

Appendix 2

1779 Visitation: Bishop Ross' Queries

DEAN-STREET, SOUTH AUDLEY SQUARE, *March 15, 1779.*

GOOD BROTHER,

IT being my Purpose, with God's Assistance, to hold my primary Visitation this Summer, I have drawn up a Paper of Enquiries, leaving a void Space under each of them, in which I desire you to set down your several Answers plainly and distinctly; and to send them, to me at *Exeter*, by the 15th of *May* next, signed with your Name, signifying at the same Time how a Letter directed to you by the General Post may best find you. I heartily commend you to the Blessing of Almighty God, and remain,

Reverend Sir,

Your faithful Friend and Brother,

J. EXETER.

- I. Do you reside personally upon you Cure, and in your Parsonage or Vicarage-House? If not, where do you reside? And what is the Reason of your Non-Residence? Have you a Curate Resident, who is duly licenced, and with what Salary? Have you any Lecturer? What is his Name? And how is he provided for?
- II. Have you any more Benefices than one? If another, what, and where is it?
- III. Do you perform Divine Service at any Church besides your own? and where?
- IV. How often is Divine Service performed in your Church? If not twice on the Lord's Day, with a Sermon in the Morning, for what Reason?
- V. How often is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered? And what Number of Communicants have you?
- VI. At what Times do you catechise the Youth of your Parish?
- VII. Is your Church and Chancel in good Repair, and your Church-yard well kept? And have you all Things decent for divine Service?
- VIII. Have you a Terrier of the Glebe Lands, Houses, &c. according to the Tenor of the 87th Canon? If not, let one be made and delivered in at the Visitation properly signed.
- IX. What Number of Families have you in your Parish?

- X. Have you any Chapel within your Parish? Who nominates to it? By whom is it served? How served? And with what is it supported?**
- XI. Have you any reputed Papists in your Parish, and how many? Have you any Meeting-Houses for Dissenting Congregations? How many? And of what Denomination? Who are their Teachers?**
- XII. Have you any publick or other School in your Parish? Any Alms-Houses, Hospital, or other charitable Endowment? Are they duly managed according to the Direction of their Founders? Have you any parochial Library?**
- XIII. Have any Lands or Tenements, or other Benefactions, been left for any pious and charitable Uses? And are they duly applied?**

It would be, at this Time, a further Satisfaction to me if you would write down for me upon this Paper, the Dates of your Insitution (or Collation) and Priest's Orders.

[Back]

To the Revd the Minister of Ringmore

Chanter 232B, 576

1. Residence, curate and lecturer: I reside {at Mothecombe}, by leave of the late Bishop, at Mothecombe in the Parish of Holbeton about three miles from Rinmore, one of the smallest Parishes in the Diocese, which I serve Myself two thirds of the year, & am assisted by a Clergyman, who lives about a mile distant from my Church, the other third whilst I reside at Totnes, in the neighbourhood of my other Living of Staverton. No Lecturer at either Rinmore or Staverton. I have a Curate at Staverton who has lately taken the Curacy at £40 per annum & Surplice Fees.
2. Other benefices: I have the Vicarage of Staverton, & Rectory of Rinmore.
3. Divine service at other churches: At none.
4. Frequency of divine service: Twice eight months in the year, & once the other four.
5. Frequency of communion: Four times in the year to about ten Communicants.
6. Catechising of children: Generally about Whitsunday.
7. Church fabric: Church, Chancel, & other things tolerably decent.
8. Glebe terrier: There is a proper Terrier.
9. Number of families: In the Parish of Rinmore fifty seven.
10. Chapels: None.
11. Papists, dissenters and meeting houses: None.
12. School, alms-houses, hospital and charitable endowments: None.
13. Charity: None.

Priest's orders and institution: My Institution to Rinmore bears Date Oct. 3^d 1759

[My Institution] to Saverton Dec --- 19th 1759

Priest's Orders Sep. 19th 1756

Thos. Baker

(inst. 1759 d. 1803)

Rinmore, Deanery of Woodley

Chanter 225B, 549-550

1. Population and dissenters: There are in the Parish of Ringmore forty five Families, of these there are three persons Anabaptists and one Quaker: There is not any licenced or other Meeting House of Dissenters in our parish.
Elias Witheare
2. Public or charity schools: There is no publick or Charity school, endowed or otherwise maintain'd in my parish.
Tho. Heskett
3. Alms-house, hospital or charitable endowment: There is not in our Parish any Alms-house, Hospital, or other Charitable Endowment: There have not been Left any Lands or Tenements for the Repair of the Church or other pious Use.
Elias Witheare
4. Residence upon cure: I do not reside personally in the Parsonage house of Rinmore, but in the Parsonage house of Aveton=Gifford.
Tho. Heskett
5. Curate: I have a Licenc'd curate the Revd Mr. Elias Withear, who is not resident within the parish, but so near, yt he may conveniently perform all the duty's both in the church & parish. He lives within 1/2 a mile of the parish church of Rinmore, with his father in law. Mr. John Adams.
Tho. Heskett
6. Divine service at other churches: I do perform Divine Service once a month at Kingston a neighbouring Parish, but take care to perform Divine Service in ye parish Church of Ringmore twice the same Day.
Elias Witheare
7. Frequency of divine service: I perform Divine Service in my Church twice every Lord's Day with one Sermon in the Morning and another in the afternoon.
Elias Witheare
8. Frequency of communion: I administer the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper four times a year in my Church.
Elias Witheare
9. Number of communicants: There are in the parish of Ringmore about fifty Communicants; Thirty of them usually receive. The number of them who communicated at Easter Last past was twenty six.
Elias Witheare
10. Catechising of children: I generally give Notice of my intention to Catechize the Children & Servants of my parish on Trinity Sunday, & begin Catechizing them the Sunday following, continuing it every Sunday



till I have gone thro' the whole parish. I preach twice in the Day. I catechize in the Desk & read a catechetical Lecture each time. My Parishioners do not send those children & servants of theirs who have not learnt, but those who have learnt their catechism at home to be examined by me.
Elias Witheare

11. Chapels or chapels in ruins; I do not certainly know of any chapel within my Parish. There is none that has been us'd as such for more than forty years, if ever. There is a room us'd as a Barn, or stable, which is said to have been a chapel, & is called by yt name, but on ye utmost inquiry made above forty years since, I could not get any certainty yt it was ever us'd as such.
Tho. Hesket

Ringmore R.... Elias Whitheare A.B.

Licenced Curate Dec: 21. 1741. Presb: Dec. 20. 1741. Stephen Exon.

[*Explanation*]

