

The Parish Magazine of FENSTANTON & HILTON

July, 1951

Price 4d.

VICAR :

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SS. Peter and Paul, Fenstanton.

SUNDAY SERVICES :- 8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Sung Eucharist.
3 p.m. Sunday School.
7 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

WEEKDAYS :- Holy Communion at 7 a.m. as announced; on Greater
Saints Days also at 9.30 a.m.

MOTHERS' UNION :- Meeting the second Wednesday in each month at 3 p.m.

S. Mary Magdalene, Hilton

SUNDAY SERVICES :- 9 a.m. Holy Communion
11.15 a.m. Children's Service
5.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar

My Dear People,

“Feast’ng”

July brings Feast Sunday for both Fenstanton and Hilton. I suppose there must be many people who have never realised the essentially **religious** origins of these occasions. The words Feast and Festival are used so indiscriminately now, to describe any kind of celebration or merry-making, that it never occurs to many people that a Feast is a Christian event to be observed by Christian people.

After all our evidence is close to hand. Feast Sunday at Fenstanton is the first Sunday in July, because that is the Sunday next following Saint Peter and Saint Paul’s Day, June 29th; similarly at Hilton, Feast Sunday is always the fourth Sunday in July, because it is the one following (or occurring on, as this year) Saint Mary Magdalene’s Day, July 22nd.

The associations of Feast Week are now with fairs and holidays and entertainment. Indeed they always did have fairs, but they were a sign of rejoicing. In the ages of Faith (up to, shall we say, 300 years ago), they rejoiced as Christians, because they possessed a parish church where the sacraments were administered and the word of eternal life proclaimed; because they were glad to have the Saints for their Patrons and fellow-members of the Kingdom (“I believe in the Communion of Saints”, we still say in the Apostles’ Creed). And there is no doubt that our forefathers went to the Lord’s house for the Lord’s service, as part of their feast-making.

Too many people today content themselves with enjoying the outward signs of the Feast, and do nothing about the worship of God which should be the centre of it. Surely it is a degradation of the word Feast if it is used to mean nothing more than a Fun Fair. It has meant, and it always ought to mean, happiness in a rather higher sense, the happiness of rejoicing and giving thanks to God Almighty because His glory has been manifested in the life of the Saints.

Yours sincerely,

HERBERT MOORE.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
HILTON

II

Some Interior Details

At first glance, you would take it for granted that Hilton Church, as it now stands, was built all at one time. But further investigation reveals that this is not quite so; indeed the order of building seems very similar to that of Fenstanton; that is to say, there is a good deal of rather earlier work in the Chancel and Tower (14th Century); then in between them a later Nave and Aisles have been added. In fact, there is rather a mixture in the Chancel. The windows (the stone “framework”, that is, not the glass) are about 1450, as also is the gable-cross in stone on the east gable. But there are features in the Chancel more than fifty years older than that, for example, the stone bracket with a carved head which is fixed to the east wall (the alms-dish rests on it); and in the south wall the piscina (drain down which is poured water used for cleansing priests’ fingers or sacred vessels) and the small door (now almost hidden by the choir-stalls).

In the matter of windows, Hilton Church is in the same position as many other churches in these parts. Owing to the violence of gales, and no doubt to the misdirected energy of fanatics, who in past ages destroyed holy things in the name of the religion, none of the early glass has survived (except one tiny fragment, still preserved in the Chancel, depicting the head of either Our Lord or a Saint). The glass that we now have, put in during the restorations of the last century, might be worse; though it would probably be more effective if it were plain rather than coloured.

The stained glass in the east window constitutes a memorial to William Theed, who died in 1861, and Ann his wife. I believe that in previous generations this was a well-known and well-respected name in the village. The colours of the window are somewhat glaring, though they soften a little when viewed from a distance. In the centre is depicted the Risen Lord, and around him are the soldiers, set to guard the tomb, showing fear and bewilderment at the event of Easter morning. The pity is that S. Mary Magdalene is not shown; after all, she was the first person actually to meet and speak to the Risen Lord, and she is the Patron Saint in whose honour the Church is dedicated. It seems a missed opportunity that she should not appear in this scene.

(To be continued.)

FENSTANTON

FEAST SUNDAY (in the octave of SS. Peter and Paul, Apostles), July 1st.

8 a.m., Holy Communion.

10 a.m., Sung Eucharist.

3 p.m., Family Service.

7 p.m., Evensong and Sermon.

S. JAMES, Ap., Wednesday, July 25th. 9.30 a.m., Holy Communion.

The Outing

On **Saturday, July 21st**, the members of the Mothers' Union and the children of the Sunday School combine to pay a visit to Wicksteed Park. The charge for parents and M.U. members is 6s. 6d. (which covers coach fare and tea). The cost for Sunday School children is 1s. 3d., for their tea. Everyone is to be responsible for bringing or providing their own lunch.

All who wish to come are asked to let the Vicar know as soon as possible.

The party will set off from the Clock Tower at 9.30 a.m.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

June 3rd.—Michael Charles, son of Stanley Charles and Ivy Rose Ingle.

Collections

	£	s.	d.
Trinity I ...	2	6	1
Trinity II ...	2	14	2
Trinity III ...	2	18	0
Trinity IV ...	1	18	8
Trinity V ...	2	11	9

From the Sunday School: another 250 pennies for S.P.G. from our Ship, which has brought the third flag.

HILTON

FEAST SUNDAY, S. MARY MAGDALENE, July 22nd.

9 a.m., Holy Communion.

11.15 a.m., Children's Service.

5.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

Working Party

You will agree that the Church looks a good deal cleaner and more tidy now. It is because of a good hard week's work put in by a band of helpers. It has made a great difference to the interior of the Church; and it is right that we should place here on record how very grateful we are to them for their labours.

The Fete

The Garden Fete and Dance was a great success. We had one of the best days this summer, and the practical result is that the Church Funds have benefited to the extent of £40. We are very grateful to all who helped and all who supported.

School Achievements

We are very glad to announce that Pamela Lincoln and David Brickwood have won places to Grammar Schools. Pamela will be going to Ramsey, and David to Kimbolton, next term. We congratulate them, and wish them every success in the future. This is indeed an achievement from a school of the size that Hilton's is. There is no doubt that credit is due to Mrs. Frith, the Headteacher.

We also congratulate Marion Darlow. At the County Sports held recently she gained first place in the 150 yards race; and she has been chosen to represent the County at the All England School Sports to be held at Southampton. We hope she will win again.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

June 10th.—Roger Martyn, son of Maurice Fred Charles and Norma Furniss.

Christian Burial

June 13th.—Harriet Billings, aged 86 years.

Collections

	s.	d.
Trinity I ...	11	10
Trinity II	17	0
Trinity III	19	0
Trinity IV	17	6
Trinity V	10	2

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