

September 1966

My Dear Friends,

The holidays are here at last and many of you have gone away, some to the sea, some to the hills, some abroad, the lucky ones with their families. I more than appreciate the lovely cards which you have sent me and am glad to realize that you are thinking about our lovely little church in Coleshill.

Largely on account of the holidays, congregations are smaller at this time of the year but we have been pleased to welcome at our services various companies of Girl Guides who have been in camp in the village under the auspices of Miss Howard.

However much, on holiday, one may appreciate the freedom from "the daily round, the common task" it is always worthwhile taking an interest in the church at the place where one is staying. Going to a different church offers all sorts of new experiences. The church concerned may be very ancient with its roots in the early days of Christianity. It can offer fresh inspiration and the opportunity of experiencing different kinds of churchmanship.

Have you ever thought of going into a strange church as an encouragement to the local clergy and congregation? In remote places it is not always easy to keep a sense of lively worship or to feel linked with the church at large, but the passing visitor has something to offer which may help. We should always be on the look out to welcome visitors and to make them feel at home. Those who have experienced such a welcome will be happy to extend it to others.

W.L.H.

BAPTISMS

August 14 Graham Antony Bartlett
14 Richard James Parry

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

September 4	Mrs. Holder	September 18	Mrs. Harris
11	The Misses Boston	25	Mrs. Stubbings

COLESHILL SCHOOL TODAY

As related in the June issue of this newsletter, from 1847 until the first Education Act of 1870, Colehill school was maintained by the Church and by grants from the National Society for the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church. After 1870, the salary of the schoolmaster, who from then on had to be a qualified teacher, was paid by the Education Department. (£30 to £90 p.a.)

As at other school small fees were charged and for most of the time this was 2d. per week. The 1919 Act saw the end of "school pence" and it will be interesting to learn whether there is anyone in the village who remembers paying them.

Under the enlightened Act of 1940, the school was registered as an Aided C. of E. School, the Church undertaking 10% of the cost of all major works. In 1958, when alterations were made by having the toilets built within the school building and a staff room built, the Managers found their share of the cost too much. In consequence, the "Aided" status was relinquished and the school became a Ministry controlled school, i.e. controlled by the Divisional Executive of the Buckinghamshire County Council, with six Managers with the Headmaster. The Managers appointed by the Church are now the Revl. A. Campbell M.A. (Chairman) and the Revd. W.L. Holder; by the Parish Council Mr. D. Curling and Mr. R. Stubbings and by the County Council Mrs. G. T. Creber and Miss M. Williams.

The present school runs on modern methods with a permissive atmosphere of interested work. Most of the older children work on individual assignments and the standard is usually very good. The curriculum includes besides Religious Education, Mathematics, English and the Social Studies, Rural Science and Gardening, Handwork, Needlework, Music (including violins, descant and treble recorders at which the children do very well) and Physical Education.

Outside speakers are encouraged to come and talk and the school takes part in the County Music Festivals, sports with Penn Street School and the Area Sports. Visits are made to places of interest, e.g. farms, the Fire Station and London Airport. Today no "child creeps like a snail unwillingly to school".

L.W.B.

SYMBOLS IN CHRISTIAN ART

In the early days of the Church, great use was made of symbols to convey ideas, and early Christian symbolism - originating mainly in a Greek colony in Rome, may be traced in the catacombs.

This article will deal briefly with some of the symbols used in the kneelers which are being made for All Saints Church.



Most of the early symbols represent Christ, well-known monograms being I H S, the combinations of A and  and A H (Ave Maria). The booklet "Signs and Symbols in Christian Art and Architecture" by J. Hope Urwin, issued by the S.P.C.K. - from which much of this article is extracted, holds that the letters I H S do not stand for Jesus Hominum Salvator (Jesus the Saviour of Men) but are abbreviations of the Greek IHCOUS, meaning Jesus. A and , Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet are used to represent Christ as the beginning and the end.

St. John the Baptist called Him the Lamb of God. and He who was the sacrifice for His flock is often shown in art as the Lamb.

For the first thousand years of Christian art, the Holy Spirit was constantly depicted under the form of a dove in reference to the appearance of the Holy Spirit in this guise at the Baptism of Our Lord.

The lily is the flower of Our Lady and the emblem of purity.

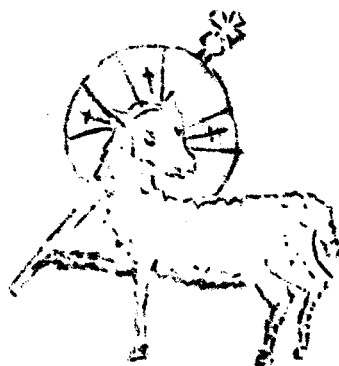
In the catacombs there are many examples of the fish ideograph, which uses the letters of the Greek word for fish as the initials for Jesus Christ the Son of God. The fish is also used to signify the souls of men with obvious reference to the call of St. Peter - "I will make you fishers of men". Various saints are represented with fishes in connection with incidents in their lives.



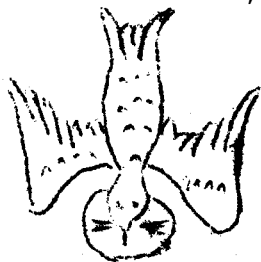
The Cross is the ensign of the Church of Christ and numerous forms are given to it

in art. Of these the commonest forms are the Latin Cross as seen in many churches, the Greek Cross with arms of equal length and the St. Andrew's Cross with shafts of equal length crossed diagonally in the middle. The latter two are blended in the Union Jack.

The Passion is often represented on the reredos, altar frontal and stained glass windows with objects used in connection with the Crucifixion, e.g. the Crown of Thorns, the nails, the pillar and cord.



10th Century



11th Century

Almost every saint in sculpture, in paintings or in stained glass windows can be recognised by the emblem which he or she carries. Often the emblem is an object connected with the life of the saint. St. Peter is generally holding the keys of Heaven and often there is with him a cock - a reminder of the denial.

The four Evangelists have symbolic forms, St. Matthew an angel or a winged man, St. Mark a winged lion, St. Luke a winged calf and St. John an eagle.

It adds to the interest of visiting churches to appreciate Christian symbols and some titles of books on the subject will be published in the next number.



13th Century

THE DIOCESE OF OXFORD

The diocese of Oxford at present includes the counties of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire and is the largest in the Church of England. In olden days, although Berkshire belonged to the Salisbury diocese, both Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire were included in the huge diocese of Lincoln.

In 1542, Oxford was cut off from this group and given a Bishop of its own. It was, however, a very small and poverty stricken area in those days and, according to the late Bishop Kirk, "the Bishops found it so insignificant that they were only too ready as a rule to move to some place of greater dignity if it were offered to them". Three hundred years later, both Berkshire and Buckinghamshire were transferred to Oxford and it was then that a great Bishop - Samuel Wilberforce - set a new standard of episcopal devotion and duty which the Church as yet has not forgotten.

It is strange to think that as late as the early nineteenth century, Amersham parish was still in the Lincoln diocese and the Church possesses documents signed by the then Bishops of Lincoln both in 1704 and 1753. Now in 1966 the Bishop of Oxford has three suffragan Bishops to assist him and the enormous growth of population in this area is leading to renewed discussion as to whether the diocese of Oxford itself should be divided in the foreseeable future.

M.W.

COMMEMORATIVE SEAT

Recently the seating accommodation of the village has been augmented by the installation of a Burma teak seat at Chase Close. This has been donated by the local Women's Institute to mark the 50th birthday of the movement, the first Institute having been founded in Anglesey on 11th September 1915.

Primarily the seat is intended for people who desire to relax and admire the view and not, as might be supposed, for local courtiers.

COLESHILL - BEST KEPT VILLAGE AGAIN

The President of the County of Buckinghamshire Association of Parish Councils, Mr. H. A. Morris, has pleasure in announcing the winners of the Best Kept Village Competition 1966, and extends a cordial invitation to attend the presentation of cups to the winners by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu on Thursday, August 25th at Coleshill at 4.35p.m.

Chesham Bois
Coleshill
Chenies

De Fraine Cup
Morris Cup
Jurney Cup

Population over 1000

500/1000

under ~~2000~~ 500

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of £8. 1. 1d. collected in Coleshill by Mrs. Cossey.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- September 8 W.I. Miss Honor Wyatt. "Portugal on a Shoestring"
10 Coleshill Horticultural Society 21st Anniversary Show to be opened by Countess Howe, 2.30p.m. Village Hall. Entries on official form to C.A.Jerran, Esq. by 8th Sept.
13 Sisterhood Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. W. Bizley of Chalfont
13 Mobile Library Van, Coleshill
15 Mothers' Union, Parish Eoca, Coleshill. Speaker: Mrs. Girling "Why we join the Mothers' Union"
27 Sisterhood. Speaker: Sister Barradell (Amersham Gen. Hosp).
27 Mobile Library Van, Coleshill
29 Mothers' Union Deanery Festival at Dorchester. Coach will leave Coleshill Church 12.40p.m. SHARP. Names to Mrs. Antosiewicz
October 2 HARVEST FESTIVAL

COLESHILL WEEK

in aid of the Village Hall

- Sat. October 1 Dance. Village Hall 8p.m. Tickets from Committee
Sun. 2 Mixed cricket match. Names to Mrs. Ruperti
Wed. 5 Whist Drive, Village Hall 8p.m. Admission 2/6 at door
Fri. 7 Jumble Sale. Articles for Sale to be sent to Village Hall from 2.00 - 7.00p.m. on Thursday Sept. 6th.
Requests for transport to Mrs. Browne, Amersham 1949 or Mrs. Ovington, Amersham 2233.

ALL SAINTS, COLESHILL

Services

1st Sunday in the month: 8.00a.m. Holy Communion
11.00a.m. Matins
- 3.00p.m. Sunday School
6.00p.m. Evensong & Sermon
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th 9.30a.m. Parish Communion
Sundays: 3.00p.m. Sunday School
6.00p.m. Evensong & Sermon
with (on 2nd. Su. day) 12.00noon Holy Communion

ST. ANDREWS, WINCHMORE HILL

1st. Sunday in the month: 9.30a.m. Sunday School
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays: 10.45a.m. Sunday School

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: Revd. W.L.Holder, The Parsonage, Colehill.
(Tel. Amersham 722)

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

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

HON. TREASURER: G. Creber, Applecroft, Meadowcote Lane,
Colehill. (Tel. Amersham 3350)