

November 1967

THE REVEREND W. L. HOLDER

Mr. Holder has written to the Bishop resigning his office at **Coleshill** as **from 30th November next.**

Through the good offices of the Bishop, the Pensions Board has agreed to give Mr. Holder a full pension starting on December 1st, together with a grant to cover the loss of the State pension for which he does not **qualify.**

He and Mrs. Holder have **been** offered accommodation in one of the Homes for retired Clergy, but they have refused it, saying they **wish** to find a home of their **own.**

We will **miss** them both very much. We thank them for their work among us and wish them good health and **God Speed.**

Allan Campbell. Rector.

PASTORAL LETTER

My Dear **Friends,**

This is my last letter to all of you and it is a letter I will not find easy to **write.** "Hail and Farewell" may well be its short title. For it was only the other day when I first came among you (May 1962) as your Priest from India and met you all at the Church Fete that was held at **Windmill House, Coleshill.** **What** struck me most of all was the **excellent** team work displayed by all of you. The fetching and pitching of the tents and the **arrangements** of the stalls - and then the introductions to the workers and others. Many were the **mistakes made** by me in fitting the correct names and faces together. The children of our school also had a part that afternoon and I thought them very beautiful.

But this stage of strangeness soon passed and I have enjoyed every minute of my Ministry with you. The general visiting and meeting you all as a congregation at worship and at occasional offices like Baptisms and Marriages; preparing children for Confirmation - (I was indeed surprised at the very small number that come each year). But I have been here long enough to see the fidelity of some, at least, in the regularity of your **Communion;** and there **were** the **solemn** services at the gravesides and meeting the sorrowing **ones.**

I was very happy in all this work, but the work I loved best of all was that of the Priest in the Hospital. The bedside Communion services could never hurry over and I was invariably the last of the three curates to leave the **wards.** In the **Hospital,** too, I made many friends among the

doctors, nurses and patients. There was not a great number of sick people in Coleshill at any one time. Those to whom I took the Sacrament regularly were living in the two Homes in Coleshill - Coleshill House and Rushmead. But essentially I was drawn to my Ministry among the sick in Hospital and it was my privilege to minister to them.

But the services in Church were, on the whole, well attended by English standards. Since the Parish Communion was made the main service in our Sunday worship our numbers have increased appreciably.

The Church Committee kindly installed an oil fired system of central heating in the Parsonage which has proved a great boon. I realised this fully when in March, 1966 the doctors realised that I had to face a major abdominal operation. My friend, Mr. Lovelock-Jones, chief surgeon at Amersham, did the operation and in October it was necessary to operate again. I underwent a further operation by Mr. Griffiths, the well known urosurgeon at Mount Vernon Hospital, in December 1966. As can be imagined, after three major operations in so short a period of time, my physical condition has not responded very speedily. Many were the letters and tokens of love of all you dear people. But despite the care of the doctors and nursing staff, I have not recovered my strength to date, though I have, thanks to the consideration of the Rector of Amersham, recovered sufficiently to take the services in Church. I am conscious that a younger man as Priest of Coleshill would be a more suitable arrangement.

The Bishop of Buckingham has suggested that I should resign for the sake of my health and of the work of God in Coleshill. I have done what I could and have hearkened to his good advice and from 30th November I shall be a retired clergyman.

I should like to thank all of you, my friends, for all you have been to me during these years. The doctor assures me that I shall eventually recover my health, but in the meantime I must commend you all to a younger Priest who will, under God's guidance, lead you further along the way.

I must thank the Rector for his understanding and sympathy in my long illness, the Churchwardens and all the members of the P.C.C. for help ungrudgingly given, the several members of the congregation for taking me around in their cars to some of my appointments; a special "thank you" to Miss Williams and Miss Baxter. These two ladies, no longer young, have inspired me with their Christian witness and wisdom; and I must say thank you, too, to Mrs. Jean Pusey, Lorna, her daughter and Wendy Weller for caring for our Kindergarten Sunday School, which has grown considerably; and lastly, a word of thanks to Mr. John Ward, our organist. The most effective way of thanking is for at least two

ladies and two gentlemen (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) reinforcing our small choir. We wish to do some anthems and settings, but with our present choir strength it is very hard going for the few. Anyone willing is invited to contact the organist or me after service.

I must make it clear that the Bishop of Buckingham has secured for me an adequate pension from the Church of England Pensions Board, but we shall still need a house to live in. We have a little saved with which we hope to be able to buy a small house.

Evensong on our Patronal Festival will be my last major service, although I shall be responsible for all the services in November.

And so I conclude the caption with which I began this letter, "Farewell". May God be with you all and grant you His peace.

"After the sun, the rain,  
After the rain, the sun,  
This is the way of life  
Till the work be done.  
All that we need to do  
Be we low or high  
Is to see that we grow  
Nearer the sky.

With much love and prayers from your friend

William L. Holder

Priest-in-Charge, Coleshill

The pro-Churchwardens, members of the Church Committee and Parishioners join with the Rector in extending God's speed to Mr. and Mrs. Holder.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School of All Saints Church wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks the anonymous gift of ten pounds given for the exclusive use of the Sunday school. This is a very welcome gift which we may use to improve the appearance of the children's furniture in the nave.

Fuller details will be published in a later Newsletter.

## PATRONAL FESTIVAL, WEDNESDAY, 1st NOVEMBER

Our Patronal Festival will be celebrated by Holy Communion at 9.30a.m. and by Evensong ab 7.30p.m. followed by a short Concert by young people and light refreshments in the Village hall. It is hoped that as many parishioners as possible will attend.

The Church will be decorated for the Festival on the afternoon of the previous day, Tuesday, when the assistance of as many helpers as possible will be appreciated. Gifts of flowers for the Church or cakes for the refreshments, or donations are sought. Flowers should be brought to the Church on the morning of Tuesday, October 31st, and refreshments should be sent to Miss Williams, Miss Boston, Mrs. Harris or Mrs. Ovington.

### A ROYAL OCCASION

by Lorna Pusey

By now most of you will have read the report in the local paper of the Official Opening of Brudenell County Secondary School by the Duchess of Kent. If so, you will know that I had the great honour of being presented, but above all, was in the enviable position of taking tea with Her Royal Highness. The Press has gone into a full report, which leaves me with very little to add apart from my personal summing-up.

We were all very excited and pretty nervous over the prospect of meeting the Duchess. However, I had my opening speech learnt by heart. Imagine my surprise, therefore, when I heard the Duchess say how pleased she was to take tea with us - the very words I had planned on using myself. She was so friendly and so charming that I soon overcame my embarrassment and we all had a very enjoyable tea party.

### LOCAL SUCCESS

Deferred congratulations are extended to Jill Ruperti upon obtaining passes at 'O' level G.C.E. in English and Art and passes in five subjects in C.S.E..

## TOP NEW SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The new form of service for Holy Communion has now been issued. It is authorised for experimental use in the Church of England for a period not exceeding four years from 7th July 1967, but can only be used with the agreement of the Parochial Church Council.

The revisers have tried to put the service into a more logical sequence. It now takes the following form:

- (1) The Antecommunion or Preface
  - (a) The Introduction - prayers, and the Ten Commandments or alternatives
  - (b) The Ministry of the Word - lessons, a sermon and the Creed
  - (c) Intercession - prayers
- (2) The Communion
  - (a) The Preparation of the People - a general Confession, Absolution and prayers
  - (b) The Preparation of the Bread and Wine
  - (c) The Thanksgiving
  - (d) The Breaking of the Bread
  - (e) The Sharing of the Bread and Wine
  - (f) Conclusion - prayers and the Blessing.

The use of certain defined sections is optional. Some archaic expressions have been dropped or altered, but much of the beautiful language of Shakespeare's time has been retained.

The service is still the Eucharist or Thanksgiving for God's blessings.

### PROPOSED NEW DIOCESE

Great interest has been aroused by the recommendation - put forward unanimously by the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on the reorganisation of the Church by dioceses in London and the South East - that the Oxford diocese should be divided into three, based upon the boundaries of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, with cathedrals at Oxford, Aylesbury (the present parish Church of St. Mary) and Reading (also the parish Church of St. Mary in that town).

The present diocese of Oxford has the largest area in the South East, the highest number of incumbencies (504), the fourth highest population, viz. 1,415,000 in 1964, expected to be 1,900,000 by 1981. As long ago as 1912, a diocesan conference passed a resolution calling for the three-fold division of the diocese, and in 1922 a committee reported the urgent need of division to the Church Assembly. Nothing was done, and "we understand" says the current report "that other Bishops since that time, have felt overwhelmed by the burden of administering the diocese".

The report will now be considered by the dioceses and their recommendations will be placed before the Church Assembly for a measure to be agreed and placed before Parliament. It may take anything from three to five years to implement the recommendations.

The Bishop of Oxford, Dr. E. Carpenter, proposes to introduce the report to the Diocesan Conference on October 28th and to ask the Conference to hold a special meeting next April to discuss the whole question.

The Diocesan Conference consists of three constituent authorities namely; (1) the Bishop; (2) the Chamber of Clergy; and (3) the Chamber of Laity, all meeting together in conference.

It is strange and somewhat alarming to think that a large and important parish like Amersham has no representation on the Conference. Neither the Rector nor Mr. Holder are members, nor have we a single representative from St. Mary's or All Saints'.

#### GOD'S ACRE

Everyone with a garden will appreciate the immense amount of work involved in the maintenance of the Churchyard - mowing the grass, cutting the hedges, planting and weeding the borders and general tidying up. This involves the Committee in considerable expense each year, and in addition, reliance has to be placed upon the help of those good people who bestow loving care upon the graves of departed relatives and friends.

There are, however, a number of graves which receive no such attention and become unsightly when overgrown with weeds. In some cases there are no living relatives who can be traced, but it is thought that there may be others, living in the village or elsewhere, who, for some reason or other, cannot tend the graves personally. The Committee appeals to such persons to arrange for the graves to be tended or make an annual contribution towards the cost of maintaining the graves in which they are interested. This is not the responsibility of the Church, but the Church is prepared to help and advise relatives if approached by them.

The hon. treasurer, Mr. G. T. Creber, Applecroft, Meadowcot Lane Colehill, will be glad to hear from people who can help or who want help in this matter.

## A JOURNEY TO TANZANIA (2)

The pattern is similar in medicine to that in England, although hence the need for outside help is even greater. I was told that there was only one qualified African doctor in the whole of Tanzania although there are excellent African medical assistants in charge of clinics. To remedy this difficulty, the Lutheran Missionary Society has already raised one million pounds to build a Medical College and is now raising another million to equip it. A very strong team of American and German doctors and Scientists is being gathered together as staff. At Magila, there is a general and maternity hospital and a big nurses' Training school for both men and women. With the exception of two English Sisters in charge at each Hospital, the staff, from Staff Nurse to probationer, is African.

The wards in the Hospital are bright and airy and on each bed is a blanket made from knitted squares and crochet, very necessary in the cool nights of winter and Spring.

Before going to Africa, I was often asked what was the use of Missionary work and whether it is necessary to continue supporting it. In Africa, I thought much about these questions. I looked back at the country some hundred years ago when intrepid little groups of people, following Livingstone's lead, trekked inland through fever-ridden swamps establishing tiny village schools and village dispensaries, showing by their actions and teachings something of a God of Love. To all intents and purposes, there was no other help for the African people, victims of slave trade and forced labour gangs. And then today..... I went to a small village high up in the mountains and found a flourishing school, a well run Hospital and a beautiful small Church where, week by week, people pray not only for their own needs, but for peace in Vietnam and for comfort for the people of Aberfan.

I joined in worship at Magila with a large and devout African congregation - a most moving experience - and I thought of the load of fear, superstition and witchcraft which was being lifted from these people, and how fortunate Tanzania is in having among its leaders today men who mind spiritual things. The usefulness of Missions in the past is self-evident, but what of today? The need is still there for Europeans who are ready to work with, and not, as by right, over the Africans. Much still needs doing in training native men and women to take over the responsible posts in medicine, education and agriculture. The ministry of the Church is passing more and more into the hands of native priests

and the congregations are expected to be self-supporting, but these ministers have to be trained and overseers are still needed. All this costs money, and wherever I went I found urgent need for financial help for work which is based on spiritual values and not merely helping to make another welfare state.

But what of twenty years hence? Who knows? Certainly not many of those still working in the country. But if such help is no longer needed it will be the greatest tribute to the wisdom, courage and vision of those who worked and lived and died for the establishment of an African nation and an African Church ready and capable, not only of being responsible for itself, but equally ready to play its part in establishing a better world for all.

M.¥.

### TALK ABOUT TANZANIA

Miss Williams has kindly agreed to give a short talk, illustrated by slides, about her recent visit to Tanzania and the work she saw going on there.

By kind invitation of the Misses Boston, this will take place at Wallers Oak on Tuesday, November 7th at 8.00p.m. and any parishioners who are interested will be welcome. There will be a plate for small contributions for a Christmas present for our protege, Peter,

### CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

Tues. October 31.	Preparation for Patronal Festival
Sun. November 5	Miss Boston
12	Miss Malyan
19	Mrs. Young
26	Mrs. McLatchie

## WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

On Friday, November 17th (not the 27th as shown erroneously in the last number) the Committee of the Village Hall are holding a Wine and Cheese party to raise funds for the Hall. During the evening there will be a wine and cheese tasting competition.

Tickets will be 7/6d each and will include vouchers for three glasses of wine.

The party will be held at the Village Hall and will commence at 8.00p.m. Tickets will be obtainable from any member of the Committee and also from Mr. Bowler and Mr. Douthwaite.

## BALLOONING

Mr. and Mrs. Shannon are now able to announce the result of the Balloon race which, with Mr. and Mrs. North, they organised at the Church Fête on July 8th.

Thirty cards in all were returned, of which 6 were from France and the remainder from England, spread out in a straight line from Jordans to Calais Harbour. The furthest card was bought by A. Kennedy of Chalfont St. Peter, to whom the £1 first prize has been sent. The finder was Monsieur Jonet of Ham-les-Moines, Charleville-Mezieres and he found the balloon on July 9th, so it must have travelled at least 260 miles in about 12 hours - an average of 22 m.p.h.. It was evidently in a hurry!

## ROYAL SOUTH BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

History was continued at Coleshill on October 4th when the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association held their 124th annual Ploughing Match and Show at Ongar Hill Farm. Prizes were presented during the afternoon and amongst the awards announced since the publication of the last Newsletter were the following:

Ploughing Competition: Section 3 - Tractor drawn 3 or 4 furrow mounted

\* 1st. Hugh Janieson, Luckings Farm

Best four acres of stubble, no clearing operations allowed:

1st. E.H.Grindley, Luckings Farm

Best four acres of one year ley sown 1966:

3rd. E.H.Grindley, Luckings Farm.

The small W.I. Drama group, founded two years ago under the leadership of Mrs, Elizabeth Harvey, has now successfully produced two plays for the **entertainment** of members. The last one "Beauty for Sale" was repeated before **an** appreciative audience at the sherry party given by the Village Hall **Committee** last May.

The Group has now decided that the time has come to expand and be a little more ambitious in their productions. They extend a cordial invitation to people **who** are interested, to join and help them. Prospective **members** should apply to Mrs. Elizabeth Harvey, 1 Amber Cottages, Coleshill, and **should indicate whether** they would like to take part in the acting, production, stage lighting, make-up, costumes, play reading or baby **sitting**. Some masculine help would be appreciated.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Fri. Oct 27 **Jumble Sale** in aid of the Village Hall  
Tues. 31 **Sisterhood. Speaker** - Mrs. K. Bizley  
Wed. Nov 1 **PATRONAL FESTIVAL** 9.30a.m. Holy Communion  
7.30p.m. Evensong followed by light refreshments in the Village Hall  
Thurs 2 **Church Committee** 8.00p.m.  
Fri 3 **Baptist Chapel Sunday School Open Evening & Prizegiving**  
Tues 7 **Talk by Miss Williams on Tanzania.** Wallers Oak 8p.m. \*  
Thurs 9 **Mobile Library Van** - Coleshill  
Sun 12 **Remembrance Day**  
Tues 14 **Sisterhood. Open meeting** arranged by Mrs. Chambers  
Thurs 16 **Mothers Union**  
Fri. 17 **Wine & Cheese Party** in aid of the Village Hall  
Thurs 23 **Mobile Library Van** - Coleshill  
Sat 25 **W.I. Christmas Bazaar**  
Tues 28 **Sisterhood. Speaker** to be arranged  
Fri. Dec 8 **Whist Drive** in aid of the Village Hall

SERVICES

ALL SAINTS, COLESHILL

Wed. Nov 1. PATRONAL FESTIVAL  
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion  
7.30p.m. Evensong

Every Sunday

9.00a.m. Parish Communion  
10.00a.m. Sunday School  
6.00p.m. Evensong

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY  
AMERSHAM

8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.00a.m. Children's Church  
11.00a.m. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays  
Sung Eucharist  
"2nd & 4th Sundays  
Mattins  
6.00p.m. Evensong

V

RECTOR: The Revd. Allan Campbell, M.A.. Tel. Anersham 1135

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: Revd. W.L. Holder, The Parsonage, Colehill.

Tel: Anersham 722

PRO-CHURCHWARDEN: C. Saunders, Chapel Cottage, Colehill

PRO-CHURCHWARDEN & HON. SECRETARY: N.N. Nicholls, Orchard House,  
Colehill. Tel: Anersham 1834

HON. TREASURER: G.T. Creber, Applecroft, Meadowcot Lane, Colehill

Tel: Anersham 3350

THE REVEREND W. L. HOLDER

As announced in the Newsletter, for reasons of health, the Reverend W. L. Holder has tendered his resignation from his office in Coleshill, to take effect from 30th Noveaber next.

We feel sure that parishioners will wish to show their appreciation of the brave **services** which Mr. Holder has rendered whilst he has been with us since May 1962, and a fund has been opened for that purpose.

Donations should be sent to either of the signatories to this appeal, to the **hon.** treasurer, Mr. **G. T.** Greber, Applecroft, Meadowcroft Lane, Coleshill, or to any **member** of the **Committee**.

A cheque will be presented to Mr. Holder on a suitable occasion and the total will be posted in the porch. A list of the **names** of subscribers, without **mentioning** individual donations, will be given to Mr. Holder.

Cyril Saunders  
Nigel N. Nicholls

Pro-Churchwardens.