

"BLESS MY DOLL, PLEASE" -
AND THE VICAR DID

To the parish church in Northfleet, Kent, come two hundred children for a service that relives the message of Xmas month. With them, they bring their most treasured possessions - their dolls, their galliwags, their teddybears. For this is to be a service especially for them - asked for by their young owners.

The children of Northfleet join in a simple act of faith a ceremony, that bears out the spirit of Xmas time.

The service came about when two little girls asked the vicar of Northfleet to "christen" their dolls. This, he explained to them, was impossible. Instead, he arranged this service of blessing. Calling each doll by its name, the vicar sprinkles them with holy water, and then pronounces the blessing.

If there is anything that will endure
The eye of God, because it is still pure,
It is the spirit of the child,
Fresh from his hand, and therefore undefiled.