

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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January 1st, 1991

Our Dear Friends,

There is no harm in asking questions: in fact it is an excellent thing to do. I once had a Bible Class at St. George's Church, Battersea where I commenced work in the ministry in 1958. They were a lively lot, always asking questions, some questions were sensible and some were silly. I would sooner have had foolish questions than stolid indifference. I would not have minded if a boy asked me, "Who killed the Dead Sea?" At least it would show that he had a sense of humour, and that alone could give me a point of contact!

But there are serious problems in the minds of many people today and people have a right to ask questions. One of the miracles of the Bible is that within its pages lie the solutions of so many modern problems. It is the most up-to-date book in the world. It contains the answers to all our great questions.

Talking to "Newly Weds" with marriage problems I have asked myself some questions. Why is it that relationships are often better before marriage than after? Why do many wives feel so trapped, so hopeless? Why do so many women feel that they were lured into marriage under the false pretenses of being loved, honoured, and cherished?

Why do so many men discover that they have a temper after they have got married? Why don't so many men know how self-centred they are? There are a lot of factors I suppose, and the least embarrassing of them is ignorance.

Men and women tend to have different priorities, different needs and tend to speak different languages of love. It isn't for nothing that God says to men, "Love your wife as Christ loved the believers," or, as we love our own bodies. Now that statement is as profound as any man can handle. For a fuller version of it do read Ephesians 5 25-32.

I'm beginning to believe that you won't find many hopelessly discouraged wives where their husbands follow that pattern of giving their wives (a) love, (b) sacrifice, (c) conversation, (d) affection, (e) honour, and (f) commitment: to the ultimate well being and contentment of them both.

Where did men get the idea that loving their wives would demand less of them than they gave in their courting days? Where did men get the idea that they could easily go through financial difficulties, poor health, family worries, anxiety and tears without showing more honour and consideration to their life partners than they gave in their courting days? — and not less!

Let us pray for one another and God will give us a very happy New Year.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY FOR JANUARY 1991

Friday, January 4th

7.00 p.m. Parish Christmas Party at St. John's Hall, Ansley Common.

Sunday, January 6th — Epiphany

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer A.S.B. and Adult Baptism.

6.30 p.m. Formal Evening Prayer, 1662 Prayer Book.

Theme: "Acts Chapter One."

Wednesday, January 9th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, January 11th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, January 13th

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service, Theme: "Acts Chapter Two."

Monday, January 14th

6.30 p.m. Children's Club, Village Hall.

Wednesday, January 16th

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies' Association.

Thursday, January 17th

7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council Meeting at St. John's.

Friday, January 18th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, January 20th

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion, Theme: "Acts Chapter Three."

Wednesday, January 23rd

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday, January 24th

7.45 p.m. "A Sponsored Knit" in the Village Church Hall.

Friday, January 25th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, January 27th

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Theme: "Acts Chapter Four."

Wednesday, January 30th

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies' Association.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals — "Lead me Lord, in the Everlasting Way."

Dec. 3—Ellen Julia Parker, aged 81 years of Ansley Village.

Dec. 11—Edith Lilian McKie, aged 75 years of Ansley Common.

Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child

"Let the Children come to Me do not stop them."

Dec. 16—Sarah Emily Toon of Ansley Village.

Dec. 16—Andrew Cove of Ansley Village.

Parish Christmas Party will be in St. John's Hall at 7.00 p.m., on Friday, January 4th. Everyone is welcome to this event. There is a food list in circulation around the parish. Do choose from that list the eats you would like to contribute, so that there will be a good variety. If you would like a lift do please ask, there will be spare seats in the many cars going to St. John's.

If you read lessons or lead a prayer at the Church Services do please make a note of Thursday, February 7th at 7.30 p.m.; when Pat Williams will be leading an evening in Church called "Oral Skills in Church." This is, of course, an occasion open to anybody.

On Friday, February 1st there will be a service of Prayer and Praise in Church at 7.30 p.m. This informal service is open to all and is being led by the music group from St. Andrews Church, Bedworth.

Our Share to the Diocese known as the "quota," that this Church has to pay to the Coventry Diocese for 1991 amounts to £5942. This is approximately £114.50 per week. It is about £600 more than what was paid for the year 1990. That is £11.50 more per week. We have 87 people registered on the electoral roll. It needs that number to give £1.32 weekly for us to meet our obligation. There are also many other commitments. Such as heating and lighting, insurance, transport, repairs, to name just a few items. So we need an average of £175 per week to break even. The following weekly collection for November 1990 gives us an idea how far short of our target we fall.

November 4—£119.97	deficite of £55.03
November 11—£114.47	deficite of £60.53
November 18—£148.00	deficite of £27.00
November 25—£119.82	deficite of £55.18

Total deficite for November £197.74

Margaret Antill has kindly organised the "Free Will Offering" envelopes to be available for me to pick up at Church. If you would like to join this scheme please take a packet of envelopes for the year and add your name to the list. Margaret also does the Covenant Scheme, enabling us to claim 30% more per £1 covenanted from the Charity Scheme run by the Government. If you are eligible for that, do arrange with Margaret to receive the forms.

Hospital Lay Visitors will be Commissioned in the George Eliot Chapel at 3.00 p.m., on Sunday, January 20th. Barbara Batts is amongst those who have trained for this work. Let us remember her today as she commences this important ministry amongst the sick.

On Thursday, January 24th in the Village Church Hall there will be a "Sponsored Knit" evening. If you would like to join in this event please obtain your form from Marcia Sutton. Telephone 392488. Refreshments will be served during the course of the evening's event which commences at 7.45 p.m.

The Supper Dance last month made a very pleasant evening. The food was excellent and tastefully presented; the hall was warm, the company was good and we were all grateful to Mr & Mrs. A. Onions for so kindly providing the music and making the evening so enjoyable. Perhaps we can persuade David Cove, to whom we are in debt (together with all the many helpers) for organising the event, to do it again sometime in the future.

Children's Club in Ansley Village Hall meet on Monday, January 14th at 6.30 p.m. An outing to the swimming baths is arranged for Monday, January 21st, leaving the hall at 5.45 p.m. Parents are asked to help with the transport. The children wishing to go please contact Mrs. Margaret Oliver, 33 Nuthurst Crescent by January 14th.

Ansley Church Diaries are for sale price £1 each. The sale of the diary will help to boost the hall funds for the purchase of a new heating system. More than that it is a useful booklet full of good advice easily put into the pocket or handbag and will make a useful New Year present, either for yourself and or for your friends.

The Bus. The cost of running a bus every Sunday night is getting too expensive. So at the Church Council meeting in December it was decided that cars could be made available.

The following people have very kindly offered seats in their cars to carry people to and from the Church for the 6.30 p.m., service following the same timetable used by the bus.

Birchley Heath 6.10 p.m.

St. John's, Ansley Common 6.15 p.m.

Croft Mead, Ansley Village 6.10 p.m.

Birmingham Road, Ansley Village 6.15 p.m.

David Morley, David Cove, Joyce Allton, Barbara Batts, Florrie Priest, George & Winnie Ponder, James & Catherine Jasper.

A number of other cars are also available. Should there be any problems please ring the Vicarage 396403 before 3.00 p.m., on any Sunday to allow sufficient time to make arrangements.

The Christmas Bazaar was eventually held on Saturday, December 16th having been postponed the previous Saturday owing to the snow! It was kind of so many friends to work together for that day and those who came to buy. The result was £170. Very many thanks.

Gift Day 1991 is on Sunday, June 16th. Boxes are available in Church and we are invited to take one and make an extra regular contribution towards the three projects listed on the box label namely:

A notice board at Birchley Heath;

New toilets at St. John's, Ansley Common;

New heating at the Church Hall, Ansley Village.

Flower List for 1991 is in the Church porch. Do put your name on a Sunday suitable for you: either to place flowers in memory of some loved one, or to mark a special occasion, or as an act of worship.