

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No, 865

JULY 1997

Price 20p



During the Interregnum the following people may be contacted:

Warden & Lay Chairman of P.C.C.:

GEORGE PONDER Tel.: 392401

Warden:

MARGARET ANTILL Tel.: 01827 874520

Deputy Wardens:

JOYCE ALLTON Tel.: 01827 713016

DAVID COVE Tel.: 394114

ANTHONY TRUELOVE Tel.: 01676 41105

Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel.: (01203) 382902

FROM THE EDITOR

28 Nuthurst Crescent,
Ansley Village,
CV10 9PJ

Tel.: 394114

1st July, 1997

Dear Friends,

As we bid farewell to James, Catherine, Mark and Rebecca, we wish them good health and happiness in their new home and surroundings.

Just as the Jasper family will experience hopes and fears in a new stage of their lives, so we in Ansley Parish are on the threshold of a new era. This is a time for prayer and working together to keep the Christian Faith alive and growing, not only in the Parish but in our hearts and minds.

We would all like stability and security in our lives, free from changes, but Jesus like us knew many changes in his life. As he left the security of the carpenter shop and his earthly family, to take God's word out to outlying places, he must have felt loneliness, trepidation, solitude and perhaps sometimes like us frustration. However, as more and more people listened, learned and believed, His work became the greatest truth ever told. That step from carpenter to preacher made the greatest impact this world has ever known and still continues 2000 years later.

Throughout His ministry Jesus knew that His Heavenly Father was there for Him to talk to, to depend on and to turn to for spiritual guidance. We have the same privilege afforded to us in Ansley Parish as life deals us knocks and bruises, we can turn to God our Father in Heaven who is our Rock, our Strength and our Guide. He is there steadfast and true for ever.

"This is our God for ever and ever. He will be our Guide even unto death." Psalm 48 v 14.

God Bless,

Marie

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR JULY

Tuesday, July 1st

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union meeting in the Hall.

Sunday, July 6th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Preacher: R. Rogers.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer).

Sunday, July 13th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service (Informal).

Thursday, July 10th

7.45 p.m. P.C.C. Meeting in St. John's Hall.

Sunday, July 20th

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

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Sunday, July 27th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Every week at St. John's Church Hall:

Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 a.m. Playgroup.

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Youth Club.

Thursday 6.30 p.m. Explorers.

Every week in the Village Church Hall:

Tuesday 10.00 a.m. Senior Citizens.

6.30 p.m. Children's Club.

8.00 p.m. Youth Club.

Editor: Marie Cove, 28 Nuthurst Crescent,

Ansley Village CV10 9PJ

Telephone: Chapel End 394114

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.

If anyone would like to contribute to the magazine for an organisation or personally, any input would be very welcome. Telephone the Editor and I will be pleased to talk or visit.

Nuneaton Deanery Service—Worship, Witness and Word held at Bramcote Barracks on June 12th, 1997. This was a service not to be missed, with so many churches coming together to witness to their input in their individual parishes. Ansley's presentation was given by Margaret Oliver and Marie Cove for the Children and Young People's groups in Ansley Village and Ansley Common. Let us hope this will be repeated and others from our Parish can share their witness.

OUR CHURCH POSITION — PRESENT AND FUTURE

Before the Vicar's retirement the P.C.C. Officers have had discussions with the Rural Dean concerning our future position as a Parish. It was on June 3rd, 1997 at 7.30 p.m. that our Bishop Anthony came with other Church Officers to discuss our future as a Parish Church.

Before the meeting with the Bishop the P.C.C. spent many hours filling in details of our Parish history and requirements to enable a decision to be made in the near future of our well being as a church.

The alternatives we face are:

- 1—Breaking the Parish into three parts and putting these with three other churches to raise their numbers. If this takes place our Church could face extinction, since we would not be viable.
- 2—Attach another area to church to raise numbers so that a vicar would be justified for our church.
- 3—To appoint a number of vicars to look after a group of churches including Ansley.
- 4—To appoint a new vicar for our church only and our vicar to co-operate with other churches to cover sickness and holidays.

From discussions we have had to date, there will be a greater Lay participation in our churches in future. As a Parish Church we rely very much on the people of our Parish to give us all the support you can, because without your co-operation we have no future.

G. G. Ponder, Churchwarden.

Great Cake Bake Sale. Thanks for your generosity once again as we are able to send £90 to the Children's Society. There was a splendid variety of cakes on sale from scones, small cakes to fruit cakes.

The Children's Society was founded in 1881 in response to the appalling conditions experienced by the many children eking out an existence in Victorian London. It remains a Christian organisation committed to the welfare of children and young people in Great Britain.

Thank you for your continued support,

Margaret Oliver.

Ansley Village Church Hall. The Plant Sale held in May made a final total of £265. I wish to thank everyone who helped in any way to make this such a great success, as finance for day to day running of the Church Hall is very hard to come by.

Line Dance. These have been organised by Joanne Phillips on a monthly basis and have made a profit for Church Hall funds by approximately £35 per dance.

Looking to the future we now have a Bowls Mat provided by the North Warwickshire Council, and as soon as bowls have been purchased a Bowls Night will be started twice per month.

Dave Cove.

Mothers' Union Coffee Morning held on Wednesday, June 18th was well attended and enjoyed by everyone. The sun was shining and £25 was raised for M.U. funds.

Advance Notice. Once again over the August Bank Holiday we shall be holding our Annual Flower Festival. Please note that the holiday is early this year. The Festival starts on the 22nd August and draws to a close on the 25th August.

This year, for many reasons, more new helpers will be needed for the many jobs—from helping with the flowers, teas and cleaning, etc. If you feel you could spare the time to help sometime in any way, please contact Margaret Antill.

The theme this year is "Messages." Please help us get the message over!

P.C.C. Meeting. The July P.C.C. Meeting will be at St. John's Hall, Ansley Common at 7.45 p.m.

Holy Matrimony

June 14—Richard Anthony Mason of Solihull to Hazel Glover of Village Farm.

Funerals

June 19—Eva Annie Worrall, 87 years, of Pipers Lane.

An Instrument of Ten Strings . . . Psalm 144 v 9

"I will sing a new song unto Thee, O God : upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto Thee." An old man at a prayer meeting prayed like this—

"O Lord we will praise Thee; we will praise Thee with an instrument of ten strings!" People in the service wondered what the ten strings were, but presently they discovered what the elderly gentleman meant, for he continued to say—

"We will praise Thee with our eyes by looking unto Thee,
We will praise Thee with our ears by listening only to Thy Voice,
We will praise Thee with our Hands by working in Thy service,
We will praise Thee with our hands by working in Thy service,
We will praise Thee with our feet by walking in the ways of Thy statutes

We will praise Thee with our tongue, by bearing testimony of Thy loving kindness,

We will praise Thee with our heart, by loving only Thee,
We will praise Thee for this instrument Lord; Keep it in tune
Play upon it as Thou wilt! Ring out the melodies of Grace;
Keep it in harmony; make it speak of Thy Glory,"

For Thy Name's sake . . . Amen