

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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Vicar:

Reverend JAMES R. JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

Mrs. CATHERINE A. JASPER

The Vicarage, Ansley Village, Nuneaton CV10 9PS

Telephone: Chapel End 396403

Transport for the 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Birchley Heath — Joyce Allton Tel.: 0827 713016

Ansley Common — Barbara Batts Tel.: 396403

George Ponder — Tel.: 392401

Ansley Village — David Cove Tel.: 394114

Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel.: 382902

Ansley Vicarage,

May 1st, 1991

Our Dear Friends,

Born in 1901 at Scotswood, Newcastle-on-Tyne, William Leech grew up to become a successful builder; testifying that through hard work and prayer he often saw what he described as the 'Hidden Hand' working through things and creating conditions that none could ever imagine happening. He was a man who knew the value of the Bible, and during his 90 years life gave more than £10 million to the Bible Society's work of translation, printing and distribution throughout the world.

Eastern European countries, now able to throw off the Shackles of Communism, cannot get enough Bibles to meet the demands of their people. For example, a spokesman from Bulgaria says, "My people are eager to listen to the message of Life contained in the Bible. There is a turning to Christianity that is going to mean millions of Bibles are needed." Another illustration showing people's interest is that a Sunday School has commenced at Rovno in Russia. The request of the parents is, "Would you be willing to accept adults and teach us the Bible at the same time as our Children?"

That we even have a Bible is itself a miracle. St. John's gospel was the first part of the Bible to be translated into English from the Latin language, and that was achieved as far back as 736 AD in the town of Jarrow, under the skill of a man known as the 'Father of English History.' His name was Bede, he was probably the most learned man of his age in England. Towards the end of his lifetime he had poor eyesight so a boy-scribe wrote what the Venerable Bede dictated. As he came to the end of translating the Gospel, death drew near. "One last sentence is left unfinished," said the boy. "Write quickly then," said Bede. The boy managed to complete it and exclaimed, "Now it is finished." "True," said Bede "It is finished." "Now take my head between your hands and raise me up so that sitting up I may call on my heavenly Father." Then as he breathed out the words, "Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit," he passed away. He is remembered on the 26th of this month.

It is regretted that no part of his translation has survived, but we have at least one of his prayers that many people use today. "I pray You good Jesus that as You have given me the grace to drink in with joy the WORD that gives knowledge of You, so in Your goodness You will grant me to come at length to Yourself, the source of all wisdom, to stand before Your Face for ever."

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY

Wednesday, May 1st

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday, May 2nd

7.45 p.m. Ley Group Council, Arley, Upper Room.

Friday, May 3rd

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, May 5th

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Preacher: Mr. Lees from "Gideons."
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (1662 Service Book).
"Elijah—the man who knew God."

Monday, May 6th

- 10.30 to 12 noon Coffee Morning at "Merrybrook."

Tuesday, May 7th

- 3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union, Speaker: Mr. George Tomlin,

Wednesday, May 8th

- 8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies' "Hobbies,"

Thursday, May 9th

- 7.30 p.m. Ascension Day Service, Preacher: The Rev. Peter Phillips, Rector of Arley.

Friday, May 10th

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

Sunday, May 12th

- 11.00 a.m. Family Service.
- 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. "Missionaries to Cyprus."

Wednesday, May 15th

- 8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday, May 16th

- 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
Floral Bonanza, Ansley Village Church Hall.

Friday, May 17th

- 6.15 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.
- 7.30 p.m. Renewal Service, St. James, Tile Hill.
Speaker: Eric Dolve.

Saturday, May 18th

- 10.00 a.m. Parish Weekend at Offchurch Diocesan House. Led by Edmund and Joan Wilbourne till 3.15 p.m., Sunday 19th

Pentecost Sunday, May 19th

- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Special Guest Service with the Ley Group of Churches.
Guest Speaker: Mr. Nigel Lee.

Wednesday, May 22nd

- 8.00 p.m. Shoe Sale by the Ansley Ladies, Anyone is welcome.

Thursday, May 23rd

- 7.30 p.m. Archdeacon's Visitation at St. Nicolas, Nuneaton. All P.C.C. members urged to attend.

Friday, May 24th

- 6.15 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.
- 7.00 p.m. Ley Group, Bowls at Arley Sports Centre.

Sunday, May 26th

- 10.00 a.m. Family Service at St. John's, Ansley Common.
- 11.00 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (Alternative Service Book).
Theme: "Missionaries to Iconium."

N.B. 1

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals — "The just shall live by faith."

April 10—Eric Francis Horobin, 76 years, of Nuneaton.

April 11—Edna May Jessie McIlvride, 70 years, of Ansley Village.

April 12—Joan Kathleen Baskett, 60 years, of Ansley Common.

April 19—Sidney Thomas Moseley, 91 years, of Ansley Village.

There are some allotments available in the Village. The allotments secretary is Mr. Doug Wright of 69 St. Lawrence Road. Telephone: 395001. The annual rent for a full allotment is £4 and for half one £2. Either call or ring for enquiries.

The Chapel End and District British Legion Standard is to be laid up in our Parish Church at a special ceremony with the Evening Service on Sunday, June 2nd at 6.30 p.m.

A member of the "Gideons" the organisation that distributes scriptures to hospitals, hotels, prisons, schools and amongst the forces will be preaching at 11.00 a.m., on Sunday, May 5th, he is Mr. Ian Lees.

Coffee Morning on Monday, May 6th, Mr. Henry Truelove welcomes you to "Merrybrook" from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. The proceeds will be given to the Church Funds.

Sunday, May 19th is Pentecost Sunday. To mark the occasion we shall have the Holy Communion Service in the morning and a Special Guest Service in the evening. Members of the Ley Group of Churches are invited and Nigel Lee from Leamington Spa will be the preacher. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Floral Bonanza is the name given to the special event on Thursday, May 16th at Ansley Village Church Hall. There will be a stall outside the hall with a variety of plants for sale. Tea will be served in the afternoon, from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. The evening from 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., will include, 'Your Questions Answered,' refreshments and the sale of bedding plants, etc. Your help offered in a variety of ways to make this occasion successful will be appreciated.

We have had to pay a person to help Alf Toon and Henry and Anthony Truelove and other volunteers to keep the Churchyard neat. Several people have made donations towards this cost. Other gifts of money for this purpose would be welcomed; as will also any offers of help. The Church grounds looked very handsome for Easter time. We are all most grateful for those helpers who made it so.

The Church Bus will be re-introduced on the first Sunday in May. This was the unanimous decision of the Church Council. The cost is £25 per Sunday and the P.C.C. will be very grateful for contributions towards meeting the bill of £1300 per year. Please make good use of the bus, thus making it all worthwhile.

The vacant post of Churchwarden, caused by the resignation, through ill health, of Mr. David Cove, has now been filled by the election of Mr. George Ponder. We welcome George to this responsible post and

pray that he may find great satisfaction as he uses his gifts in this way to the glory of God. We are grateful to David Cove for his work as Warden during the past two years. His most notable contribution during that time being the installation of the smoke alarm and intruder alarm and security lights around the Church. We continue to pray that his back will improve,

The Archdeacon's Visitation for the Nuneaton Deanery will be on Thursday, May 23rd at 7.30 p.m. in St. Nicolas Church, Nuneaton. Both our wardens, Frank and George, will be admitted to their office of Churchwarden. It is an occasion to which all of us are invited. The Archdeacon wants to address us all on the subject of 'A vision for the future.'

Arley Sports Centre is the venue on Friday night May 24th at 7.00 p.m. for the Ley Group Bowls competition. Do join us, either to spectate or participate.

Don't forget the good advice on married life meeting this month. Wednesday, May 22nd, 7.30 p.m. Coventry Methodist Central Hall. The lively speaker guarantees that the evening's event will not be dull, irrelevant or boring.

Throughout the Country May 12th is being observed as Church Army Sunday. If you would like to contribute towards a donation to the wide variety of work undertaken by the Society, in hospitals, prisons, the forces, homes and hostels, the homeless people of our Cities, etc. you will have the opportunity to do so, as you leave Church at either morning or evening worship, by placing your gift in the plate at the door.

Come to the Ascension Day Service on Thursday, May 9th at 7.30 p.m. The Rector of Arley will be preaching in our Church for the last time before he retires. Refreshments will be served afterwards. This service is the occasion when the congregations of Arley Methodists, St. Wilfrid's and St. Michael's join us. We give them a warm welcome to the celebration of this important festival.

Hymn-writing Bishop retiring. Bishop Timothy Dudley-Smith, one of England's best-loved church leaders, is to retire next January, one week short of the eleventh anniversary of his consecration as Bishop.

The suffragan Bishop of Thetford, he has won world-wide acclaim for his many hymns. Last year his version of the Magnificat, 'Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord,' was voted among the top ten hymns in a BBC Songs of Praise poll.

His hymns have been used extensively by churches all over the English speaking world.

Next month the Bishop will be appearing in a festival edition of Songs of Praise, and in Highway, during which Sir Harry Secombe will sing one of his hymns.