

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

---

No. 864

JUNE 1997

Price 20p

---



**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.: (01203) 382902

The Vicarage,

June 1st, 1997

Our Dear Friends,

As we leave Ansley, we look back with thanks to God for the privilege of ever having been here. It has been a great task. I have often felt incapable of meeting the challenge and of facing the enormous responsibility that goes with this work; but grateful to God for the knowledge of His presence day by day which has enabled me never to be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, knowing it to be the power of God to all who believe.

I am confident that what people have said about themselves, the deep problems they have shared in their moments of open honesty, makes the Christian message dominate all time as the only answer to the issues of life.

I am thinking about the person who admitted feeling an unconscious anxiety that something is missing, some ingredient that makes life worth living. Or again, the person who said, "I have everything that money can buy, but I haven't got peace, I feel lonely inside," and the question, "Does anyone know what we are living for?"

Wherever people face up to that need and have reached out the hand of faith to God, there will, for them, be a new beginning. They will become members of God's family, and join a group where Jesus Christ is worshipped and His word is both read and explained.

The faith of that Christian Community will be infectious. If it is real, it cannot be hid. It will be as a light in a dark place. It will spread and others will get infected with the love of God and there will be born within them too, a hope for heaven.

A young couple who have recently come to faith in Christ wrote to their minister the following words:

'We have been coming to church for a year now and it really feels like home. The atmosphere of love, friendship and excitement is impossible to find elsewhere. The joy of it far exceeds any evening at a pub, party or restaurant. (Although I continue to enjoy all three). Both of us find that Sunday's service and Wednesday's gathering are two high points of the week. At times, it feels like coming up for air, especially as by Wednesday it is easy to be drowning in the deep waters of working life! If we miss either, we feel somehow 'diluted.' Of course, we can keep talking to God together and alone, but I feel that the act of meeting together is the bellows that keep on fanning the flames of our faith!'

When there are those amongst us whose reaction is similar, then Ansley Church will have a great future.

Our last Sunday will be June 29th, and we move away on Thursday, July 3rd,

Our love to you,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

## DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JUNE

### Sunday, June 1st

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion B.C.P.  
10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer A.S.B.  
6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer B.C.P.

### Tuesday, June 3rd

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union Meeting.

### Sunday, June 8th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion A.S.B.  
6.30 p.m. Evening Service (a mixutre of B.C.P. & A.S.B.)

### Monday, June 9th

1.45 p.m. Worship Leader's Meeting at the Vicarage.

### Wednesday, June 11th

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

### Thursday, June 12th

7.30 p.m. Devonshire Tea and Chat at Corley.  
7.30 p.m. Worship, Witness and The Word at Bramcote Barracks.

### Saturday, June 14th

3.00 p.m. Children's Society Great Cake Bake.

### Sunday, June 15th

10.30 a.m. Family Service and Picnic.  
6.30 p.m. Holy Communion A.S.B.

### Wednesday, June 18th

10.00 a.m. to 12 noon Mothers' Union Coffee Morning.

### Sunday, June 22nd

9.45 a.m. Family Service at St. John's, Ansley Common.  
10.30 a.m. Family Communion A.S.B.  
6.30 p.m. Evening Service A.S.B.

### Thursday, June 26th

7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council Meeting.

### Sunday, June 29th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion A.S.B.  
6.30 p.m. Guest Night Service.

If the weather is fine a family picnic is planned for Father's Day Sunday, June 15th following the Family Service. As in previous years we plan to go to the meadow by Mill House Farm.

## FROM THE PARISH RECORDS

**Baptism** "Take up your cross and follow Me." Matt. 16 24.

'I sign you with the sign of the Cross of Christ.'

April 13—Katie Jane Morley of Hood Lane Farm.

May 25—Lucy Elizabeth Hughes of Ansley Village.

**Funerals** "The Lord is my Shepherd," Psalm 23.

**Internment of Ashes**

May 16—Amelia Maud Bates, 87 years, of Charing in Kent,  
formerly of Birchley's Farm, Birchley Heath.

**At the Crematorium**

May 21—Violet Annie Smith, 79 years, of Bretts Hall Estate.

**Amelia Maud Bates** was married to Hugh Edward Bates. They kept the farm at Birchley Heath. Mrs. Bates was born in Kent. She was a member of the Mothers' Union. They were both members of the Church and well known in the area. We offer our condolences to the family.

**Violet Annie Smith** came from Hartshill. Was married to Harry in 1944 at Ansley Church and has lived for some years at Bretts Hall Estate. We offer our sympathy to Harry and the children Peter, Ann and Joan and their families.

**Worship, Witness and the Word.** A united gathering of Nuneaton Deanery Churches on Thursday, June 12th at 7.30 p.m. at Bramcote Barracks. Mrs. Penny Hughes will be speaking about **the Way Forward for the Ministry within the Churches**. Worship will be led and witness shared by various lay members of churches of the deanery. All members of the Church are welcome to this event. A finger buffet will be provided by the army chefs. There will be a collection.

**Feet, Eyes, Heart**

Two eyes to look to God, two ears to hear His Word,  
Two feet to serve the Lord, two hands to wield His sword,  
One heart to love His ways, one tongue to sing His Praise;  
Take them Saviour, let them be always busy serving Thee.

**Lambeth Conference 1998**

We are asked to help the Bishops of Zambia to attend this Conference by providing £50 towards their expenses. There will be a retiring offering plate at the close of each service in June to give as many of our congregation the opportunity to make that contribution.

**People are booking** their places in Coventry Cathedral for the 3.00 p.m. Service of farewell to Bishop Simon and his wife Jean on Sunday, September 28th. Five seats are allocated to each parish. The service will also be relayed to the Cathedral ruins to accommodate the overflow but those using that facility will need to take their own chairs. Contributions to a gift for them will be welcomed and can be sent to the Bursar at Bishop's House Office. Please place your name on the list in the Church porch.

**Worship Leaders Meeting.** All members of the congregation who would like to take part in leading worship meet at the Vicarage at 1.45 p.m., on Monday, June 9th for discussion and planning.

**The Churchyard.** Unfortunately during this last winter three grave stones have fallen, this is due to the ravages of time and weather. However to enable these to be repaired/removed it is necessary if at all possible to contact the families of the deceased and the P.C.C. are seeking your help. One has been traced, but if any one knows the families of the following please let the P.C.C. know.

They are:

1—Thomas Hardy who died July 16th, 1904 aged 76 and Sarah Hardy who died November 4th, 1908 aged 82.

2—John Deeming, husband and father, died September 24th, 1947 aged 62.  
Margaret Antill

**Children's Society Cake Bake.** Once again we are hoping for a sunny day on June 14th. This is the date for the sale of home-made cakes and biscuits on the Vicarage front lawn (Church Hall if wet). Please come along and support us, 3.00 p.m., onwards.

All donations of cakes for the sale very gratefully accepted on Friday evening or anytime Saturday.

Thank you for your support in raising funds to help the young people of our country live a more contented life.

Margaret Oliver

33 Nuthurst Crescent, Ansley Village. Tel.: 395674

**Mothers' Union.** Tuesday, June 3rd at 3.00 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Rogers of Coventry. Everyone welcome. Mothers' Union Coffee Morning, Wednesday, June 18th at 28 Nuthurst Crescent, 10.00 a.m. till 12 noon. Please come along.

Marie Cove

**"Champagne Flutes" Concert in Church.** Judging by the complimentary remarks heard after the evening concert on May 10th and the welcome total of £256 being donated to Church Funds (with a further £20 being given specifically for the Churchyard Fund) I think that the whole effort was deemed to be very worthwhile by all those present.

The lovely singing voice of Zoe Clarke and the beautiful rich sound of the 'cello—played so effectively by Sam Goldsworthy—provided wonderful contrasts to the well co-ordinated harmonies and stylish flute playing of Celia, Jan, Jane and Tina who make up the "Champagne Flutes."

We were privileged to hear a well balanced and varied programme and hope that a return visit may be possible in the future. They all gave freely of their time and talents and travelled from Derby, Hinckley, Hints, Kenilworth, Northamptonshire and Oxford to entertain us.

Grateful thanks also go to all those who helped—in any way—to make the evening the success it was.

Margaret Kimberley

**'Devonshire Tea and Chat'** is the title of the next Women's Christian Viewpoint meeting on Thursday, June 12th at 7.30 p.m., in Corley Village Hall. All ladies are welcome to this informal evening get-together. Tickets £1.25 from Barbara Lowe or Catherine Jasper.

Barbara Lowe

**The power of the Word.** An Indian Christian, Sadhu Sundar Singh, was distributing copies of John's Gospel on a train. One man took a copy, tore it up and threw it out of the window angrily.

The same day a man walking along the railway line, anxiously seeking for truth, saw a scrap of paper. He picked it up and read the words, 'The bread of life.'

He asked friends what it meant and was told, 'It is out of the Christian book. You must not read it.' He replied, 'I want to read the book that contains that beautiful phrase.'

He bought a New Testament and as he studied the Gospel light flooded his heart and he came to a knowledge of Christ. He went on to become a preacher in the Central Province of India.