

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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The Vicar would like to hear of cases of sickness. Please send messages to the Vicarage.

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The Vicarage,
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1st February, 1987

Our Dear Friends,

An item on the B.B.C. six o'clock news some weeks ago reported an interesting work being done amongst drug addicts in Hong Kong by an English woman Jackie Pullinger. Her aim was clearly conveyed to the viewers. The reporter asked how she found a cure for those addicted to opium. "Opium was no problem," Jackie claimed, then she went on to explain. "All you have to do with anyone who has an opium or a heroin problem or any other kind of addiction is to lock them in a room for a week. Certainly they suffer agonies during the process of coming off the drug; they may even lose their sanity, but they will lose their physical dependence. However, the cure does not last. As soon as you unlock the door they go straight out to take whatever drug it is to which they are addicted, because their mind and their heart continue to crave for it with a force they can not possibly control themselves. Only Jesus, the Lord of life, can settle a man's heart inside, and take away the craving."

An insight into her kind of ministry is conveyed very clearly in her book, 'Chasing the Dragon!' She writes:—"I asked Christopher, 'Who do you think Jesus came into the world for?' he did not reply. 'Was it for rich or poor people?' I continued, Chris answered, 'He came for poor people,' 'But does He love good people or bad people?' I probed. 'Jesus loves good people,' was his dismal reply. 'You're wrong, do you know if Jesus were alive today He'd spend a lot of His time in the street with well known criminals—not waiting in a nice building for the good guys to turn up.' 'Why did He do that?' Christopher asked incredulously. 'Because He came to save the bad ones—the lost ones—those who have done wrong.' Chris was clearly overwhelmed by what he had heard. She went on 'It's so simple—all you have to do is to come to Jesus to be washed clean.' Christopher was talking quietly, he was not talking to me; he was admitting to Jesus how he had failed in his life and asking Him to make him clean. Sitting by the dusty roadside he became a Christian.'

This piece of news together with so much information from all parts of the world, including our own British Isles, conveys the truth that God is for real to all who will personally respond to Him. The idea that appears to be widely held, that Christianity is irrelevant to daily life, is an idea that is based on ignorance which has led most people into the greatest deception. All who care to spend a little time examining the evidence may soon find themselves on their knees.

God bless you,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR OF SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 1st — Epiphany 4

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion — 'God's building.'
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Sunday, February 8th — Epiphany 5

- 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion — 'Who Knows it all?'
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Monday, February 9th to Friday, February 13th

6 o'clock Club for boys and girls in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Sunday, February 15th — Ninth before Easter

- 11.00 a.m. Family Service.
- 6.30 p.m. Valentine Service — 'God's recipe for a happy marriage.' A special invitation to all couples married in Ansley Church during 1986.

Sunday, February 22nd — Eighth before Easter

- 10.00 a.m. Family Service at St. John's, Ansley Common.
- 11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Baptism — 'The Call to repentance and faith.'
- 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion — 'Four friends.'

Make sure to obtain your copy of the video —

"Jesus then and Now," buy it for £29.95. This 240 minute video cassette is excellent value and also includes a free copy of the accompanying book worth £4.95 or available for hire today from your local video shop.

Congratulations to Bob Blenkinsop, 4 Park Cottages in being the first (and only) person to come up with the correct answer to the quiz in last month's magazine.

The missing word is 'Grate.' So the answer reads: If the grate be empty put coal on, If the grate be full stop putting coal on.

We trust that Bob will find some useful book on which to spend his token.

TEAR FUND

In the Parish Magazine last October we gave an outline of the work of TEARFUND and TEARCRAFT and our intention to support by Prayer, Concern and Giving. A number of people have expressed their wish to fulfill our Christian obligation to support the spread of the Good News of Jesus overseas. Miss Diana Kealey, a member of our Church Council, has agreed to be our representative. We will observe National Tear Fund Day which is Sunday, March 1st, when visual information will be shown of the Society's work.

DAILY PRAYER DIARY
SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR EACH DAY
OF THE WEEK

Monday

Pray for the sick and elderly in these cold winter months.
Try to visit someone who may be lonely.

Tuesday

Pray that as the Church of Christ in Ansley we may love
one another as Christ loves us.

Wednesday

Pray for the Bible Society that our gifts may help to buy
Bibles for the people of Papua New Guinea who we support.
Pray for our representatives—George and Winnie Ponder.

Thursday

Pray for the children and young people of our Parish. Sunday
School, Pathfinders, Ansley Common 6 o'clock Club and
Ansley Village 6 o'clock Club.

Friday

Pray for Tear Fund especially National Tear Fund Sunday
March 1st and our launch of support in this Parish and
representative Diana Kealey.

Saturday

Pray for "Call to Mission" launched by our Bishop, that all
of us may desire to share our faith with people.

Sunday

Pray for our Sunday worship that we may all be 'Alive' in
the Spirit. Pray for our Special Valentine Day Service, when
people married in this Church will receive a special
invitation.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, March 6th at 7.30 p.m., at the Friends Meeting House,
Hartshill. Speaker: Catherine A. Jasper.

Thursday, February 26th at 7.30 p.m., at the Village Hall. Film
Show including the 1966 Pageant.

ANSLEY VILLAGE 6 O'CLOCK CLUB
for boys and girls

Every night from Monday, February 9th to Friday, February 13th.

PATHFINDERS
for young people over 11 years

Every Monday in the Village Church Hall at 6.45 p.m.

Programme for FEBRUARY

2nd—Baths; 9th—6 o'clock Club; 16th—Tear Fund Project;
23rd—Tear Fund Project.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

For every teenager who dies from abusing other drugs, 100 die from alcohol—related causes—mostly in driving accidents. While life expectancy was rising regularly in every other age group, it was going down among those aged between 16 years and 24 years because of alcohol abuse. This fact was stated by Sir John Garlick, chairman of Alcohol Concern at a conference last month.

BEATITUDES FOR MARRIED COUPLES

- 1—**Happy are the husband and wife** who continue to be affectionate, considerate and loving after the wedding bells have ceased ringing.
- 2—**Happy are the husband and wife** who are as polite and courteous to one another as they are to their friends.
- 3—**Happy are they** who have a sense of humour, for this attribute will be a handy shock absorber.
- 4—**Happy are they who love their mates** more than any other person in the world, and who joyfully fulfil their marriage vow of a lifetime of fidelity and mutual helpfulness to each other.
- 5—**Happy are they** who remember to thank God for their food before they eat it, and who set aside some time each day to read the Bible and Pray.
- 6—**Happy are they** who attain parenthood, for children are a heritage of the Lord.
- 7—**Happy are those mates** who never speak loudly to each other and who make their home a place "where seldom is heard a discouraging word."
- 8—**Happy are the husband and wife** who faithfully attend worship in their Church together.
- 9—**Happy are the husband and wife** who can work out their problems of adjustments without interference from relatives.
- 10—**Happy is the couple** who have a complete understanding about financial matters and who have worked out perfect partnership with all the money under the control of both.
- 11—**Happy are the husband and wife** who humbly dedicate their lives and their home to Christ and practice the teachings of Christ in their home by being unselfish, loyal and loving.

Author unknown.