

Parish News - May 1973

Brompton Regis Vicarage.

My Dear Friends,

On Good Friday I was very disappointed - no more than that I was appalled. The stain glass window at the east end of Brompton Regis seemed to come alive - it shows you may remember Our Lady and St. John as the only ones by our Lord's side at the cross. And that was all there were in the congregation on Good Friday - TWO people! Forgetting anything which this says about our attitude to the death of Christ it is quite insulting to Fr. Vernon who had prepared the service and sermon and come from Dulverton to lead our worship.

Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all

But not apparently an hour to commemorate the death we so ardently sing about.

However, 'leaving that which is behind', as S. Paul says, 'we press on'. At Easter you all made up for it! The Churches were beautifully decorated and I heard many complimentary remarks about the arrangements. The Eucharists were well attended and the special Sunday evening Service was particularly appreciated, so we do thank Mary Wescott, the Choir, the Readers and those who took part in the Dialogue Sermon. Please will you all accept my own very warm thanks for your kind and generous Easter Offering.

I am sorry that some of you found my Easter Sermon morbid! But at least your comments showed that you were listening, which is always encouraging! I trust that on reflection you will have found it less morbid than you thought.

You will perhaps be encouraged to know that I am going on a course from May 21st - 25th run by the College of Preachers which it is hoped will lead to an improvement in my sermons! (Who said 'Hope springs eternal?')

One priest writing to a newspaper recently said that when he could not get to sleep he always started to read one of his sermons and he fell asleep immediately! If any of you suffer from insomnia I am willing to hire out my old sermons for a small fee!

My prayers and Best Wishes to you all,

Michael Stagg.