

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

Parish including Birchley Heath, Ansley Common,
Ansley Village, Church End.

No. 847

JANUARY 1996

Price 20p



Vicar:

Reverend JAMES R. JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

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The Vicarage, Ansley Village, Nuneaton CV10 9PS

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Sunday Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Ansley Common St, John's 6.20 p.m.

Return Journey from Parish Church 7.45 p.m.

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Ansley Vicarage

January 1st, 1996

Our Dear Friends,

Is 1996 going to be any different? Good Question!

At his inauguration as American President in 1961 John Kennedy said, "As man has created all his problems, so too can he solve them."

That prompts me to ask another question, and it is this. If we can solve our problems, when are we going to start?

What kind of nation makes abortion into an established practice? Or gambling into a public obsession? Or Sunday into a day of shopping?

Walk round any part of our parish and we see signs of vandalism, hostility, and aggression or hear words of abuse, blasphemy and hatred, and we are seeing a society at war with itself.

All the time we want to have our cake and eat it. We want the Church to be there for the big occasions—personal and national—but we will not support the Church the rest of the time or listen to what it teaches. Christianity is not a pick and mix religion. It is a coherent way of life, based on loving, respectful care for God and neighbour. We are far from this, and all the things we want in our society such as justice, falling crime, hope for the young, and decency; will only come if we are serious about Christianity in its entirety, not just the bits we like. God didn't give us the Ten Commandments to choose from, for it is only together that they provide a secure way of living.

A commitment to Jesus and His principles of justice and love, will make the Christian way stand out as the answer to the ills of the world. And it is! But the world must see it to believe it.

A boy from the South Sea islands was in a school where the missionary Bishop John Selwyn taught. The boy had come from a barbarous society, and one day the Bishop had to rebuke him sternly for his behaviour. The boy instantly flew into a passion and struck the Bishop a cruel blow in the face. The Bishop said nothing, but turned and walked quietly away. The boy's behaviour went from bad to worse, until he had to be returned to his own island as incurable. There he soon lapsed into all the debasements of the people among whom he lived.

Many years later, a missionary in that island was called upon to visit a sick man. It was Bishop Selwyn's old student. He was dying and wanted to be baptised as a Christian. After the preparation was done and he was baptised the missionary asked him whether he wanted to take a new name to mark his conversion. "Call me John Selwyn," the dying man replied, "because he taught me what Christ was like that day when I struck him."

Welcome the Lord into your NEW YEAR,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 7th

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer, A.S.B.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, B.C.P.

Wednesday, January 10th

- 8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday, January 11th

- 7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council.

Sunday, January 14th

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

Friday, January 19th

- 7.30 p.m. Film Evening and Apple Pie Supper.

Sunday, January 21st

- 10.30 a.m. Family Service.
- 6.30 p.m. Parish Communion.

Wednesday, January 24th

- 8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

Sunday, January 28th

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, A.S.B.

Every Tuesday — in the Village Church Hall

- 10.00 a.m. Senior Citizens.
- 6.00 p.m. Children's Club.
- 7.45 p.m. Youth Club.

Every Thursday — in the Village Church Hall

- 10.30 a.m. Mums and Toddlers.
- in St. John's Church Hall**
- 6.30 p.m. Explorers Club.

Every Friday

- 6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism "That when he comes of age he may embrace the Faith for himself"

Dec. 3—Connor Luke Barton, of 94 Ansley Common.

At the Crematorium

Dec. 18—Naomi Smith, 15 years, of Bretts Hall Estate.

Internment of Ashes

Nov. 25—Joan Elizabeth Benn, 68 years, of Ansley Village.

Dec. 8—Emily Elizabeth Ray, still birth of Charity Farm.

Dec. 13—William Gill, 74 years, of Nuneaton, formerly of St. Lawrence Road.

Funeral "The Lord is my Shepherd"

Dec. 11—Frank Arnold, aged 82 years, of Oldbury Nursing Home, formerly of Cloverfields Cottages.

Frank Arnold passed away on Friday, December 1st. Many people gathered together at the Parish Church to give thanks to God for his life and work. His was a very active and full life. He was a member of the Village Tennis Club. He served in the Tank Division during the last war. Stationed mainly in the Middle East. He trained at Saltley College and taught at Rugby School, travelling there on a B.S.A. motorbike. He later moved to Arbury School, and finally to Manor Park School, from where he retired. He was described in such warm terms as, "a teacher and a gentleman."

Frank was unique. He gave considerable time to the Parish Church. It was the place he loved most. As a child, worshipping with the family. As an adult, in the Choir; and taking leadership positions in which he gave his best and served with distinction. Because of the way he gave himself, his time, his skills, his loyalty, his generosity; his place will be very hard to fill.

The Parish join those who attended the funeral to thank God for his life and example to us all.

Ansley Social Club was the venue for the visit of Fiona Castle last month. She spoke to us very movingly of her experiences, and especially of losing her husband, Roy. Many were helped by her talk. Jean Roberts, Eunice Harris and Doreen Oldroyd presented her with a cheque for £617 on behalf of the Social Club to go towards the project set up by Roy before his death, The Lung Cancer Research Centre which will be the first of its kind in the world. From the sale of the tickets a further £153 was sent to Fiona. The Social Club Committee provided for us very well on this important occasion and we appreciate all they did to make us so welcome and warm. Willing helpers from our congregation provided a hot 'cuppa.' Thank you so much.

Apple Pie Supper and Film Evening will be held in the Village Church Hall on Friday, January 19th. This promises to be an enjoyable occasion. The films include local Warwickshire countryside, and various other titles of interest. Available in the interval will be delicious home made apple pies served with various cheeses or fresh cream. A good evening out for all the family.

At our last P.C.C. meeting four dates were chosen for the next meetings. They are as follows, Thursday, January 11th at the Village Church Hall, Thursday, February 15th, Thursday, March 21st. Thursday, March 28th will be the Annual General Meeting to which all in the parish are invited to attend. Those on the electoral roll of the Parish Church of Ansley are entitled to vote.

Electoral Roll is being renewed in all churches this year. Please ensure that you fill in a new form should you want to be on our electoral roll for this new period of five years. Forms completed should be handed in to either Marcia Sutton or Margaret Antill, by the closing date of March 15th to be eligible to vote at this forthcoming A.G.M.

The Parish Share towards Diocesan expenses for this year is £9,914. This amounts to £190 per week. This is approximately £30 per week more than last year.

Hartshill Scout Group are looking to recruit more Scouts, as well as Scout and Beaver leaders. Those interested should contact Paul Ludford for the Scouts telephone 01203 392814; and Diane Ludford for the Beavers.

Listed amongst the fund raising events for this year towards the **New Building** are as follows:

January 19th—Film Night 7.30 p.m.

February 20th—Pancakes 8.00 p.m.

March 22nd—Dine on Wheels 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

April 27th—Children's Talent

May 11th & 12th—Craft Event

June 29th & 30th—Open Gardens

September—Barn Dance

Programme for Lent this year is on the theme of **The Kingdom** and will be at various Churches in the Ley Group on Sunday nights. Our turn will come on the 3rd of March when The Rev. John Philpot will preach on "The Kingdom at Large."

On Sunday, March 24th The Rev. David Cozens will preach at St. Michael's, New Arley. We shall join them for that Service.

What can the Parent of a Teenager Do ? How do you cope with all the arguing, the swinging moods, the outright rebellion ? How do you help teenagers become more co-operative and responsible ?

Is it possible for parents and teenagers to learn to live together with respect for one another ?

These will be some of the questions dealt with at a series of meetings at St. Paul's, Stockingford on Tuesdays, commencing January 16th to February 20th, 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. An open invitation is given.

IN MEMORY

We remember with thanks Frank Arnold's life in this Parish.

His great service to this Church, the congregation and the people of this Parish.

His many years as Church Warden.

Always willing to listen to anyone, and always knew the feelings of the Parish.

How to get the best from people and many were roped in to do jobs for the Church.

It was also apparent after he could no longer attend this Church just how many jobs and how much organising he did behind the scenes. "Frank used to do it," was a regular comment, as a last minute rush ensued before various events when, mundane but necessary actions had been overlooked.

Anthony Truelove