

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 816

JUNE 1993

Price 13p



Vicar:

Reverend JAMES R. JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

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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

June 1st, 1993

Our Dear Friends,

Niccolo Paganini the Italian virtuoso violinist and composer was born in 1782 and lived for just 58 years.

On one occasion a vast audience had gathered to hear this genius demonstrate the ability of the violin to re-produce the song of the birds, the noise of the wind, and the rustle of the leaves. Up to the platform stepped this distinguished musician. The auditorium became a hive of excited anticipation as the artist took up his violin. They were somewhat puzzled when they noticed him release the key of the 'G' string, then pull out the string and throw it into the audience. Paganini then did the same thing with the 'D' string and again with the 'A' string. Finally he held up the depleted instrument and said, "One string and Paganini!" The audience was not disappointed, for quickly they were lifted to the realms of unsurpassed music. The master was at work.

God does not require perfect instruments before He can display His power. But He takes broken, helpless and inadequate men and women and with a stroke of genius produces the most amazing transformation imaginable.

This is what is being referred to in the words, 'When anyone is joined to Christ he is a new person; his old life has gone. All things become new.'

A political leader, summing up the brokenness of our time, talked about a 'Humpty Dumpty world.' This intriguing phrase takes us back to a childhood nursery rhyme: 'Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall' etc. The message of that old rhyme is true to life. Man is broken and needs to be put together again. The Creator of the universe cares about our situation and has taken steps to restore us to wholeness.

There is an auditorium in Madras owned by a Secular Society and named after a man whose statue stands outside with a quotation from one of his sayings; it reads, "Any man who believes in God is a fool." 'Experience' is called the mistress of fools, because those are fools that will not learn till experience has taught them. Little wonder then that last month a Christian service was held in that auditorium. The 2000 people present learnt what Psalm 14 verse 1 means. "The fool has said in his heart there is no God!"

Thanks be to God that a device about the size of a credit card has been designed which is solar powered and has no moving parts. It is the scriptures on micro chip for people who cannot read. It is designed in such a way that the message can be stopped at any point and re-started or returned to the beginning.

God's word reaches the broken, worldwide.

James, Catherine, Mark & Rebekah.

DIARY FOR JUNE

Tuesday, June 1st

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union.

Thursday, June 3rd

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Friday, June 4th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, June 6th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

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

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

Wednesday, June 9th

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies.

Friday, June 11th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, June 12th

3.00 p.m. The Great Cake Bake.

Sunday, June 13th Gift Day

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Wednesday, June 16th

8.00 a.m. The Wednesday Fellowship in the Church Hall.

Friday, June 18th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, June 19th

11.00 a.m. Parish Outing to Drayton Manor.

Sunday, June 20th

10.30 a.m. Pathfinders Birthday Service, Speaker: Penny Frank.

6.30 p.m. Parish Communion.

Monday, June 21st

7.45 p.m. Parochial Church Council Meeting.

Wednesday, June 23rd

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies.

Friday, June 25th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, June 27th

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

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

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

Wednesday, June 30th

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funeral

"When all of life is over and our work on earth is done."

Friday, May 7th

Marjory Elizabeth Hobbs, 60 years, from Malthouse Close, Ansley Village.

Ansley Mothers' Union meet on June 1st in Ansley Church Hall at 3.00 p.m. This will be a discussion meeting.

June 2—Table Top Sale at St. Nicolas, Nuneaton, 10 till 12 noon.

June 16—I.M.P.C. service at Stockingford.

Anyone welcome at all events.

W. Ponder.

Ansley Ladies meet on June 9th. Speaker to be arranged.

June 23—Bring and Buy.

Anyone welcome.

W. Ponder

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY — GREAT CAKE BAKE

We shall hold our annual cake bake on Saturday, June 12th at 3.00 p.m., on the Vicarage front lawn (Church Hall if wet). Please come along and join us for a great variety of home-made cakes and biscuits and a cup of tea or squash. All donations of cakes for the sale will be most gratefully accepted during Saturday morning or at the sale itself. Thank you for your continued support in helping to make the lives of the more unfortunate children, in our own country, more enjoyable.

Margaret Oliver,
33 Nuthurst Crescent
Ansley Village
Telephone: 395674

Parish Outing is again planned for Drayton Manor Park. It was so much enjoyed last year. This will be on Saturday, June 19th. The 57 seater coach will leave Ansley Village Church Hall at 11.00 a.m., and from St. John's Hall, Ansley Common at 11.10 a.m. Those from Birchley Heath please use one of those two pick up points. The return home leaving Drayton Manor at 4.00 p.m. Marie Cove is kindly organising this event and asks you to fill up a form if you plan to come.

The cost will be £1.50 for a seat on the coach for each adult plus £1 for admission to Drayton Manor. For children of the Sunday School; Ansley Common Thursday Club; Ansley Village Monday Club; and Thursday Mums and Toddlers there will be no charge. Parents, however, will need to pay for their children's fun-fair rides.

Adults will need to bring their own packed lunch; food for the children will be provided. We need to know how many children to cater for. One adult to accompany each family.

The Renewal Service last month with Pastor Ed Fernandez from the Philippines speaking and St. Mary's Church, Atherstone leading the worship; gathered together, not only many of our own congregation but, a large number of people from the surrounding area. Many have expressed their appreciation. The collection at that service came to £130.21. This amount was given directly to Pastor Ed for his work in Iloilo City.

Thank you to all who helped at the plant sale last month. We appreciate all the work David Cove put into that, and many will enjoy colourful gardens during the Summer months as the result. A balance

of £131 for the Church Hall funds was the other encouraging result. We were also glad to have gardening advice from the expert David Bruntlett.

At last month's P.C.C. meeting everyone gave their opinion on the architect's suggested plans for modernising the toilets and adding a meeting room. It was unanimously agreed that before any decision is taken members are asked to write down their answers to the following three questions:—

1. **What are my hopes and desires for our Church for the next five years?**
2. **What is the purpose of our Church in this parish?**
3. **What I would like to see happen to bring others to faith in the Lord.**

Margaret Antill is making a **MAJOR** plea for helpers to make themselves available during the afternoon of Friday, August 27th at the Church to clean up after all the arrangements are in place. This is a big job previously left to too few people. Do please put your own name on the list and prepare the Church for the Festival.

Gift Day gives all of us the opportunity to return the Gift Day box into which we have placed our gifts over and above our weekly giving during the last twelve months, as the Bible puts it, "the Lord has prospered us." The day itself is Sunday, June 13th.

Summer Fete this year has been fixed for Saturday, July 10th at 3.00 p.m. Held in the Vicarage garden if fine or in the Village Church hall if wet. Your help and ideas, time, talents and contribution towards the success of this event will be greatly appreciated. Please let our Church Wardens, Frank or George, or any of the Church Council know of your offers. Thank you.

Pathfinders Birthday is on Sunday, June 20th at the 10.30 a.m., Family Service. Penny Frank, our guest speaker, is well known throughout the country as a prolific writer about Christian presentation to the Child, and as a good communication to Children. Our Church members should give her support and encouragement and warmest welcome and attention. We plan to arrange transport for parents and children from Ansley Common and Ansley Village.

Congratulations

To Douglas Feather who has achieved his Ph.D. in Mathematics at Nottingham University. We trust that he will continue to be successful in all he does.

To George Ponder for the achievement of gaining recognition in the world wide magazine 'Mining Technology' and for his contribution to local industry.

On Wednesday, June 16th the Wednesday Fellowship will be in the Church Hall for the showing of one of the most recent Bible Society's film strips. This will literally put us in the picture of one of the most forward looking movements of our time. Refreshments will be served. The evening commences at 8.00 p.m.