

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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Vicar:

REVEREND JAMES JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

MRS. CATHERINE JASPER

The Vicarage, Ansley Village, Nuneaton CV10 9PS

Telephone: Chapel End 396403

The Vicar would like to hear of cases of sickness. Please send messages to the Vicarage.

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The Vicarage,
Ansley Village
June 1st, 1987

Our Dear Friends,

June 14th is our Gift Day. It gives each of us who call ourselves Christians an opportunity to express our worship of God in the manner and quality of our giving.

We can ask ourselves a serious question. Do I really see my giving as part of my Spiritual worship? If others knew how much I give to God, would they conclude that I loved Him much or little?

Money is not an unspiritual topic. Jesus spoke more about money than He did about heaven. Why? Because money is the commonest rival to God.

We have the example of the Churches at Macedonia whose superb record of giving was described in the New Testament, "They gave out of their poverty." II Corinthians 8. What a challenge that is to us in the Western world who all, compared to the third world, enjoy a very high standard of living.

The Macedonian Church's giving was an expression of their total commitment to Christ. This included their time, their priorities, their energy, and everything else.

In the New Testament giving is sometimes referred to as a sacrifice, "Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13. 6

It must have been a very challenging experience for all those people who belonged to the Churches at Macedonia. Whatever they called 'mine,' would have been shared with others.

There would be no four-wheeler Christians there. Those who come only in a pram or a taxi or a hearse to church to be hatched, matched or dispatched. The Macedonians would know that in no sense did they belong to the Church unless they regularly gathered with God's people. They would be convinced that the Church is not the Vicar supported by a few volunteers, but a gathered community of God's people which doesn't speak primarily of activities but of relationships.

We need to build deep, loving, relationships with each other 7 days a week. Love, forgiveness and understanding are three main ingredients in any meaningful relationship.

A man wanted a gardener, he advertised, and got a response and a reference. It read, "This person has an excellent knowledge of gardening, and can organise a kitchen garden wonderfully, he can bring an ornamental garden to perfection." The reference went on through the list of what the person could do.

"That's the one for me, he can do all the things I want done," said the man. He turned the reference over and on the other side there were only three words, "But he won't!"

May God's reference concerning each of us not end with those same three words.

God lead us all forward,
James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE

Tuesday, June 2nd

7.30 p.m. Churchwardens Commissioning, St. Peter's,
Mancetter.

Wednesday, June 3rd

8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Friday, June 5th

7.30 p.m. Deanery Key Leader's Prayer Meeting, Bishop's
Chapel, Coventry.

Whit Sunday, June 7th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "Hallowed be Your Name."

Monday, June 8th

8.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council, St. John's Ansley
Common.

Sunday, June 14th — Trinity Sunday — Gift Day

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Preacher: Right Rev. Simon
Barrington-Ward, Bishop of Coventry.

Wednesday, June 17th

8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Thursday, June 18th

Combined Ley Group P.C.C.'s for Buffet Meal at the home of
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Potter, Fillongley Lodge to hear the Bishop
speak on "Partners in Mission."

6.45 p.m. Key Leaders.

7.30 p.m. P.C.C. members.

Sunday, June 21st — Father's Day

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. "Your Kingdom Come."

Sunday, June 28th — Trinity 2

10.00 a.m. Family Service, St. John's, Ansley Common.

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "Your will be done on earth as in
heaven."

Saturday, July 4th

3.00 p.m. Church Fete, Vicarage Garden.

From Friday, June 12th to Thursday, June 18th the Diocesan Bishop will be visiting the deanery. The emphasis will be placed on the "Partners in Mission" project. Prior to his visit there will be a prayer meeting in his Chapel at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, June 5th. The Key Leaders from each parish in the deanery are particularly welcome. At 3.00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon June 14th the deanery will be addressed by the Bishop during a Picnic at Bramcote. That same day the Bishop will address our Evening congregation at the special 6.30 p.m. Gift Day Service. The following Thursday, June 18th, members of the P.C.C. together with their spouse are invited to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ron Potter, Fillongley Lodge to a special Buffet meal at which the Bishop

will speak. The Bishop wants to meet the Key Leaders first at 6.45 p.m. and P.C.C. members at 7.30 p.m.

Confirmation this year takes place at Fillongley Church on Sunday, November 1st. Will all those desiring to be confirmed at that service please be kind enough to come to the Vicarage on Thursday, June 25th at 8.00 p.m. All candidates should be at least 12 years of age at the time of confirmation.

THE CHURCH FETE

This year this will be held on Saturday, July 4th at 3.00 p.m. at the Vicarage and in the Village Church Hall. This will be a pleasant afternoon in the Vicar's garden (we hope) spent in raising money to assist the Church Funds to raise the necessary cost to maintain the services in the Church so that God may be worshipped regularly and "in the beauty of holiness." There will be many stalls, competitions and refreshments.

Please come and bring your friends.

Coffee Morning at Henry and Edith Truelove's home resulted in £145 being added to the Church finances. Thank you to all who helped make that a happy and sociable occasion and to Henry and Edith for opening their home.

TEAR FUND — LENT BOXES

I am very pleased to be able to let you know that the Lent Collection for Tearfund's Aftermath appeal has reached £196.82 as at May 20th. Proceeds from the Coffee Evening at Manor House Farm on May 21st are still to be added to this sum. A few boxes are still outstanding and should be returned to Church, or 34 Nuthurst Crescent as soon as possible. Many thanks to all those who have contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Diana Kealey

THIS MONTH'S PRAYER DIARY

"More things are wrought by Prayer than this world ever dreams of."

To be really positive in praying please cut out this prayer guide, place it in your Bible and use it each day.

SUNDAY—"Remember to keep Holy the Sabbath day" Exodus 20 v 8. Pray for our regular Sunday services and our special Gift Day this month with the Bishop preaching.

MONDAY—Jesus said "Let the children come to me and do not stop them because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Mark 10 v 14. Pray for our children especially those attending Sunday School and Pathfinders and their leaders.

TUESDAY—Jesus said "When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with Power." Pray for Call to Mission, the Bishop's visit to our deanery, Friday, June 12th till Thursday, June 18th. He will be preaching on our Gift Day and sharing in a meal with the P.C.C's of the Ley Group at Fillongley Lodge.

WEDNESDAY—"All the believers were gathered together in one place" Acts 2. Pray for our Wednesday fellowship. Open house this month and Mothers' Unions of St. Laurence's and St. John's.

THURSDAY—"This is the commandment that the Lord has given us I have made you a light for the Gentiles, so that all the world may be saved" Acts 13 v 47. Pray for TEARFUND that God will use our Lent contribution to make known His love and care for those in the AFTERMATH of earthquakes, cyclones, floods and war.

FRIDAY—"They listened to the message with great eagerness, and every day they studied the Scriptures" Acts 17 v 11. Thank God that we have access to the Bible and pray for the Gideon organisation who distribute the Scriptures in schools, prisons, hospitals, hotels and many other public places. Pray too for Bible Society that through our giving people in many parts of the world will receive a portion of Scripture.

SATURDAY—"Whatever you do in word or deed do all to the Glory of God." Pray for your leisure time pursuits and hobbies that in the books we read, the programmes we watch, the places we go and the friends we make, we may "Glorify God."

THE BISHOP'S CALL TO MISSION

We in Ansley parish have taken up the challenge not only of our Bishop but of Jesus himself. Our first effort took place in Lent in the form of home meetings.

Saturday, May 9th saw the commencement of our second phase. We had a team of fourteen people from St. Columba's Church, Corby, Northants. They came chiefly to introduce themselves for their coming visit in October for the Harvest Weekend. Seven families welcomed two people each into their homes for tea, everyone enjoyed themselves and friendships were forged immediately.

The evening meeting commenced at 6.45 p.m. in the Church Hall and was led by their Vicar Roger Morgan. We enjoyed some singing together and one or two people introduced themselves and told how they had come to a personal faith in Jesus Christ. Roger spoke to us of the slippery slope downwards when people live in disobedience and rebellion against God. He spoke of the chaos society is in, **but** of God having a great rescue work in operation.

Each Christian has a part to play and Jesus has called us to be the "Salt of the Earth." For our part we are to be the "Salt" in Ansley caring and praying for specific people to find the way of knowing Christ personally.

In the second weekend in October we welcome the team here again, they will come Friday evening and be with us until Sunday evening. They are being invited to stay in the homes of various members of our Church and have meals with others.