

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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**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.

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Ansley Vicarage,

May 1st, 1995

Our Dear Friends,

The Christian Church worldwide is celebrating. It may well do so, its Leader has won a great victory, Conquering the grave when He rose from it on the first Easter Day. What's more! He invites people of all ages and all nationalities to share in His triumph by personal faith in Him.

Down the centuries ever since that victory people have experienced the power of His presence and also the power of His Name, as the Bible words put it, "At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow." That power was demonstrated recently as the following account shows.

Postmaster Fred Humber was doing some paperwork behind the counter of the Iver Post Office near Slough when a robber entered threatening Fred with a pistol and ordered him to hand over the money.

But Fred stayed calm and told the raider, "You must be kidding." And when the gunman yelled, "Money—now!" Fred denounced his evil and told him, "I rebuke you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ," staring him straight in the face. The robber became totally flummoxed. He seemed to have some sort of spasm. He started shaking and cursing, but then just turned and walked out.

The gunman escaped empty-handed. Fred commented later, "The people who do these things are consumed by the force of evil. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the overcomer."

Another of the statements the risen Lord made was that His words have a cleaning-up power, "Now you are clean," He said, "through the words I have spoken to you." Srekko Avramovski, a student from Macedonia in the former Yugoslavia, didn't know of such cleansing power until he found himself consumed with revenge against an examiner who had failed him in an all important exam.

So angry he was that he sent a threatening message. But after he had plotted his evil deed he picked up a New Testament and discovered the Lord's prayer which really touched his heart.

"I knelt down and said that prayer and really meant it," said Srekko, "I pleaded for God's help because only He could have saved me. The next morning when I woke up I felt so peaceful with no desire for vengeance. I wrote to the examiner apologising for threatening him."

Srekko is now a student in this country at Mattersey Bible College, Doncaster.

Let us thank God that He does have the answer, as Paul, a Bible contributor, expressed it, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ because it is the **power** of God to all who believe."

On Thursday, 25th May we celebrate this power of God as demonstrated in the triumphant return to heaven of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Ascension Day Service. Join us for that, at 7.30 p.m., in Arley Methodist Church.

God bless you,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.



## DIARY FOR MAY

### Tuesday, May 2nd

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union in the Hall, Ansley Village.

### Wednesday, May 3rd

8.00 p.m. Christian Viewpoint at Corley.

### Thursday, May 4th

7.45 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting in Church.

### Sunday, May 7th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

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

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer B.C.P. Theme: "V.E. Day" and Prayers of Thanksgiving.

### Wednesday, May 10th

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

### Sunday, May 14th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like this" Matt. 20 1-16.

### Monday, May 15th

7.30 p.m. Churchwardens Licencing at St. Mary's Church, Atherstone.

### Wednesday, May 17th

8.00 p.m. Ladies' Knitwear Evening.

### Sunday, May 21st

10.30 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like this" Matt. 22 1-14.

### Thursday, May 25th

7.30 p.m. Ascension Day Service in Arley Methodist Church.

### Sunday, May 28th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

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

"The Kingdom of heaven will be like this" Matt. 25.

### Wednesday, May 31st

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

### Every Tuesday

6.00 p.m. Children's Club in Ansley Village Church Hall.

### Every Thursday

10.30 a.m. Parents and Toddlers meet in Church Hall.

6.30 p.m. Explorers and Youth Club in St. John's Hall, Ansley Common.

### Every Friday

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Funeral**—Jesus said: "He who believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11.

April 7—William Stanley Gibbs, 78 years, of St. Lawrence Road, Ansley Village.

**Stan Gibbs** passed away at the George Eliot Hospital. He was well known in the locality. He had been a miner at Haunchwood and Dawmill. He lost his wife Constance some 12 years ago. We offer our condolences to all the family and especially to his daughters Avril and Jean, and to his son Keith.

**Mothers' Union** meeting this month is on Tuesday, May 2nd at 3.00 p.m., in the Village Church Hall, Mrs. Ruth Chilvers from Chapel End United Reformed Church will be the speaker.

**Christian Viewpoint** meets on Wednesday, May 3rd, 8.00 p.m., at Corley Village Hall. All ladies are invited to a Social Evening called Fun, Friendship and Food Evening. There is a choice of Southern Fried Chicken and Chips or Fish and Chips; and includes Tea or Coffee £2.50.

**The Parochial Church Council** meets to commence its next twelve months' work in Church on Thursday, May 4th at 7.45 p.m., for a service of Holy Communion before the business part of the evening.

**Our Churchwardens.** George Ponder and Margaret Antill will be licenced for their next 12 months' term of office at the Archdeacon's Visitation Service at St. Mary's Church, Atherstone, 7.30 p.m., on Monday, May 15th. Members of the congregation and friends are welcome to that service, to pray for them, and to encourage them and thank them for doing a responsible job, with dignity, efficiency, reliability and integrity. Their's is not an easy task and demands a good deal of time and energy which they willingly undertake.

**On Three Occasions** recently we have had a retiring offering at the close of the morning and evening services for the new **Acorn Pregnancy Counselling Centre** in Nuneaton, this resulted in us being able to send £42.24 to the Centre. Their Counselling work is valuable and essential and we are privileged to help them. Any further contributions will be appreciated by them. Their running costs are quite high.

**A very handsome seat** has been placed in the Churchyard by Hartshill High School in memory of Steven Smith who lived at West View, Ansley Common, and was a pupil at the School.

**There will be a sale** of clothing and knitwear by Dave Randle in the Village Church Hall on Wednesday, May 17th at 8.00 p.m. This is being kindly arranged by Mrs. Enid Bailey. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served. The profits of this evening's event will be given to the new building fund.

**At the Annual General Meeting** of our Church the following people were elected to serve on the Church Council for the next twelve months: G. Ponder, M. Antill (Wardens), J. Allton, D. Cove, A. Truelove (Deputy Wardens), B. Batts, K. Berridge, R. Hobbs, D. Kealey, M. Kimberley, D. Morley, M. Oliver, W. Ponder, F. Priest, A. Richardson, I. Richardson, M. Sutton, J. Wakeford-Davy, J. Woolliscroft.

**The Treasurer** gave an encouraging financial report; there are 14 people who covenant their giving to the Church and this has enabled Ansley Church to receive £1,471 from the Inland Revenue. So there is a clear advantage in using the method of Covenanting in our giving.

**The Fabric report** stated that during the last 12 months £2,900 had been spent on repairs to the north-side roof and £1,300 on the organ blower unit. The Churchyard had been kept neatly cut for the price of £1,640.

**Evangelistic activities** report mentioned the Open-Air meetings on the Green at Birchley Heath, and to be repeated again this year. Encouraging accounts were given of the Explorer's meetings at St. John's, Ansley Common.

In last month's magazine was enclosed a yellow folder outlining the plans for **The Auction of Services**. This auction will take place in Ansley Village Church Hall on June 9th. The Auctioneer will be Mr. Stan Forryan. Please use the form on the folder and hand it in this month with your offer of service or job of work. Services already offered include the following:—

**1—An Italian cookery demonstration. 2—Servicing your car. 3—Trip to a Garden Centre. 4—Taking your rubbish to the tip. 5—Welding. 6—Baby Sitting. 7—An embroidered picture. 8—Reading to an invalid. 9—An Indian cookery demonstration. 10—Making a skirt. 11—Sessions on a sunbed. 12—An outing to a National Trust House.**

The cost of these items being offered will be auctioned. Payment for the work done will be given to the New Building Fund. A complete list of offers will be available prior to the sale. You will then be able to take the list to the Auction and bid your price for the item you want.

**Many lives** were affected by the Gospel when "The Walk of 1000 Men" travelled the Pennine Way in 1991 and visited Cornwall and the Scilly Isles in 1993. This year it is Ulster's turn. For three weeks from 9th September until 1st October those taking part will work from the perimeters of the Province along the roads and pathways into Belfast taking Good News to communities along the way. A number of men from parishes in our locality will be involved in this venture. Walking to villages and towns in teams of ten, for one week or more. Special travel arrangements are made for men unable to walk long distances. Wearing distinctive sweatshirts they will visit homes, schools, pubs, clubs, work-places. Archbishop Robin Eames says, 'I welcome this effort to bring the Gospel of Christ to the people.' In the autumn, when the men return, we shall have the pleasure of listening to their account.

**Following the note** in last month's magazine regarding the idea for a club for the older members of the village, it has been arranged that an initial meeting to launch and develop this idea be held in the village Church Hall at 10.30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 10th.

Everyone is invited; those who are willing to help, and those who would like to attend. This meeting is to decide what sort of things most people would like to do at future meetings, and you may have ideas of your own. We may call the club the "Order of Ancient Briton's" unless you have another idea! Refreshments will be provided. Please do come, this club is for you and all your ideas will be welcome.

Margaret Antill

**The Children's Holiday Club** attracted approximately 45 children last month. Thank you to the many adults who helped both at the Common and in the village.

**The New Building** barometer has risen to just above £13,500.

**The number** of open-gardens being offered continues to rise for June 24th and 25th. More details next month.