

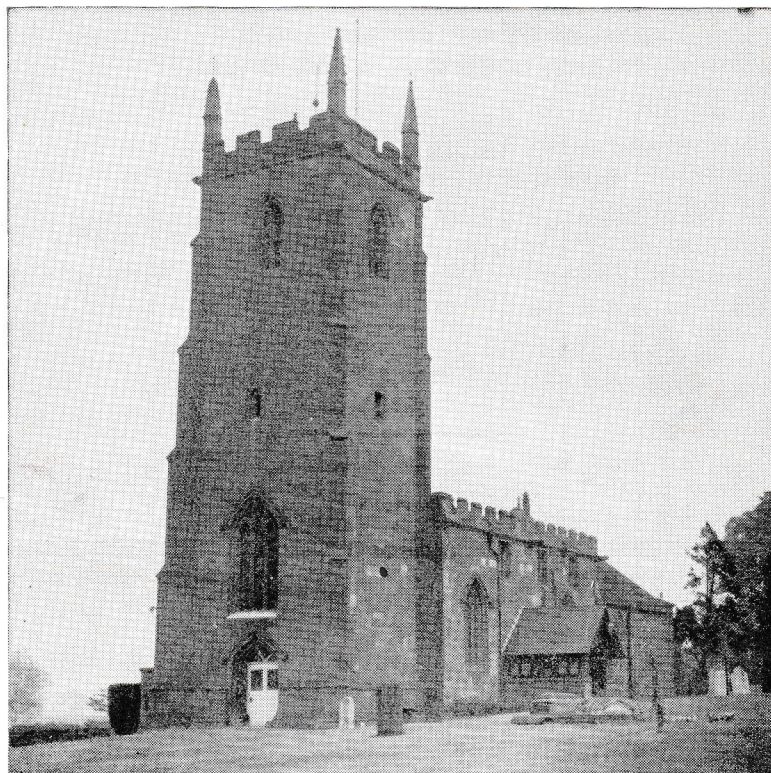
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 829

JULY 1994

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.

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The Vicarage,

July 1st, 1994

Our Dear Friends,

Nigel Skelsey is Picture Editor of the Sunday Telegraph. After his fortieth birthday he re-evaluated his life—"I had everything I could conceivably want; I had the job I always wanted, I've got a beautiful wife, I have two children, I live in a lovely 15th century house in the country. Then, two things happened; I overheard someone talking about me, saying that I wasn't truly happy unless I was in conflict with people. That was actually true. Every day for the past fifteen years I have been at war, and if someone got one thing over on me the revenge was total. The second thing was a few days later I learned that others nicknamed me 'The Beast.'

"One half of me was proud of this but the other half wasn't. Looking in the mirror I didn't recognise the man I saw, and the words of Christ came to me, 'What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but forfeits his soul?' and I knew that in my own little life I had gained the whole world but somewhere down the line I had forfeited my soul.

"On New Year's Eve a man, who I had known as a depressive, came to dinner. He was a new man healed by the Holy Spirit. As he spoke about this I burst into tears. 'The Beast' is not prone to bursting into tears at dinner parties I can assure you. This is not normal. Our guest prayed for me and I felt my body being swept over and over. All the hate and things I'd bottled up in my life was being thrown out. The effect this had on me was that I became obsessed with the desire to have God in my life.

"For years I have been quite cross with people and really hated Christians and now I was being urged to find out more. At a Christian conference Jesus came to me. Again tears were just running down my face, all the dross in my life just came out. The first thing that struck me was that I felt incredibly free. The most wonderful feeling in the world. I walked back to my bedroom and looked into the mirror in the way I had looked six weeks earlier and I saw reflected back at me a new man.

"As I have been thinking about all the things I have achieved, a Bible verse comes to me, 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.'

We thank God that He still comes to people today, in re-newing power.

James, Catherine, Mark & Rebekah.

DIARY FOR JULY 1994

Sunday, 3rd July

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion,
- 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Baptism,
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer 1662 Prayer Book.

Tuesday, 5th July

- 3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union,

Wednesday, 6th July

- Ansley Ladies,

Saturday, 9th July

- 3.00 p.m. Summer Fete,

Sunday, 10th July — South American Missionary Society Day

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion,
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Service.

Wednesday, 13th July

- 8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship,

Thursday, 14th July

- 7.45 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting at St. John's Hall, Ansley Common.

Sunday, 17th July

- 10.30 a.m. Family Service and Baptism,
- 6.30 p.m. Parish Communion,

Wednesday, 20th July

- 8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies,

Sunday, 24th July

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

Sunday, 31st July

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion,
- 6.30 p.m. Guest Service.

Every Thursday

- 10.30 a.m. Parents and Toddlers, Ansley Village Church Hall,
- 6.30 p.m. Explorers for Boys and Girls, St. John's, Ansley Common.

Every Friday

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

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Thanksgiving for Birth of a Child—'Let the children come to Me'
June 19—Thomas Bayliss, of St. Lawrence Road, Ansley Village.

Holy Matrimony—'To Love and to Cherish'
June 25—Neil James Phillips of Ansley Village to Diane Catherine Urquhart of Galley Common.

Burial of Ashes—'The Lord is My Shepherd'
June 22—Audrey Hilda Ingram, 80 years, of Woodlands Cottage Farm, Ansley Road, formerly of Birchley Heath.

Funeral

June 27—George Henry Parkes, 79 years, of Croft Mead, Ansley Village.

At last month's Parochial Church Council meeting it was decided to buy Frank Arnold a wall clock and have it suitably inscribed to express our Church's appreciation to him for the very many years of service he has so willingly and readily given. The collection towards this gift comes to a little over £200 which is just sufficient. Alec and Ian Richardson have kindly undertaken the purchase, and the arrangements for the presentation; which is planned to take place as soon as possible. When we know the time and date and place for the presentation an announcement will be made at the Sunday Services. The news will then spread and all those wanting to be present for the occasion will be most welcome. Transport can be arranged for those wanting a lift.

The Church Building had a spring clean just two weeks ago. It did need it. A lot of dust and cobwebs normally out of reach; and dirty windows some with black grime. But because of an industrious team of men and women who cheerfully gave their time and energy quite a transformation has taken place. Thank you; especially our new Church Warden who organised it all, Margaret Antill. Margaret adds her own thank you, "Many thanks to all who helped in the Church last week, over 75 hours have been spent cleaning. We hope you agree it is a bit better than it was." Yes we do! Both Sally and Stephen were busy on the job too! Well done!!

The Children in Concert evening was a very enjoyable event. Many were present to hear the Children of Manorfield School, Stoney Stanton give a most impressive performance of wide ranging music. Under Mrs. Holt, the conductor, the very best in Children's singing was demonstrated. Jane Kimberley's pupils completed the concert with an accomplished performance of favourites for the flute.

We are indebted to Margaret Kimberley not only for arranging the evening, but also for accompanying all the items.

After the expenses had been met a handsome profit of £172 was added to the Church funds.

'Thank you' to the team of ladies who served us all with refreshments afterwards.

The Ansley Ladies 'mystery trip' is on Wednesday, July 6th leaving the Village Church Hall at 7.15 p.m. Please meet at 7.00 p.m. at the hall in readiness for the coach.

W. Ponder

Mothers' Union meets on Tuesday, July 5th at 3.00 p.m. in the Church Hall. New members are welcome. Come and share fellowship with us and have a cup of tea.

W. Ponder.

Pray for our Parochial Church Council as we meet this month, again at St. John's Church Hall, Ansley Common, 7.45 p.m. on Thursday, July 14th as we discuss plans and ideas for the future.

At our Pathfinder Birthday service last month we were pleased to welcome, and the children were delighted to have, the Puppet Theatre team singing and entertaining with Christian songs and Bible themes. The team were very willing to come from Bedworth Christian Centre in spite of last minute arrangements due to David Ward being unable to be with us. Following the service, a good number of us walked across the fields to a picnic and games in the meadow near Ansley Mill. The Pathfinder Birthday Cake was especially enjoyed. Thank you to the many who contributed to making that day so enjoyable.

There are five Sundays in July. On the fifth Sunday evening we shall be having our Guest Service. If you would like your favourite hymn to be included in the programme do please write it down including the number and the book it is in and put it either in the suggestion box or give it to one of the Wardens.

The Summer Fete will be held on Saturday, July 9th in the Vicarage garden or, if the weather is unsuitable, in the Church Hall. Offers of help and gifts of items will be appreciated. Stalls will include **confectionery, stationery, tins of food, ice cream, white elephant, etc.**, as well as refreshments. The event commences at 3.00 p.m., with a fancy dress competition for the boys and girls.

St. Wilfrid's, Old Arley are holding a Flower Festival on Saturday and Sunday, July 2nd and 3rd. The theme is "Creation." On the evening of Sunday, July 3rd they have a 6.00 p.m., service to which members of the 'Ley' group are welcome. The singing will be led by Paul Norton's Music Group from St. Andrew's Church, Bedworth, and Paul is the Preacher. We shall be holding our usual Book of Common Prayer 1662 evening prayer service for those who prefer a more formal worship.

Audrey Hilda Ingram was born at Birchley Heath Farm eighty years ago. She married Walter in 1942 at St. Paul's, Stockingford. They lived at Church Farm, Bedworth for 30 years. She was a quiet lady greatly loved and respected by her family to whom we offer our sympathy.

Children's Society Cake Bake. Many thanks to all who helped by baking, buying, serving refreshments on the breezy but warm Saturday last month. A cheque for £85 has been sent to the Children's Society. Thank you for your continued support.

Margaret Oliver.

Any Volunteers? to help weed the Churchyard paths. If you have an hour or two to spare, that kindness would be appreciated.

Part of the letter sent by Peter and Lyndy Valentine, missionaries in Temuco, Chile.

Deaf School News. The general "feeling" at the school is good and we look forward to the prospect of working together as a team. Due to the reorganization Peter now heads vocational studies and teaches computer studies to senior students and to a group of ex-pupils.

There remain many projects that we would like to proceed with but due to one reason or another are currently "on hold." We pray that the Lord will light our path and direct us.

The (Deaf) Youth Club has just started again, a new member of staff from the school, Angelica, has joined the team. She is a christian and Pete feels that she will be a great help in our efforts at "social evangelism" (evangelism through love of the person). The youths at the club need to know that Jesus loves them for what they are, not what they would like themselves to be.

We pray that by reading this prayer letter you will find motives for praise and prayer both for us personally and for our work. We continue to praise our God daily for his rich blessings upon our lives.

Friends will be pleased to know that Peter and Lyndy are planning to visit our parish again whilst they are in this country. The date of their visit is for Sunday, February 12th, 1995.