

Christmas Lunch.

Raffle was won by Madge Smith.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our Christmas Stall on Sunday November 13th, it made £63.

Our Speaker was Mr. Standing who gave us a very interesting talk on the Beccles Museum which is moving to Sir John Leman Old School in Ballygate in September 1995.

Vote of thanks - Kathleen Swallow.

Next meeting: Wednesday Dec. 14th in the Convent at 2.30pm. This is our Christmas meeting so we will have Carols and eats.

Rona Baxter.

-----  
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour,

Gillingham

A very happy occasion was celebrated at Gillingham on 17th November, the completion of the Embroidery Project. In four years eighty hassocks were made by a most dedicated group of people presided over by Mrs. Margaret Knox.

Three priests celebrated Mass, Fr. Gates, Dom Antony Sutch (who came up from Downside in spite of a very tight schedule of important activities, and a painful injury to his knee), and Fr. Hastings, who travelled up from Essex. Fr. Sutch and Fr. Hastings were themselves sponsors of two of the hassocks. Mr. Francis Peck served the Mass.

Mrs. Hilary Wells very kindly brought her electric harmonium so that we were able to sing the "Gloria" and "Sanctus" in Latin from the Missa de Angelis, and two hymns as well. The presence of Hilary's father, Mr. Reg Jones, was much appreciated as a help in leading the singing.

Mrs. Margaret Knox produced the leaflets for the Service and one of our sponsors, Mrs. Neva Valori of Norwich arranged the flowers on the altar. The Sisters kindly lent us extra albs, amices and ceintures.

All the sponsors and embroiderers had received personal invitations from the Trustees, and we were delighted that

so many were able to come. Among sponsors who came from a distance were Mrs. Jane Manners, formerly Jane Trafford of Dunburgh House, a niece of Abbot Trafford of Downside and of Father Aidan Trafford. Mrs. Manners had come up from Petersfield and was accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Trafford - Fr. Hastings brought his nephew, Thomas, who came up from London. Mrs. John Todhunter came from Cromer, Miss Joan Daniel from Gillingham in Suffolk, and Mrs. Valori from Norwich. It was nice to welcome Mrs. Dawson back to Gillingham, and of course the occasion would not have been complete without the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Clarke who now live in Dereham.

Sadly, some of our number involved in this project, have died in the last four years - Fr. Gates remembered them in the bidding prayers, and I think they were with us in our celebration; My dear husband, Maria Matthews, Aidie Fraser and Netta Stevenson.

As Father Gates reminded us that all who were involved in any way in this great beautification to our church did it to the Glory of God - I think the very devotional Mass in which we all shared brought this point home to us.

After Mass, the Trustees were delighted to entertain the congregation to a buffet lunch at Boundary Farm.

Mary A.M. Bramley (Chairman of Trustees)  
 Robin Bramley) Trustees  
 Clare Valori )

-----  
SECOND WORLD WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE  
ST. BENET'S MINSTER, BECCLES

Our parish project for the erection of the above in St. Benet's Church is continuing to progress and I am pleased to report that details have now been received of six parishioners who lost their lives in the Second World War.

Costings have been obtained from Abbey Memorials who happen to have in stock a piece of alabaster marble similar to that used on the engraved portion of the existing First World War Memorial and they estimate that the marble slab size approximately 20" x 9" x 1" thick with a moulded edge