ST. MARY THE VIRGIN WITH ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
MARLBOROUGH

Tower and Town

No. 5 JANUARY 1961

Ring up good bells ! ring up ! ring down !
May Marlborough towers call Marlborough town.
John Betjeman

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FROM THE RECTOR

My Dear Parishioners,

It should still be Christmastide when you read this letter — just. From a happy Christmas may there spring a happy new year for you all and for our parish. But first we should say grace for what we have received as a family in 1960 : I am thinking especially of the fruits of the Stewardship Campaign, of the new magazine, and the new life evident in many parish organisations.

Since I last wrote to you we have had our first Parish Communion with the Folk Mass Music. I am hesitant about commenting on this because one should not try to evaluate a spiritual experience — and there seems no doubt that we were caught up in an act of worship greater than any we had dared to imagine. So far I have met no-one who was disappointed or offended ; but many who are very grateful. It was an odd and happy coincidence that, on the choirboys' first attendance at this service, both the Cantors (to whom we owe so much) should have the name of Nicholas, patron of choirboys.

There is an important announcement on page 2 about where our services are to be held in future. The organ at St. Peter's has now reached a stage of dilapidation that no routine maintenance can hope to put right. It would cost at least £300 to make a reverent use of the organ possible. The P.C.C. has decided — it was a hard, though unanimous decision — that we are not justified in spending such a sum on ourselves for what is not a necessity. This hard decision will at least ensure that in future

everyone will know just where to go without having to refer to a list of services.

I have room here for only the briefest mention of two great parish projects, but you will find more about them on pages 6 and 7. One is the addition of more church families to the arbitrary list on which last year's Stewardship Campaign was based. The other is the proposal for a St. Mary's Guild supplementary to the Mothers' Union.

I hope that during the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (see page 3) each of you will join with our fellow Christians of other churches in at least one of the weekday observances which have been arranged.

I commend these three projects to your faith and prayers.

Your sincere friend and Rector,

FRANCIS BROWNE.

DIARY FOR JANUARY

SUNDAY SERVICES : *An Important Change.* **From Jan. 8th the 8 a.m. Holy Communion service will always be in St. Peter's. All the other services—9 a.m. Holy Communion, 11.15 a.m. Family Service (3rd Sundays), and Evensong—will always be in St. Mary's.**

Wednesday. Jan. 18th—Wednesday. Jan. 25th : WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY. *Details of all Services are to be found on page 3 opposite.*

1st	FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS. **Circumcision of Our Lord.** Festal Evensong 6.30 p.m. (*Thanksgiving for* 1960 : *confidence in* 1961).
4th	Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Diocese of Salisbury* : *William our Bishop*).
6th	Thursday. **Feast of the Epiphany.** Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Thanksgiving for the wideness of God's mercy*).
8th	EPIPHANY I. Preacher at 6.30 p.m. : The Rev. Tom Pelham. (*The Parish. The Dornakal Diocese, India*).
11th	Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Coombe End House*).
15ht	EPIPHANY II. Parish Communion 9 a.m. Congregational Matins 11.15 a.m. Family Service and Holy Baptism 3 p.m. (*The Parish, especially TOWER AND TOWN*).
18th	Wednesday. Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Christian Unity* : *the Roman Catholic Church*).
22nd	EPIPHANY III. (*The Parish and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*).
25th	Wednesday. **Conversion of St. Paul, A.M.** Holy Communion 7.30 a.m. (*Christian Unity* ; *the Free Churches*).
29th	SEPTUAGESIMA. (*The Parish, especially those preparing for Confirmation*).

Special Intentions at Holy Communion are printed in italics

SAINT OF THE MONTH — ST. PAUL. Many of us have learnt about him lately in the Sunday T.V. programme " Paul of Tarsus ". Jew of Asia Minor, Roman citizen, tent-maker by trade, zealous Pharisee and persecutor of Christians, he was on his way to Damascus to arrest all the Christians there when he saw a vision of Jesus, and was converted. He became the great apostle to the Gentiles. He is often linked with St. Peter in church dedications, as he is in our parish, and his emblem is a sword.

BISHOP COCKIN writes:

ARE YOU THINKING.

"I can't see why some people go on making this continual fuss about Reunion: After all, we live on very good terms with our Free Church neighbours: we even have a joint service from time to time. What more do we want?

Ask any missionary. He will tell you that when he preaches the gospel of the reconciliation of all men to God through Christ, he is met with the all too obvious retort — Why not try a little reconciliation among Christians first?

Ask any priest working on a housing estate. He will tell you what the outsider says about running two or three separate churches, which look to him like branches of competing chain-stores.

That is why in this week we need to be reminded of the sinful waste—spiritual as well as financial — of our continued division. Of course we don't pray for Unity only in this one week. But this week is a way of reminding ourselves that we ought to be praying for Unity all the time.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 1960

January 18th — January 25th

SERVICES DURING THE WEEK

Wednesday, Jan. 18th	Congregational Church 7 p.m. Address by the Methodist Minister, the Rev. Maurice Hillier.
Thursday, Jan. 19th	St. Mary's 7 p.m. Evensong.
Sunday, Jan. 22nd	St. Mary's 11.15 a.m. Preacher: The Congregational Minister, the Rev. W. C. Gribble. St. Mary's 6.30 p.m. Preacher: The Methodist Minister, the Rev. Maurice Hillier. The Rector will preach in the Methodist Church at 11 a.m. and in the Congregational Church at 6.30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 24th	Methodist Church 7 p.m. Address by the Congregational Senior Deacon, Mr. H. J. Sawyer.

OIKUMENE is a Greek word meaning "the whole habitable globe": our English word *ecumenical* comes from it. In this emblem used by the World Council of Churches the ark surmounted by the Cross symbolises the Church and its world - wide mission.



A PRAYER FOR UNITY. O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst to Thine Apostles: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: regard not our sins but the faith of Thy Church; and vouchsafe to grant her that peace and unity which is agreeable to Thy will: Who livest and reignest God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

From the 1928 Book of Common Prayer

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FAMILIAR FACES No. 5

LINDA MACKRILL and SUSAN HACKER



ANOTHER proof that "church workers" are very often young, pretty and full of beans. Linda and Susan have taught in the Junior Sunday School for the last four years. meet together once a week to discuss their work, are regular communicants at St. Mary's. Linda serves on the Youth Fellowship Committee. Marlborough born - and - bred, since leaving the Secondary Modern School, she has been a saleswoman at *Gidens*. Susan, also an Old Girl of M.S.M.S., lived in Swindon until she was twelve; now works there for Loveday and Loveday. For these two lively people teaching Sunday School certainly isn't a case of "nothing better to do" — except in the sense of "nothing more worth doing".

* *

PERSONAL POSER

I have only just started coming to Church again and have forgotten what I was taught when I was confirmed. How do I prepare myself for Holy Communion?

Bless you; I think you have already done the best part of your preparation because you are obviously sincere. The service, you know, starts with a prayer for sincerity: it is sometimes called the "Collect for Purity", but people will get "purity" mixed up with "chastity", so the Collect for Sincerity is a better name for it. And we start with that because it's hopeless to try to put on an act before God.

Firstly: there may be something to do with your duty to God, or to your neighbour, that you ought to attend to. For the present I should advise asking yourself in each connection just two questions: *What is the most important thing I have left undone? What is the thing I am most ashamed of having done?*

Then tell God you are sorry for having hurt Him in this way. Do what you can to put it right. Then you can heave a sigh of relief because that is over and done with.

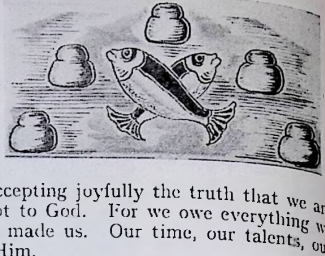
Do that a few days before you come. Then, on Saturday night, find hymn No. 316 in the English Hymnal—"Just as I am"—and pray it slowly. That is important.

Find the Communion service in your Prayer Book: just after the prayer for the Church there are three Exhortations. Read the last paragraph of the first one. If, but only if, you think this applies to you, you may have to put in another Poser. F.B.R.B.

* *

ARE YOU ASKING QUESTIONS about CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP?

Perhaps these are some of them



What is it? It is realising and accepting joyfully the truth that we are all — and always — in debt to God. For we owe everything we have and are to Him. He made us. Our time, our talents, our possessions all come from Him.

How do we show we understand this? By giving in three ways:
Giving ourselves to God in worship.
Giving our time and our skills and abilities in the service of His Church.
Giving our possessions, through the medium of money, for the extension of His kingdom in this parish and throughout the world.

How do I know how much to give? Will you miss 6d. or 1/- a week? If you will, that is your figure. If you won't, go on trying with 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and so on, until you hit a figure that will really cost you something. Then you will feel that all your income is being blessed and that you are taking a real, not a token, part in the world-wide mission of Christ in His Church.

Who decides? Each decides for himself, after asking God in prayer for help to do what is right.

What do I do with my envelopes? Bring them to Church Sunday by Sunday. There they are taken up to the Altar and offered to God.

Why was I left out when Stewardship started? That was the fault of those of us who organised the campaign: there were big gaps in our records. But we had to go ahead — and those who never make a mistake never make anything. Gradually we hope to invite everyone to join in.

PERHAPS YOU ARE ALREADY WISHING YOU COULD PLEDGE AND ARE ONLY WAITING TO BE ASKED? WE DO HOPE SO

But there are always Pledge Cards at the West End of the Church and our Stewardship Chairman, Mr. D. J. Turner, will gladly arrange for one of our Visitors to help you at any time. Mr. Turner's address is 33 George Lane.

A Prayer: *Dear Lord, I am not my own but Thine: teach me above all things to do Thy holy will. Amen.*

MOTHERS' UNION AND ST. MARY'S GUILD. Two very important, though unrelated, changes in our Branch of the Mothers' Union have arrived simultaneously. The one we have staved off for as long as possible and accept reluctantly; the other we welcome on the wind of change. The first is the *Retirement of Mrs. Hayman*, who owing to increasing commitments feels that she ought to retire as Enrolling Member of our Branch, which she has served for twelve years. She will continue to act as Presiding Member for the Marlborough Deanery. The second is a *New Plan*. When the Committee met to consider their recommendation to the Rector for a new enrolling Member, they had in mind the lighting address given by Bishop Bayne at the Albert Hall and the subsequent correspondence in the Press about the composition of the M.U. Feeling that the chief parish organisation for women should be not less comprehensive than that for men, they decided unanimously to suggest that the Branch should continue under the title "Mothers' Union and St. Mary's Guild", with the membership thrown open to all women on the Electoral Roll of the parish, and to invite Mrs. F. B. R. Browne to be the new Leader. *How It Will Start.* This new venture will be debated at a Coffee Evening on Tuesday, Jan. 17th, at 7.30 p.m. in the Court Room of the Town Hall. If you think the plan is wise and promising, or even if you have doubts about it which you would like discussed, please make a note of the day and come along. F.B.R.B.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES. For Boys —Tuesday, Jan. 10th, at 7 p.m. in the Rectory. For Girls—Friday, Jan. 6th, at 7 p.m. in Church Cottage.

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION. At the 9 a.m. Holy Communion Service on Sunday we always sing a verse of a hymn after the Epistle. This is called the "Gradual" (from the Latin word meaning "a step") and is supposed to be sung while a little procession goes out to read the Gospel. This is to remind us of the missionary work, at home and abroad, to which the Church and we as members of it stand committed. When you see server and celebrant come down to the chancel steps to read the Gospel you will be reminded of Our Lord's command to us to take the Gospel to others. We need that reminder week by week. F.B.R.B.

P.C.C. REPORT. Thirty members were present at the meeting on Nov. 30th when the discussion of a varied agenda was markedly lively. *St. Peter's Organ* was finally judged to be too unmusical to be used; owing to conflicting expert opinions, it was decided not to spend any more money on it at present and to hold only non-choral services there from the end of this year. The *Stewardship Chairman* gave us details of the "follow-up campaign" which would be launched in the New Year. The Publications Chairman reported a rise in the cost of production of TOWER AND TOWN and the Council unanimously decided to allot £100 per annum to the *Publications Committee*; agreeing that the success of the magazine was so great that this sum could be regarded as equivalent to a payment to Home Missions. The *Finance Committee* was bidden, as a matter of urgency, to consider payment by the Parish of some of the expenses incurred by the clergy in the performance of their duties—e.g. postages, telephone, car journeys. As an experiment it was decided to hold the *Annual Church Meeting* on Mar. 9th in the Court Room of the Town Hall. Not unconnected with this was the appointment of a *Public Relations Officer*. No prizes are offered for guessing his identity. W.F.H.

LENT WEDDINGS. A wedding is an occasion for festivity and rejoicing: Lent is a season of abstinence and discipline. As far as possible church people arrange for weddings outside the Lent season; and this is a rule of the Church. Where hardship or substantial personal inconvenience would follow on a rigid insistence on this rule—as with Service men posted abroad, or holiday dates which are intractable—the incumbent uses his pastoral discretion and does his best to help those involved. He assumes that, as the parties wish to be married in Church, they will readily understand that floral decoration of the Church and peals from the tower are out of place during Lent. F.B.R.B.

WEEKDAYS — the Holy Communion Service at 7.30 a.m. on Wednesdays and on Saints' Days takes only half-an-hour. It is always in St. Mary's unless a special announcement is made to the contrary.

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OVERS THAT ARE OVER

F. B. R. BROWNE

MY BOWLING action has always seemed to me to be an ordinary, if not an elegant one. But everyone else says that I bowled off the wrong foot. Certainly there used to be a gasp and sudden buzz of talk when I bowled my first ball on a strange ground.

"Tishy"

It was this peculiar action which saddled me with my cricketing nickname. There is an odd coincidence connected with that name. In the early summer of 1922 I bicycled with some friends from Cambridge to Newmarket to see the Cesarewitch. The favourite was a horse called Tishy, and it came in last: its failure was excused on the score that it had "crossed its legs". This was the theme of a famous cartoon by Tom Webster, who, on the eve of the 'Varsity match of that year, drew another cartoon of Mr. "Tishy" Browne in various crosslegged attitudes, ending with the entanglement of an umpire. The odd thing is that Tishy's Cesarewitch was the first flat race that I ever saw.

A World Record

Very occasionally my peculiar action made the ball slip out of my hand and soar high in the air. This accounts for my holding an unenviable world record. My name appears in Wisden, so I am told, as having bowled the widest wide in the history of the game. It happened at Bradford during the holiday called Bowlingtide, when Sussex was playing Yorkshire. The ball, which was to have been the fastest ball ever bowled, slipped out of my hand and was caught full toss by third-man standing deep, to the huge and derisive delight of the Yorkshire holiday crowd.

In-swingers

I remember that match well. It was the first time I had realised how I could get a ball to swing. There was something in the atmosphere there which



made it do some very odd things, and I got a bagful of wickets, five for twenty-seven, including Wilfred Rhodes', whom I bowled with a full toss which started off for second slip, curled round and hit the middle stump. If you play cricket at Bradford you will be wise not to sit on the grass: if you do your "whites" will be white no longer.

The Astronomer Royal

When and why a cricket ball will swerve still seems to be a bit of a mystery: the shine on a new ball, a raised seam, thundery weather, trees round the ground, a quartering wind — all these appear to affect the flight of the ball. I once tried to solve this mystery. I was dining at high table in my College at Cambridge, and, to my alarm, was put to sit next to the Astronomer Royal. Being desperate for something to say, I posed this problem to him. But he pooh-poohed my ideas. It could only be the wind; "next time it happens, Mr. Browne, light a cigarette and see which way the smoke blows". He was not, I think, a cricketer.

CRICKET IN JANUARY?

To remind us that
the sun can shine

THE AUTHOR?

known to us now as

THE RECTOR

once known to a
lot of people as

"TISHY" BROWNE

played for

R.M.A. Woolwich 1919
Cambridge 1922
Sussex 1919-1932

Stumped

Three-day cricket can be a little earnest at times: but not always. We were playing Lancashire at Eastbourne on that loveliest of grounds, the Saffrons. Maurice Tate had bowled magnificently and we had them hopelessly beaten when their last man, a famous fast bowler, came in. I knew he had got a duck in the first innings and planned a full toss to leg to save him from a "pair." What I did not know was that he had a bet of 10/- that he would make me stop on my run up to the wicket. When I started my run he started to run up the wicket waving his bat and the wicket-keeper, "Tich" Cornford, who was standing back, he ran too. So we ran all three. My full toss soared over the batsman's

Continued on page 11

WELFARE STATE DOES *NOT* DO IT ALL — and where it stops the League of Friends of the Marlborough Hospitals carries on. Everyone who has been a patient in Savernake during the last three years knows the Trolley Shop, which is wheeled round the wards by volunteers three times a week, selling cigarettes, confectionery, soft drinks, writing paper, viewcards and toilet requisites. This is only one of the splendid things which the League of Friends has provided out of the £500 it has spent for the good of patients and staff at the two hospitals since its foundation in 1958. Then there are the teak seats and the garden swing for the Children's Convalescent Hospital: the six chairs for waiting patients near the Enquiry Desk at Savernake (replacing the old forms) and the unbreakable rust-proof flower vases for the wards; £50 for the Nurses' Recreation Hall Fund at Savernake and £150 for the Walter Maurice Memorial Chapel Fund at the Children's Convalescent Hospital. Add to the money spent, the services volunteered by Friends—letters written for patients, special shopping assignments, transport provided for relations in cases of hardship. Apart from special money-raising efforts—a garden fete, flag days, Christmas draws — the money has come from the subscriptions (minimum half-a-crown) of a lot of ordinary folk in the area served by Savernake Hospital and from many grateful patients. No-one who has been a patient can doubt the necessity or the value of the work done by the League, which is run entirely by volunteers—useful people doing a jolly good job in their spare time. Lots more subscribers are needed: could half-a-crown (six cups of tea) be better spent? Subscriptions for 1961 should be sent now to the Treasurer, Mr. D. Kendall, Barclay's Bank, Marlborough.

HASSOCKS FOR EVERYONE. With the 170 new hassocks embroidered for St. Mary's in use, 170 of the old hassocks have been "declared redundant." But it is pleasant to know that some of them have found a home in Christchurch, Savernake (Cadley), some in the chapel-of-ease at Clench Common, and the remainder in the Roman Catholic Church of St. Thomas More.

LLORAN HOUSE. *At our request Dr. Tim Maurice writes:* My great-grandfather, Dr. D. P. Maurice, bought this house in 1830. It was owned by the Baskerville family who were living at Rockley Manor, and they let him have it for the nominal sum of £100 because he was a personal friend. Previously it had been occupied by a Mr. Hancock who had a bank there—the old bank safe was still in the hall when we sold the house. His brother, Walter Hancock, made steam-engines and ran one between Marlborough and the City of London. The large oak pillar in the hall, which I successfully persuaded the Bristol Omnibus Co. not to paint or box in, was the centre piece of the cattle scales that were used on the ground floor of the old Town Hall and was salvaged and put there by my grandfather when the Town Hall was demolished about 1960. My great grandfather called the house Lloran House after a house near Llansilin in Denbighshire which was occupied by my Maurice ancestors.

WHAT'S COOKING? An Austrian sweet for that New Year Party—

Malakoff Torte

6 oz. butter, 6 oz. icing sugar, 1 egg yolk, 3 oz. melted chocolate, top-of-milk or Grade A milk, cooking sherry to taste, 20-30 sponge biscuits.

Mix butter, sugar, yolk and chocolate together to make a smooth cream. Line a square or oblong cake tin with a loose bottom with ungreased paper. Put milk and sherry into a basin. Dip the sponge fingers quickly, without soaking, into the milk and sherry mixture and fit into the bottom of the tin. Follow with a layer of the chocolate cream mixture. Continue to fill the tin alternatively with a layer of biscuits and a layer of cream until all is used up, finishing with a layer of biscuits on top. Place a lid on the tin and a weight on the lid. Put in the refrigerator or a very cold place for 2-3 hours. Turn out and, if going the whole hog, decorate with piped butter cream.

Our Resident Cook reports: *Quick and absolutely foolproof; delicious; not really expensive because so rich that helpings have to be small ones!*

School News *this month is bound to be last term's news but we are sure that our readers would not wish us to omit these interesting reports, which we print just as they were written for us. Ed.*

Infants' School

We are very busy getting ready for the concert next Friday. Shall I tell you what I am? I am the Fir Tree in the Nativity Play. We are going to have a party before we break up.

RICHARD LINDSLEY

(More beautiful handwriting. Ed.)

Marlborough Secondary Modern School

Our Commemoration Service and Prize Distribution, the most important events of the school year, took place this term. Although it was the wettest day of this very rainy season, the Mayor, Mayoress and many of the School Governors were present.

Once again we record our successes in Sport. Watts and Palmer have played three times for the Mid-Wilts football team. Watts has also been chosen to play for the Wiltshire team against Hampshire, and the school First Eleven has reached the semi-finals of the Mid-Wilts Football Shield.

SYLVIA HEAD

St. Mary's Girls' School

We have started making preparations for Christmas. In Art we have been making stained glass windows with cellophane paper, and cardboard Angels to hang upon the wall.

To-day, Dec. 5th, the Mayor is coming to show us some colour slides which he took on his visit to America.

On Dec. 13th we have the Carol Festival at the College Chapel. Some of the girls who play recorders are going to play at the Chapel: we are going to play "Angels from the Realms of Glory" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing". Only two schools are sending children to play recorders.

We have just acquired some reproductions of pictures by the famous artists Renoir, Gauguin, Van Gogh and Vermeer. We have one for each classroom.

On Dec. 20th we are having a Carol Service in School, and on the 21st we break up. This term we have been supporting the Pestalozzi children. Six guineas have already been sent.

CAROLINE NOSSENT

St. Peter's Boys' School

The top class took the Verbal Reasoning Test on Nov. 30th. Those who pass will go on to the main examination in January.

J. Witts, who runs the savings in the school, attended the Twenty-First Party of the National Savings. A piece of cake was sent to the school and this was shared among Class 4, the top subscribers this year.

The District Carol Festival for schools is on Tuesday, Dec. 13th, at 2 p.m. in the College Chapel. Miss Horsfall will conduct. Our School Party is on Tuesday, Dec. 20th, and we will break up for Christmas on Dec. 21st, until Tuesday, Jan. 10th, 1961.

M. BENCH

WRONG WAVE LENGTH

There was a big service for the deaf and dumb in a Cathedral. The verger was anxious about the proper seating. He thought that he spotted some of the Bishop's relatives sitting among the deaf and dumb. So he went to them and quietly whispered: "You are deaf and dumb, aren't you?"

Continued from page 9

head into Cornford's hands and he was stumped by about ten yards, collected his "pair of spectacles" and lost his ten bob.

This same bowler, having consoled himself at the bar, confided in me how to get out our opening batsman, Ted Bowley. "Bowl short at his body. This will make him put his weight on the back foot. Then bowl him a yorker. You can't play a yorker with your weight on the back foot".

"One short"

An umpire story to end with. We — a country house side in Leicestershire — had made 28. Our village opponents had also made 28 and their last man was in. They ran a single. Our umpire, a one-eyed gamekeeper, called "one short". We got a wicket the next ball and saved the match — and, I suspect, the gamekeeper's halfcrown. Nobody objected in the very least.

F. B. R. BROWNE

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FAMILY NEWS

** *A Legacy.* The Churchwardens have received a cheque for £100 from the estate of the late *Mrs. Florence K. Potter*, sister of Mr. E. H. Marchant. £25 is for music for the choir: £25 for surplices for the choir: £25 for keeping the piano tuned: £25 for repairing stained glass windows.

** *90th Birthdays.* Congratulations and good wishes to *Mrs. Andrews*, Coombe End House, who was 90 on Nov. 25th, and to *Mrs. Polly Hall*, now at Stratton St. Margaret, who was 90 on Nov. 29th. They are both members of our M.U. branch. Mrs. Andrews is usually in church on Sundays, and still embroiders beautifully.

** *The Rev. H. J. Lloyd.* His address is: Kingston Vicarage, Wareham, Dorset.

** *Welcome to John Mundy*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Mundy, home on leave after two years in Canada. It is just on ten years since he left M.G.S. After National Service in the R.A.F., he went up to the University of Exeter; became B.Sc. in 1955 and Doctor of Philosophy in 1958. In November that year he was awarded a Post Doctoral Fellowship at the National Research Council, Ottawa. Next month he takes up a Research Associateship at the University of Maryland, U.S.A.

** *A Family Joke.* Some of us will always have affectionate memories of that Evensong at St. Peter's when the Rector announced the hymn "Hark the Glad Sound" and (so he describes it) "the organ lugubriously responded with an irreverent imitation of an elephant with stomach-ache".

ROUND THE PARISH IN OUR PRAYERS — JANUARY

This month please ask God to bless all who live in these roads, on the Sunday named, and the week following:

1st Sunday Sebastopol Square
2nd Sunday Macklins Court
3rd Sunday St. Margaret's Mead
4th Sunday Leaf Close
5th Sunday "The road I live in"

"*O Heavenly Father, bless our neighbours, that they and we may share Thy Heavenly calling; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen*".

If you know a family living in one of these roads include their names in this prayer.

The Wardens for these streets are: 1 Mrs. J. Smart, 2 Mrs. Neale, 3 Mrs. G. L. Brown (odd nos.), Mrs. Marsh (even nos.), 4 Miss Glass.

HOLY BAPTISM

Nov. 20th Melton Clifford Curtis. Gary John Wells. Sandra Rogers.
Dec. 4th (In the College Chapel) Vidal Paul Wilson.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Dec. 10th Peter Frank Fraser to Susan Mary Rogers.

R. I. P.

Nov. 19th Rose Louise Hawkins, of 20 St. John's Close.
Dec. 10th Percy Frederick Jarvis, of 128 Five Stiles Road.

Brownies: 3rd Marlborough (St. Mary's) Brownie Pack, Wednesdays 4 p.m., Toc H Room. Brown Owl: Mrs. J. M. Leach, Windrush, Manton Hollow.

BUSY BROWNIES. Each Wednesday the Toc H Room is full of busy Brownies buzzing around with pots of paste, for we are all making Scrap Books. We have a different subject for each Six. Our Six is collecting flower pictures so we are all bringing along our old birthday and Christmas cards, to add to the already bulging books. There should be a fine collection when they are finished. We wish all our friends a very Happy New Year. THE PIXIES

The Scrap Books were the Brownies' Christmas Good Turn. We should like to thank Mrs. Odey very much for painting our ancient toadstool so beautifully. We have to congratulate Jane Lansley on gaining her Collector's Badge, Janet Odey and Catherine Noreross on their Golden Bars, and Sally Odey on her Golden Ladder. BROWN OWL

Youth Committee: Mrs. M. Harrison (Chairman), Forest Hill House.

WHO CAN BELONG. Youth Fellowship meetings are on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Members must be thirteen and Confirmed, attending a Confirmation Class, or Sunday School, or belong to the Choir, and the membership fee is 3d. a meeting. Others interested but not eligible for any of these reasons may attend meetings as Visitors for 6d. a time. Meetings will begin again during January, with a New Year's Party. Watch the notices. M.H.

Young Wives' Group: 2nd and 4th Thursdays 7.30 p.m., Toc H Room. Leader: Mrs. F. B. R. Browne, The Rectory.

TARGET TRIUMPH. A Coffee Morning in the Town Hall on Saturday, Nov. 26th, added £48 6s. to the £86 7s. 6d. already sent to the Pestalozzi Children's Village at Battle. So we have overshot our target of £100 and provided enough to furnish a bedroom for four orphan children, with something to spare for Christmas. The new hassocks for St. Mary's added colour and interest to a most enjoyable social occasion. M.B.

Men's Society: 1st Thursdays, 7.45 p.m., Toc H Room. Correspondent: Mr. G. Chilton.

IN THE FACTORY . . . , IN THE OFFICE . . . . In the third of his powerful talks on Christianity in Everyday Life, Bishop Cockin stressed the fundamental fact that Christ Himself was primarily interested in ordinary people. The sincerity of a man's religion is tested by his attitude to ordinary, everyday situations. The man at the factory bench or in the office sees the need for Christian standards from the inside. And it is laymen—much more than the clergy, who are necessarily on the outside—who could in time exercise a very real Christian influence in a sphere where such influence is so greatly needed. Explaining how this could be done, the Bishop suggested that older Christians could, by their example and encouragement, help youngsters to overcome the "blow you Jack, I'm all right" attitude which they faced when starting work. The Bishop also stressed the important part Christians could play by taking an active interest in local government. The Chairman expressed our thanks to the Bishop for his three visits.

Next month: Experiences in West Africa: W. H. Spray, M.A. D.C.B.

Bell-ringers: Practices—Friday 8 p.m. Beginners 7 p.m., St. Mary's Tower. Captain: Mr. J. Fuller, Juamar, Elco Lane.

BELFRY NEWS. During the past two months we have had some fine ringing occasions: our annual visit to Everleigh, ringers from Oxford at St. Mary's, and a joint evening with the Overton ringers also at St. Mary's. A new member, Noreen Bishop from M.G.S., has joined us (and surprised us all by handling a bell very well): but there's still room for more! Nov. 19th was the date of the Annual General Meeting of the Ringing Guild, held as usual at Marlborough, as the most central point. Twenty-three members attended. Ringing began at 3 p.m. At 4.15 p.m. the Guild Service was conducted by Canon Browne, with Mr. Chun at the organ. After tea at Edith's Cafe, the business of the meeting was concluded by the election of Officers: Chairman: Newman (Baydon); Vice-Chairman: Fuller (Marlborough); Secretary: A. Palmer (Aldbourne). VALERIE FULL

READING THE BIBLE

Reading the Bible is a "must" for all who "profess and call themselves Christians". But although it sounds a simple rule, it's not at all easy unless you have a plan. This is just what the Bible-Reading Fellowship provides. It issues four series of Notes: A and B series are for Adults, the B series a little simpler than A; Y series is for Youth; C series is for Children. The Notes are issued quarterly and cost 6d. a copy. In addition each member of the Fellowship pays 1d. a year towards running expenses.

The Secretary for our parish is Miss Mabel Pearce (the *Familiar Face* in our October number) 36 St. Martin's. You have only to let her know you want to belong and she will do the rest.

CHOIR NOTES

Welcome to Brian Phillips, our latest recruit, who was admitted Chorister at Evensong on Dec. 11th, together with Roland Styles, Howard Cripps, Peter Lewis and Christopher Gwinnell.

Appointments. Andrew Stone, the Senior Chorister, "retired" after Christmas and Timothy Otton takes over in his place and will wear the Senior Chorister's medal with the red ribbon. Maurice Hillier, a Second Senior Chorister also retires. Tony Sawyer and Malcolm Webb fill the vacancies as Second Senior Choristers. Their badges of office are the two medals with the dark blue ribbons.

The medals with the light blue ribbon are worn by the five boys who have attended most regularly in the previous month, and often probationers are among them.

Retirement. We have recently had to say goodbye to Mr. Witts who has retired after many years in the Choir, though we hope to see him in the congregation.

Recruits. At the start of the new school term I am always very pleased to welcome newcomers to the Choir, both boys and grown-ups. Please let me know of anyone who may be interested — I am still waiting for those three tenors we need so much!

Folk Mass. We shall again be using Geoffrey Beaumont's setting of the Communion Service on Jan. 15th. If you have never been to a Sung Communion Service, then this music has been specially written for you: you will find the music easy to sing. If you have been on the 3rd Sunday, then why not bring along a friend to the service on the 15th?

TREVOR GARTSIDE

CHILDREN IN NEED

It used to be called the "Waifs and Strays Society" — a miserable name from the bad old days of extreme poverty. But there are still Children in Need, and the Society, now called the Church of England Children's Society, still looks after them. Over the years it has tended sixty-one children from the Marlborough district. It has 4,500 children in its care.

At a meeting in Ivy House on Nov. 24th the Lay Organising Secretary showed the Society's sound-film "Gateway to Happiness" and thanked the local officials and Committee for the money and gifts provided by Marlborough. Last year just over £150 was raised: the P.C.C. of St. Mary's and St. Peter's and Lent Purses £25, annual subscribers and box-holders £15, Flag Day £47, College Carol Services £64; clothes were sent by the Mothers' Union, and toys from the St. Mary's Crib Service.

The Committee was re-elected: Mrs. E. D. Smith (secretary), Mrs. L. Stevens (treasurer), Mrs. W. Brooks, Mrs. J. Edge, Mrs. T. A. A. Hunter, Mrs. Lilley, Mrs. Oscar Jones, Mrs. A. Smart.

A simple way to help: Mrs. Brooks, 60 High Street, is always glad to receive children's clothing to send to the Society.

Other Organisations

Missionary Societies: C.M.S.—Mr. G. Chilton, Merle Cottage, Kingsbury Street; S.P.G. — Mrs. R. H. Lane, 15 George Lane; U.M.C.A. — Mrs. D. M. Field, 61 High Street.

Diocesan Moral Welfare Association: Worker — Miss E. Nicholls, 116 High Street (Tel. 478).

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