

'DELIGHTED' WITH HIS WELCOME

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by Laurence Darby



The Rev. Trevor-Morgan pictured with his family on the morning of his induction. The girls in his life are daughter Verity, his wife Jean, married daughter Mrs. Felicity Siviter and youngest daughter Rachel. Photo: George Armit.

PEALS from 12 bells rang out from a Priory Church packed to capacity to welcome the new Vicar when he was formally instituted and inducted by the Bishop of Winchester, the Rt. Rev. Dr. John Taylor, and his Archdeacon on Friday.

The Mayor, Coun. Eric Spreadbury, and Town Clerk, Mr. John Macfadyen, represented the borough, and the congregation included members of other churches in the town and of the Rev. Trevor-Morgan's former parish of

Stourbridge," Touches" of Grandsire Cinques rang before and after the service. On Sunday the ringers met specially early before Evensong to ring a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters, 1,259 changes.

The ringers were Tony Cross, Catherine Davis, Gillian Davis, Christopher Newbold, Rosemary Shearing, Alastair Neale, Arthur Davis, Colin Dewsnap and Patrick Matthews.

THE new Vicar of Christchurch, the Rev. Basil Trevor-Morgan, and his wife Jean are settling "slowly and quietly" into their new life at the church and the Vicarage in Quay Road.

They have been in the town for nearly three weeks, keeping a low profile and trying to get the house as organised as possible, as the Vicar told me on Wednesday.

LUNCH

On Friday 80 former parishioners from Stourbridge in Worcestershire travelled down for his induction, and several of them took the opportunity of staying for the weekend.

"We had 18 for lunch on Saturday and were delighted to see them," said Mr. Trevor-Morgan.

But by the end of Sunday evening both he and his wife were tired out.

"What with leaving our old parish, coming here to another house, the institution itself, guests over the weekend and services on Sunday, we were exhausted."

Although the couple have visited Christchurch before, staying in their caravan on the Holmsley Airfield Park for the week after Easter for many years, they had never worshipped in the Priory until the move.

DELIGHTED

"It's a magnificent church," he said, commenting that he would not be making any changes in the foreseeable future. "I shall fit into whatever is arranged for the time being and if necessary as time goes on I shall see what can be done."

The vicar is delighted with the welcome he has received in Christchurch. "People have been marvellous. I met many on Friday night and many more on Sunday. The telephone has hardly been silent since I arrived and everyone is being most kind and helpful. I only hope I can live up to their expectations," he said.

A few changes have been made to the 15-room vicarage since the Trevor-Morgans moved in, to try to make it more comfortable and workable. And unpacking is still in progress.

The family lived in a large old house in the centre of Stourbridge, but it was demolished to make way for town centre development and so they moved into a modern house.

"Then we vowed not to live in an old house again, but of course we never envisaged anything like this Vicarage. It's a wonderful house, but we haven't entirely found our way round it yet."

During school terms the Rev. and Mrs. Trevor-Morgan will live alone in the vicarage, to be joined by their two youngest daughters in holiday times.

The new vicar is a keen sailor and hopes to join Christchurch Sailing Club, He is also currently president of the Stourbridge Rotary Club, and will transfer to the Christchurch club as soon as possible.

Mr. Trevor-Morgan is also interested in music, and hopes to support the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra whenever there is time to go to the concerts.

He has admired them on records for many years and is looking forward to the opportunity of hearing them play.

The new vicar is essentially an approachable man and should make friends in Christchurch.