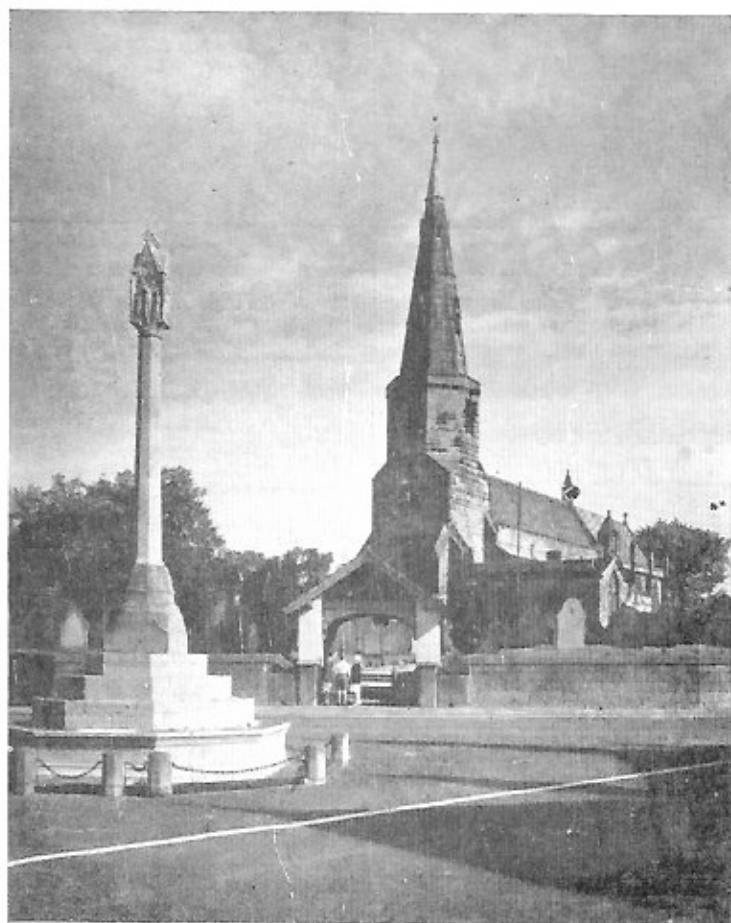


SEPTEMBER, 1965

HALSALL PARISH MAGAZINE



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The Rectory,
Halsall,
16th August, 1965.

My Dear Friends,

Last month, we considered the principles or the primary sources from which worship proceeds. Worship, we realized, is a necessity of our being. From earliest time, man has desired to know God and to have mystical union with Him; and in response to his yearning God revealed Himself to man in many forms and fashions until the final revelation came in Jesus Christ, through whom man can know God as He is, and in whom the soul of man can experience real and undying happiness. This God is the object of our worship; and "they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth".

In any discussion of worship, it is necessary to distinguish between public worship and private prayer. Private prayer is an individual act that takes place in secret. Public worship, by contrast is the act of worshipping believers showing forth in community what they believe concerning God. But in all our approaches to God the frame of mind is everything. God is mystery, worship is faith; God is wisdom, worship is thought; God is love, worship is affection; God is truth, worship is purity; God is holiness, worship is purity; God is omnipresence, worship is everywhere; God is eternity, worship is always.

True private worship is not the prostration of the body in kneeling, nor even the prostration of the soul in distant adoration, but the yielding of our living powers willingly and gladly to the Divine influence within us. There is an expression of the great stoic emperor, Marcus Aurelius, who perhaps came nearer than any other non-Christian to the Christian life and spirit. He says "I reverence the God who is within." That is to say, our God is within us. It is when we allow our thoughts to be enlightened and our energies to be quickened by the spirit of holiness—that unseen, constraining power of righteousness—that we are practising private worship.

Hence, if our body is on its knees, let us be sure that our heart is also on its knees.

If we close our eyes, let us see that we close our fancies. If we say words, let us beware that they are the exact representatives of our thoughts. If we ask anything, let it be the thing we want. If we promise let us be sure that we mean it.

If we confess with our lips, let us stop, if our mind is not confessing with its inward convictions. If we praise, let us hush our soul, if it is not in tune. "Let worship be worship! And let it always be in spirit and in truth."

Worship is everywhere. It is not a question of place. "Neither in this mountain nor yet in Jerusalem is the place," so we read in the Scriptures. Wherever a heart yearns for God and pours itself forth, there is God's House, and there is God's blessing.

Says Jones Very: "I sit within my room, and joy to find that Thou who always lov'st art with me here, That I am never left by Thee behind, But by Thyself Thou keep'st me ever near."

Every room can be a House of God; every hospital ward can be a House of God; every lonely

heart away in the deepest solitude in seeking God can find His House. Once this true idea of worship is grasped, it means that our worship will find expression in our home life, it will find expression in our factory life, in our shop life, in our dock life, in our agricultural life, in our so-called secular life; and in this way, all things sacred and secular will be blended in one lifelong act of worship, our heart going out to God in spirit and in truth.

But nowhere else as in the home can we cultivate such a climate of faith and such a pattern of devotion that being rooted and grounded in love, we may comprehend what is the fullness of God's love. "There's no place like home" has been from the beginning a true estimate of our scale of values. But there are many people who would like to amend that affirmation to read: "There's no place like a Christian home". In the experience of millions, the inheritance received from a Christian home is the richest endowment of their lives. To them, the home has not been only a shelter, but also a security; it has been a kind of school where life's basic lessons are taught; it has been a place of Church where God is honoured, and it has also been a kind of wholesome recreation and simple pleasures. There is no gift to compare with a home where religion is as much a part of the atmosphere as anything else; where the children hear and see mother and father speaking about God and to God; where the children acquire the memory of mother's voice reading from the Bible and father's voice praying fervently to God; and where sacred things are given a holy reverence, and thanksgiving is not forgotten, as the bounties of God's favour are received.

A young boy once described his impression of his father's prayers in these words: He said, "Those prayers made a powerful impression on me, though I doubted that father was dust even when he told God so. I thought how really tremendous and wonderful God must be when my father was willing to bow down before Him. When I thought how much father admired God, I had a high opinion of Him."

Another boy remembers Sunday in his home, as he describes it in these words: "When we boys were little we used to go to Mother's room Sunday evenings, on our way upstairs to bed, and sit in a circle around her, while she told us a story from the Bible or talked to us about how good we ought to be and how much we ought to love God. She loved God herself, as much as she dared to, and she deeply loved us, and she was especially tender and dear on those Sunday evenings. One of my brothers told me years afterwards how much they had meant to him in those days, and how he had cherished the memory of them, all his life."

So we see that although God is in heaven, He hides Himself within the love of those whom we love best; the smiles and tones that make our homes are shrines possessed by Him. Home and heaven, after all are not so far separated as we sometimes think.

They are not separated at all, for through family worship, home and heaven are both in the same great building. Home is the lower storey, and is located down here on the ground floor; heaven is upstairs, in the second and third storeys; and, as one after another the family is called to come up higher, that

which seemed to be such a strange place begins to wear a familiar aspect; and, when at last not one is left below, the home is transferred to heaven, and heaven is home.

Thus, religion begins at home. And when our too busy world makes family worship almost impossible, a blight settles on our world. Our day and generation becomes grey with its breath—and its death. But,

So long as there are homes to which men turn
at close of day;
So long as there are homes where children are.
Where women stay—
If love and loyalty and faith be found across
those sills—
A stricken nation can recover its gravest ills.
So long as there are homes where fires burn.
And there is bread;
So long as where are home where lamps are lit
And prayers are said;
Although people falter through the dark—
And nations grope—
With God Himself back of these little homes—
We have sure hope.

God Bless you all in your homes.

Your sincere friend,

HERBERT BULLOUGH

A STORY FOR OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

My dear children,

This month I will tell you a story about Saint Jerome whose special day is September 30th.

St. Jerome lived with his friends the monks in a big monastery.

One day he was sitting at the monastery door when he saw coming towards him a big lion. All his friends ran away in terror at the sight; but Jerome waited quietly. The lion came up to him, looked into his kind face, and lifted up its paw. Jerome looked at it, and saw that it was swollen, and that the poor lion must be in great pain. He took the paw in his hand, and saw that there was a big thorn sticking out of the pad. Very gently he took hold of the thorn and pulled it out. Then he took the lion indoors, washed the same paw and bandaged it up.

After that he tried to make the lion go away, but it lay down at his feet and refused to go. It was so grateful to this kind man who had taken away the pain that it wanted to stay with him.

So Jerome left the lion and went to bed; and in the morning he found the beast still there. Again he tried to send it away but it would not go.

"Everyone works in a monastery," said Saint Jerome. "So, if you stay with us, you must work too. You must go every day with my donkey, when the old woodcutter drives him out to get firewood; and while the woodcutter chops the wood and loads the donkey, you must keep guard over them and see that no harm comes to them."

So every day the lion went out into the forest with the donkey and the woodcutter, and guarded them against robbers. But one day it was so very hot and quiet there under the trees, that the lion fell

fast asleep. When he awoke, there was no donkey and no woodcutter! He smelt the smell of men, and knew that robbers must have taken them.

Sadly he went back to the monastery; and when Jerome saw him without the donkey, and looking so ashamed of himself, he said sternly, "So you have not done your duty! Then you must take the donkey's place and go for firewood."

So everyday the lion went into the forest and was loaded with wood to carry home, and he bore it patiently. Then one day there passed by a company of merchants, with a long line of horses and camels, loaded with fine things; and at the head of the line was a donkey led by an old man.

The lion looked at them and sniffed the air; then suddenly, with a great roar, he sprang toward them, for he had recognized his master's stolen donkey. The merchants fled in terror, and the lion, roaring after them, drove them all to the monastery. Jerome came out to see what this strange sight could mean—horses, camels, donkeys and men all crowding into the courtyard. Then the merchants confessed that they had stolen the donkey, and begged Jerome to forgive them. And he, overjoyed at having his donkey back, forgave them gladly. So one again Jerome's two faithful servants, the donkey and the lion, went to the forest for firewood; and the lion stayed with the Saint till the end of his days.

Love to you all,
from

THE RECTOR

THE NEW ORGAN

To the great delight of us all the organ is now settling down and as each week passes it becomes more and more perfect. I am proud to report the visit of many local organists who have all with one voice spoken in glowing terms of its range and tonal qualities. The highest came when one of the finest organ consultants in the country having spent a long time at the console, declared it to be one of the finest two manual organs in the country. We knew it was good but hesitated to say this—now we know on the highest authority.

This month we shall have the great joy of hearing recitals of three of the country's famous organists. There will be organ recitals as follows:—

Saturday, 18th September, Mr. Noel Rawsthorne,
Organist at Liverpool Cathedral.

Saturday, 2nd October, Mr. Derrick Cantrell
Organist at Manchester Cathedral.

Saturday, 16th October, Mr. Brian Runnett
Organist at Manchester University.

Programmes are on sale throughout the parish at 2/6d. After the recitalists' fees have been paid any monies remaining will be paid into the organ fund. I hope that there will be a fine response and that the people of Halsall will support the Recitalists who have offered to help us at reduced fees. Here is an opportunity to hear the organ played by three of England's great organists. W.H.B.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, September 19th at 2.30 p.m. in Church. Boys and girls who will be 12 years old on May 1st, 1966, will be prepared for Confirmation. Parents please note the date of the 1st Class and encourage your children to attend.

Class for adults will be announced in 1966.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

The new session commences on September 7th with a service in church at 7.30 p.m. I hope all members will do their utmost to attend. Let us get off to a very good start.
H.B.

MY KITCHEN PRAYER

Bless my little kitchen, Lord;
I love its every nook;
And bless me as I do my work,
Wash pots and pans and cook.
May the meals that I prepare
Be seasoned from above,
With Thy blessing and Thy grace,
But most of all with love.
As we partake of earthly food,
The table Thou has spread,
We'll not forget to thank Thee, Lord,
For all our daily bread,
So, bless my little kitchen, Lord,
And those who enter in.
May they find nought but joy and peace,
And happiness therein. Amen.

THE BAZAAR, SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER

Two months and the Bazaar will be here! May all the remaining events be well supported! Thrift tickets are on sale and the usual parishioners have them. This is a most useful way of saving up and a great help on the day. Gifts to the various stalls and Refreshments Committee will be very welcome. The Target is £1,000 to clear off a big slice of the debt on the organ. If we all do our share this seemingly impossible target can be achieved. Let there be from now on a whirlwind finish to our Bazaar preparations.
W.H.B.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

So far I have not had any information indicating mistakes in the flower list printed last month. I am assuming it to be correct.

- Sept 5—Mrs. Taylor
10—Mrs. Townsend,
12—Mrs. Ord.
19—Mrs. Blundell and Mrs. Park
26—Miss Mawdsley and Mrs. Parker
Oct 3—HARVEST FESTIVAL, The Congregation
10—Mrs. Townsend

SERVERS ROTA

- Sept 5—8 a.m. Jim Heaton
13—8 a.m. John Davies
10.30 a.m. Harold Grimshaw, Tony Gaskell
19—8 a.m. John Pounds
26—8 a.m. Brian Heaton
10.30 a.m. Harold Grimshaw, Colin Huyton
Oct 3—8 a.m. Peter Balmer
11.30 a.m. Raymond Juba

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

- Sept 5—W. Leadbetter, N. Britnall, G. Porter, S. Park
12—J. Serjeant, J. Banks, E. Grimshaw, E. Gawne
19—H. Huyton, A. Grimshaw, T. Swift, T. Hunter.
26—R. A. Gaskell, R. Hunt, R. Dutton, T. Grimshaw
Oct 3—E. Serjeant, D. Swift, C. Shacklady, J. Balmer

HOLY BAPTISM

"Entered into the family of Christ's Church"

- Aug 1—John, son of Robert and Ruth Eva Sephton, 26 Station Road, Barton.
1—Alan, son of Alan and Kathleen Johanna Georgessan, The Kennels, North Moor Lane, Halsall.
1—Sandra, daughter of Frank and Lena Baybutt, Gerrards Hall Farm, Barton.

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Those whom God hath joined together"

- July 31—Charles Stephen Bauchier, 19 Highfield Road, Ormskirk and Jane Marian Grimshaw, 80 County Road, Ormskirk.

BURIAL OF DEAD

"In sure and certain hope"

- July 15—Alice Gibbons, age 87 years. Plex Moss Lane, Halsall.
23—Elizabeth Margaret Cropper, age 74 years, Loretta, Knowsley Road, Ormskirk.
31—Joseph Scarisbrick, age 74 years, 4 Renacre Lane, Halsall.

RETIREMENT OF THE BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

I have received this letter from Church House.
Dear Brother,

We know that it will be the wish of everybody in the diocese that the retirement of our beloved Bishop should be marked by a presentation which

will reflect in a worthy manner the deep affection and regard which his untiring work here has inspired during more than twenty-one years.

Our intention is to make a gift from the diocese to the Bishop and Mrs. Martin, who has so devotedly shared and supported his labours, at the conclusion of the Diocesan Conference on 30th October. We ask you, therefore, to take steps to open a subscription list in your parish, and to remit the contributions to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R. W. L. Price, at Lloyds Bank Limited, P.O. Box 108, India Buildings, Water Street, Liverpool, 2. Cheques should be made payable to "The Bishop of Liverpool's Presentation" and all payments should be received not later than 23rd October.

Dr. Martin has expressed the wish that individual donations should not exceed 10/-. but some will no doubt wish to give more, and many cannot give so much. Receipts will not be sent unless asked for, and amounts of individual contributions will not, of course, be published, though lists of subscribers' names would be welcomed.

Full details about the occasion of the presentation will be made known in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Laurence Warrington,

Hugh Wilkinson (Archdeacon of Liverpool)

Eric Evans (Archdeacon of Warrington)

Clifford Price (Chairman, Board of Finance).

I know it will be the wish of a large number of parishioners to share in this presentation from the Diocese. Will you all kindly hand your contributions to the Wardens or Deputy Wardens or to me before October 25th in order that our Treasurer may send the cheque from St. Cuthbert's to be included with gifts from all the parishes in the Diocese. I hope our share will be a worthy one. H.B.

A CONCERN OF YOUR PARISH

Bulletin VII

AFRICA—Diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman

St. Michael's Hospital, Batlharos.

Provision of New Nurses Home

Amount needed £6,000

Still Without a Doctor.

There is still no doctor on the staff at St. Michael's Hospital, although there are two doctors in Kimberley who will always come if needed. However, Dr. Guy Daynes, who is Medical Superintendent at St. Lucy's Hospital, St. Cuthbert's Mission in the Transkei, is to go to Batlharos for a few months. His help and support will be very welcome there and we hope that when the time comes for his return a permanent doctor will have been found.

Bishop Blessed the Building.

Mrs. Rose Turner, the Housekeeper at St. Michael's was home for a short spell in October when she told us that the walls of the new Nurses'

Home were up to roof level. (Presumably by now the roof is on). The Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman brought the Bishop of West Michigan to see how things were going. The latter blessed the new building and had a look round the hospital, after which he gave a talk in the church.

And from an article in **Highway** (the magazine of the diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman) comes the following extract:

'The new Nurses' Home at Batlharos Hospital is being built. Supervising the work is the Maintenance Officer, Mr. Geoffrey Barnett, who has been in the diocese for just over one year. The block consists of dormitories for the junior nurses and probationers, and single rooms for the senior nurses. There will also be three recreation rooms incorporated into the building, and a Lecture Room'.

There will be a nice space, sixteen feet in depth, and over fifty feet wide, which should provide a splendid site for dances, and socials.

"Another building project is the new house for our priest, Fr. Thekiso has been supervising this work closely, and seems pleased with it.

More Buildings in the Future.

"Mr. Barnett tells me that the next building to be constructed is the new laundry. Meanwhile, a net-work of drains is being laid out, and on all sides men appear to be digging pits, or putting up walls".

Miss Carter, the Matron, also talks about future plans when writing in the Annual Report of the Hospital. "These", she says, "are still on paper but we soon hope to build a proper laundry and enclosed space for ample drying lines. Next to the laundry will be the linen store and sewing room. All these buildings are much needed, as are more wards to house our patients with less overcrowding. Extra wards are desperately needed for tuberculosis patients whose numbers seem to be steadily increasing".

An Exciting Year.

"This has been an exciting year," says Miss Carter. The volume and scope of work in hospital has grown steadily, the wards are permanently very over-crowded and extra mattresses on the floor and two babies in nearly every cot is now the norm. With this expansion of work our nursing staff has grown, perhaps not quite in proportion to the work, but yet we have increased considerably. All but three of our trained staff now live out in the village thus freeing all the hospital accommodation for student nurses and probationers.

Much Valued Colleagues.

"Our two African Ward Sisters are much valued colleagues and we are gradually building up a group of capable and reliable staff nurses. At present three of the Staff Nurses are acting as Ward Sisters and one as Night Sister, and all are doing well. We are finding it easier to recruit good Staff Nurse Midwives and hope in time to promote more to Sisters' posts. This is one of the most cheering aspects of our work and a cause for thanksgiving."

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