

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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Ansley Vicarage,
April 1st, 1991

Our Dear Friends,

We must not speak harshly of others, neither must we criticise nor judge or condemn them. Judgement will be God's business on that awesome judgement day. We are called to be agents of reconciliation and forgiveness; to be beacons of love and concern for those that others reject.

When Jesus came, the world judged Him a person without value, and rejected His life and teaching as worthless, even subversive. Jesus put no values on the judgement of men. But He warned His followers that one day there would be judgement without mercy for those who themselves showed no mercy.

Life is made harder for the depressed and defeated when others show neither sympathy nor understanding. We must not judge or condemn. Our task is to understand, to forgive, to extend the hand of help, love and friendship.

There is an old story about a Persian King who sent his eldest son on a journey to see a mango tree in winter; his second son to see it in springtime; his third son in the summer and his youngest son to see the mango tree in the autumn. Twelve months later, when all four sons were together again in the Palace, each was asked to describe a mango tree. "It is an ugly stump," said the eldest son. "It is a thing of beauty, covered with lacey green," said the second. "Not even a rose has more beautiful blossoms," said the third.

"My elders do not know what they are talking about," said the youngest, "it is a tree filled with pear-like fruits."

"All of which," commented their father, "shows that you must see a mango tree for a year at least before knowing what it is like—and that you need to know a lot about things and people before making judgements about them."

Evelyn Christenson, an author, writes, "I have discovered that surprising things happen when I pray. 'Lord change me—don't change my husband, don't change my children, don't change my neighbour, change me!' This doesn't mean that I approve or even condone everything they do, but rather that I concentrate on how I handle me; my actions and reactions. They are responsible before God for their actions and I am responsible for the changes that need to be made in me. I faced the reality of my need to change again and again. The struggle was like a hot iron inside me and it took fourteen months of turning to the only adequate worthy source of change—God himself—and of searching His Word and allowing Him to make changes in my life, not in anybody else's."

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

Extra Name for Transport for the 6.30 p.m. Evening Service
George Ponder — Tel.: 392401

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL

Friday, April 5th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, April 7th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.

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

Wednesday, April 10th

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies — Film Show.

Friday, April 12th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

8.00 p.m. The Supper Dance.

Sunday, April 14th

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer: Theme: "The Greatest 'U' Turn."

Monday, April 15th

6.30 p.m. The Children's Club in the Village Church Hall.

Wednesday, April 17th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday, April 18th

7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council meet in Church.

Friday, April 19th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, April 21st

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Parish Communion, "The Amazing House Meeting."

Wednesday, April 24th

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies — Glass Engraving.

Thursday, April 25th

7.30 p.m. "Oral Skills" in Church with Pat Williams.

Friday, April 26th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, April 27th

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Ordination of Women meeting at Bluecoat School, Coventry.

Sunday, April 28th

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

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, A.S.B. "Answered Prayer."

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals "Christ the First Fruits" 1 Cor. 15.

March 4—Lucy Maud Whapples, 81 years of Bretts Hall.

March 6—Robert Hindle, 76 years of Ansley Village.

March 20—Margaret Gill, 86 years of Ansley Village.

Confirmation this year will be held at Corley Church on Sunday, November 3rd at 6.00 p.m. If you are thinking about being confirmed please let me know. Two requests for an earlier confirmation means that there is an opportunity to commence lessons this month, with the confirmation taking place at Holy Trinity, Hartshill on Wednesday, June 5th at 7.30 p.m.

The Children's Club this month in Ansley Village is on Monday, April 15th. This will be a very enjoyable evening for the children and will include a Barbecue.

The first meeting of the newly formed Parochial Church Council will meet in Church for a service of Holy Communion on Thursday, April 18th at 7.45 p.m. The business work of the Council will follow the service. The first part of which will be the business of electing a new Churchwarden, and is open to all electoral roll members.

Gift Day will be on Sunday, June 16th. Following the morning service we plan to go on a picnic (weather permitting). Please make a note of this in your Diary and join in on this event. If you have not already got a Gift Day box, do collect one from the literature table in Church.

Urgent Work needs to be done on the Church Tower so you will soon see scaffolding being erected and work commencing; undertaken by Messrs. Wragg & Co., who were busy on the building last year.

Pat Williams plans to be with us on Thursday, April 25th, meeting at 7.30 p.m., in Church to teach us oral skills. All who lead in prayers or read scripture during Worship should make this evening a priority please. It will be very enjoyable and instructive. Pat comes from Leamington Spa.

The Supper Dance is being organised once again by David Cove for Friday, April 12th, commencing at 8.00 p.m. Tickets are on sale price £2.00. This is in aid of the Church Hall improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Onions are kindly providing the music, held in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Parish Bus. Several people have expressed their desire for the return of the Parish Bus for the Sunday night service. If you have an opinion on this do please let a member of the Church Council know. We can then make a sensible decision at our April meeting whether or not to re-introduce the bus.

The Annual General Meeting took place on Monday, March 18th. Appreciation for the work that is done by all the officers of the Church was expressed. The care of the buildings and Church grounds. Maintaining the services for Divine Worship, the heating, the music, the Children's work on the Common and in the Village as well as that on Sundays and the finances. The need for a crisp vision for the future was called for with clear Gospel goals all quickened by prayer both private and congregational, weekday and Sunday with the essential nucleus prayer gathering each Friday. Without which, all is Holy Spirit less. The evening ended with a selection of slides of unusual scenes of the parish in winter and summer.

Making Good Marriages Better is one of the titles given to a special evening for all married couples; held at Coventry Methodist Central Hall, Warwick Lane on Wednesday, May 22nd from 7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m., costing £3.50 per person. It is organised by 'Care for the family.' The main speaker is Rob Parsons. He deals with such subjects as, 'We don't talk anymore,' 'Resolving conflict,' 'Sex in marriage' and many other topics about which he attempts to 'Take the lid off.' Special booking forms are available on the literature table in Church.

Mrs. Margaret Gill. We are all sorry to lose Margaret and it was good to see so many friends at the funeral service as we gathered together to thank God for her life, and the privilege that was ours in ever having known her. Our sympathies and prayer will be for Annie and Mary as they face the future. Margaret was always an active member of our Church. In her earlier days she was a member of the Church Choir and was always to be seen actively engaged with organising refreshments at the events, and that meant the work in the marquee at the Flower Festivals including the one last year. We shall miss her, especially on a Sunday night when she was always in her seat at Worship. She remained a member of the Mothers' Union right to the end. Born at Burnley in Lancashire she came with the rest of her family to the parish at the age of 10 years. It was Margaret's request that instead of flowers, gifts be made to the Church funds, £153 was given on the plate. Thank you to all who gave in her memory.

April 27th is the Saturday morning when the subject of the Ordination of Women will be discussed. It is held at Bluecoat School, Coventry. Commencing at 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. It is essential that as many of our Church Council members be present at that Seminar as possible, in addition to the Deanery Synod representatives; in order to be able to vote intelligently at our own May Church Council meeting prior to the Diocesan decision.

There is a nominal charge of £1 per head, payable at the door on the morning of April 27th.

To conclude the parish weekend there will be Guest Service, the preacher will be Nigel Lee, he lives at Leamington Spa. Many of us will remember Nigel's mother, Mrs. Helen Lee who has conducted day events here in the parish called "Pause for Thought." This service will be attended by members of the Ley Group of Churches.

Do you enjoy watching a game of Bowls? or perhaps playing? well do join us on Friday evening May 24th, 7.00 p.m. at Arley Sports Centre. We shall need a mixed team of six people in a competition with St. Wilfrid's, Arley and the Churches of Corley and Fillongley. This notice, well in advance, will give us the opportunity to book the date.