

# ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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**Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service**

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Birchley Heath Post Office 6.10 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

April 1st, 1988

Our Dear Friends,

One of my many pleasant pieces of work is the conducting of a marriage service. It is always a tonic to see the happiness that such an event creates within the lives not only of the couple involved but also in the lives of the very many relatives and friends it brings together: Some of whom have not met for years, and others who have never met before. It is also true to say that a marriage brings happiness to the local community even though they be not directly involved.

The marriage service is a public affair stating unashamedly in front of everyone their choice of life partner from that day forward; And, if held in a building dedicated to Christian Worship, the ceremony is (ideally) admitting the need of God's help, blessing and authority.

But it is common knowledge that at least one marriage in three in Britain today now ends in divorce. That means of course that out of every three couples who pledge their word to each other in a haze of happiness for all concerned, one couple is going to cause a great deal of pain and sorrow; not only to themselves and families but also to the community in which they live. As the coming together brings joy so the tearing apart brings anguish.

Perhaps amongst the many reasons for divorce is that we have grown up in an environment where everything is instant and automatic. So many things in our lives are press-button. We look for instant marriage and grow impatient when things don't go our own way. A marriage, like a tree, may take years to develop; patience allows a marriage to grow roots.

An increasing number of couples are choosing to live together in a trial marriage relationship first to see if it works. Many, having tried this route realise that it is a false move that lacks wisdom.

Love means surrender, trust, kindness, patience all of which is missing in a trial marriage.

Living together without the "surrender" terms involved in the marriage promise means leaving the door open for escape if things don't work out right. But personalities cannot be handled like that. It is just a cheap alternative that creates far more emotional and psychological problems than "no strings attached" solves.

To be loved is the need every human being has. That means, to be wanted, cared for, listened to, accepted and understood; and



that is absent in a relationship which is too easy, on trial or casual.

Today many carry a burden of guilt because of failure in relationships. The Christian message has the answer to that problem. It is simply repentance and forgiveness, then God gives the grace to lift the head high and start again.

Our very warmest Easter greetings,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah

#### **SERVICES IN APRIL 1988**

##### **Good Friday — April 1st**

###### **At St. John's Hall, Ansley Common**

10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. "Pause for Thought"

Speaker: Mrs. Helen Lee.

The cost of £1.50 for the day includes the mid-day meal.

###### **At Church Hall, Ansley Village**

10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Children's Event"

includes Games, Story, Competitions, Quiz, Painting, Model Making. Bring your packed lunch, footwear suitable for outdoor games, pencil marker pens and 50 pence.

###### **At the Parish Church**

7.00 p.m. Service for all the family.

Church Bus picking up in Ansley Village 6.30 p.m.

Birchley Heath 6.37 p.m.

Ansley Common 6.45 p.m.

##### **EASTER DAY — April 3rd**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Parish Communion. "The grave could not hold Him."

6.30 p.m. Evening Informal Praise Service. "Christ is risen."

##### **Tuesday, April 5th**

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Speaker: Mrs. Dumbleton, Deanery President.

##### **Friday, April 8th**

6.45 p.m. Meeting for prayer in Church.

##### **Low Sunday — April 10th**

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

##### **Friday, April 15th**

6.45 p.m. Meeting for prayer in Church.

##### **Sunday, April 17th — Easter 2**

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. "What is God Like?"

**Wednesday, April 20th**

8.00 a.m. Wednesday Fellowship in the Vicarage.

**Friday, April 22nd**

6.45 p.m. Meeting for prayer in Church.

**Sunday, April 24th**

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "What about Hell?"

**Friday, April 29th**

6.45 p.m. Meeting for prayer in the Church.

**FROM THE PARISH REGISTER**

**Funeral**

"I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever" Psalm 23.6.

Friday, March 18th—Violet Maud Bruntlett of Ansley Road, Stockingford.

**Baptism "I turn to Christ"**

Sunday, March 20th—Christopher Paul Wagstaff of Birchley Heath.

**NOTICES**

We need a new heating boiler to heat the Church building for worship. The money given on Gift Day June 12th will go towards meeting that inevitably expensive replacement. Our target is £1000. Do bear that in mind when you decide how much to give for Gift Day. We trust that this year we shall be able to reach our target.

**MR. RICHARD MELLOR ('Dick')**

The Church, very gratefully, acknowledges the gift of £230 given by friends of the late Dick Mellor, to his memory and as a token of their appreciation of the work he did for the benefit of the Parish.

**EASTER FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH**

Mrs. Truelove will be pleased to receive gifts of flowers or cash to buy flowers for the Easter decoration of the Church, given by relatives and friends of dear departed loved ones.

**The Church Bus** has been re-timed and you will see the new timetable on the front cover of this magazine. Mr. Gunn tells me that he will plan to leave the stops at the time mentioned, and if he finds he is early he will kindly wait at the stop to leave on time.

**From a Missionary in Kenya with the Mission Aviation Fellowship**

**GOD'S POWER**

'I couldn't wait. I owed something to God for saving me,' smiled Gabriel, competing with the bleating goats as he told me of God's power. 'It was in prison that I heard preaching from John's Gospel, and the Lord saved me.'

I sat on a rough stool, enjoying the evening breeze high on a mountainside at Ulaula, listening entranced to this eager Rendille Christian.

When I was released, I told the bishop I wanted to do Christian work. He said I must wait. But I couldn't wait. Jesus said "Go and preach," so I chose to obey.'

And the wonderful result of Gabriel's obedience surrounded me. His whole village of ninety people is now Christian. And the bishop returned to find a new, living church !

I marvelled at this tall man, dressed in a long skirt, and with a huge hole in his ear lobe. In a culture so different from mine, he is God's chosen evangelist.

'Now I go to Kargi to preach,' Gabriel continued, 'It's two days walk, so I sleep on the roadside. They want to hear the Word of God too. Three hundred come to listen.'

I was humbled as I pondered how wonderfully God had taken a prisoner and so filled his life that he chose to work without pay and sleep on bare ground for the joy of telling others about Jesus.

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When a child of God  
Looks into the Word of God  
And sees the Son of God  
He is transformed into the image of God  
By the Spirit of God  
To the Glory of God.

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**Meetings** at Ansley Village Church Hall on Wednesdays April 13th Miss Mayo, Librarian, speaks at 8.00 p.m., and on April 27th speaker from Higham Lane School. Organised by Ansley Ladies' Association. W. Ponder

**Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust** are organising a sponsored bicycle ride on Saturday, September 10th. The organiser is Mr. S. G. Creed, 56 Brookside Avenue, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1ET. Many people were involved in this last year. It would be good if our parish could be represented by one or two entrants. Application forms from the organiser.

**Suicide Kills** 1,100 people a day worldwide—one every eighty seconds. In Britain that is 4,304 a year (ninety three a week)—one every two hours.

Suicide attempts are probably running at 200,000 per year—one every two and a half minutes. Overdoses are the principle cause for admission to acute medical beds in hospital.

The suicide rate nationally has come down by one-third since 1964, the year when the Samaritans national organisation was formed.

There is a complete answer of course and it was seen on a poster outside a church in Brislington, it read:

'Carpenter from Nazareth requires Joiners—apply within.'