

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 812

FEBRUARY 1993

Price 15p



Vicar:

Reverend JAMES R. JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

Mrs. CATHERINE A. JASPER

The Vicarage, Ansley Village, Nuneaton CV10 9PS

Telephone: Chapel End 396403

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.

Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel.: (0203) 382902

1st February, 1993

Our Dear Friends,

A little girl once broke a vase. "Mummy, I've broken your precious vase—I'm so sorry," she said, taking the bits to her mother. "It's all right, my dear," her mother replied, "It was an accident, I forgive you, put it in the dustbin."

The next day the girl retrieved the broken pieces, took them to her mother and said, "Mummy—look, here's your vase. I broke it and I'm very sorry." "I forgave you yesterday," said her mother. "Put it in the dustbin." The girl obeyed; but again and again she returned with the pieces, asking for forgiveness. At last her mother said, "Look, you must trust me, I told you that I forgave you and I meant it, Now don't think about it any more."

Many today need peace and reassurance about their past sins and present guilt.

The key to accepting God's forgiveness and receiving peace about our past is knowing the Saviour. That was true for the famous Indian, Sadhu Sundar Singh who, when he was asked, "What have you found in Christianity that you did not find in your old religion?" replied, "I found the dear Lord Jesus." Such was Sadhu's passion for the One who had given him peace about his past sins.

Many today are finding Jesus. A Nottinghamshire miner illustrated his mixed up feelings by having the letters L.O.V.E. tattooed on the fingers of one hand and the letters H.A.T.E. tattooed on the fingers of his other hand. He admits to showing a great deal more hate than love. During the miners' strike he joined a gang of like-minded men who nightly beat up the strike breakers as they made their way home from work. He hated himself too until one day he found the dear Lord Jesus who took away all his guilt and re-made him into a man of peace. Today he holds a leading position in his church.

A Russian school teacher, highly articulate, intellectual and an ardent member of the Communist Youth League until five years ago, was sent one day, by his headmaster, to stop the simple Christian witness of a seven-year-old girl in the school. "It was the most humiliating moment in my life," he admitted, "when this little girl proved me wrong and led me to faith in the dear Lord Jesus."

This month the time of lent begins. It is an ideal opportunity to consider God's plan for mankind and how relevant His Word is for us in these present days enabling us to be at peace with ourselves, with each other, with God and His world.

God bless you,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Tuesday, February 2nd

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union. Speaker: Catherine.

Wednesday, February 3rd

8.00 p.m. "Visit to the Phillipines." Slides and talk by Barbara Batts and Sue Johnson.

Friday, February 5th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, February 7th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Morning Service A.S.B.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, 1662 Prayer Book, "Power to go on."

Wednesday, February 10th

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, February 12th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, February 14th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. 'Valentine' Service.

Guest Singer and Preacher: David Ward.

"Love and Marriage."

Wednesday, February 17th

8.00 p.m. Ladies Meeting.

Friday, February 19th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, February 20th

2.30 p.m. Parochial Church Council visit to St. Margaret's, Whitnash. Bus leaves at 1.30 p.m. from Church Hall.

Sunday, February 21st

10.30 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Parish Communion, "The breath of God."

Tuesday, February 23rd

7.30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancakes and Film.

Ash Wednesday, February 24th

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, February 26th

7.30 p.m. 'Focus on Revival,' St. James Church, Tile Hill.

Praying for Revival.

Sunday, February 28th

10.00 a.m. Family Service at St. John's.

10.30 a.m. Family Communion at Parish Church.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service. A.S.B.

"The Resurrection of the Body," What does it mean?

JESUS—Showcase Coventry 1993 Committee

The film "JESUS" will be shown at the Showcase Cinema, Coventry for several evenings directly before Easter 1993.

This is the film of Christ's life which uses the text of Luke's Gospel.

This film is being used by God to bring millions of people worldwide to Christ. It has broken box office records at some British cinemas. It has been translated into over eighty languages!

Details of timing and dates will appear in next month's magazine.

Children's Society. Thank you to all who gave so generously to the work of the Children's Society during the past twelve months. The most recent events raised the following amounts: **Coffee evening and box opening** £205.75. **The Christingle Service** at the Village Church Hall £103. We are grateful to those who helped by serving refreshments and preparing the hall for this event. It was very well supported. **The traditional nine lessons and carols service** at the Parish Church £123. Making a total of £431.75. Children in our country will benefit from your support. Thank you.

Margaret Oliver.

Shrove Tuesday is February 23rd. An enjoyable evening is being planned in the Village Church Hall. David Cove is responsible for this and is kindly organising a pancake supper and has invited Mr. & Mrs. Onions to show a travel film. The event is being arranged to boost the Church Hall funds. The cost per person is 75p.

Your used postage stamps continue to be needed please place them in the box in the Church. Mrs. Florrie Priest kindly sends them off for us to "Stamps for Evangelism." They in turn prepare the used stamps for sale to philatelists. A considerable amount of money is then forwarded to Gospel work both in this country and abroad. The lady who pioneered this work is in a nursing home suffering from terminal cancer. The work is carried on by others.

The Parish Christmas Party was a lovely occasion held at St. John's this time. Amongst the activities, we enjoyed watching a video of the Christmas Family Service at St. John's and of the Christmas play at the Parish Church. It brought back to us those two happy occasions prior to Christmas. Thank you to Ian Cove who made this possible for us. The party food was good too. Thanks to all who made those generous food items.

Parochial Church Council outing. Canon Anthony Gardner is welcoming our P.C.C. to look at his Church facilities recently added, and to answer any questions on Saturday, February 20th at 2.30 p.m., light refreshments will be provided. The Church is St. Margaret's, Whitnash. A mini-bus will pick up the Council members outside the Church Hall at 1.30 p.m.

A good stock of stationery is available from Mrs. Jean Wakeford-Davy. Birthday cards, anniversary cards, etc., etc. The stall was very

busy prior to Christmas and has now been re-stocked for the general occasion. All profits go to our Church funds. Jean will be very pleased to oblige you in any of your stationery requirements; and will have a stall at the Shrove Tuesday get-together.

We were very pleased to welcome home Barbara Batts from the Phillipines just before Christmas. At several of our Church services Barbara has shared various items of interest with us and on Wednesday, February 3rd at 8.00 p.m., in Ansley Village Church Hall we shall be able to hear in greater detail of her four week ministry at Iloilo Church. We shall be joined by Arley Church and Sue Johnson who was also on the ministry team to the Phillipines. Barbara and Sue together will show slides of their visit and answer any questions. It should be a good evening and refreshments will be served. We shall be sharing this evening with the Ansley Ladies as it is their open evening.

Margaret Antill asks for the loan of any photographs of the 1971, 73 and 74 Flower Festivals. Please let her know as soon as possible.

Ansley Mothers' Union meet on Tuesday, 2nd February at 3.00 p.m., in the Church Hall. Speaker: Catherine Jasper. All members and friends very welcome. W. Ponder.

Flowers and Brass cleaning rota is up on the noticeboard in the Church Porch. Please add your name to any of the Sundays on which you would like to contribute flowers in the Church. In memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion or in worship of the Lord.

Would you like to help us keep the Church clean? Do please let us know if you would like your name added to the list of willing volunteers. Your turn would come round three times in six months. We do appreciate those already doing this good work and making our Church presentable for Sunday Worship.

Valentine Day is Sunday, February 14th. The special service to which we invite those couples to be married this year, and anyone else of course, will be at 6.30 p.m. David Ward, whom you will remember sang at our 25th Wedding Anniversary, will be coming to sing and preach. It should be an enjoyable service at which we will renew our marriage vows. Those who are single and those who have lost their partners will not be left out of the service as we thank God for each other and worship Him together.

Lent begins with a service of Holy Communion on **Ash Wednesday, February 24th**. This will be at 10.00 a.m. Do make a point of coming on this important occasion in the Church's year. The series of Lent Services begin on Wednesdays next month.

Order your Lent Book it is called 'Oh God, Why?' and is a journey through Lent for bruised pilgrims written by Gerard Hughes. Price £5.99. Catherine will be pleased to receive your order and get the book to you in time for Lent.