

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 842

AUGUST 1995

Price 20p



Vicar:

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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,

August 1st, 1995

Our Dear Friends,

There are two important occasions in our parish this month. The first is to share in the National Service to mark the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War on the twentieth; when in 1945, victory in Japan took place. We will do this as part of our evening service.

The fiftieth anniversary both of V.E. Day and V.J. Day has stimulated a wave of nostalgia and awakened many war-time memories. The nine o'clock news ritual, for example, when it became part of the nation's lifestyle throughout the war—listening to each evening's bulletin.

It was essential and the most practical way to keep in touch with the progress of the war. The years of defeat and disaster which were followed by the positive achievements and ultimate victory. First in Europe and then in the Far East. We tuned in to keep in touch.

Often the nation was saddened, and at other times encouraged, by the news; but always challenged by the speeches of Winston Churchill. We were in it together and, though remote from the War Front, all kept informed and in touch.

Many today are still well informed in a more detached way with world events, but in those war days, following the example of King George VI, we kept in touch with God. We went to church especially on the Days of Prayer for the Nation. We acknowledged our dependence upon God in the days of crisis, and we came together for Praise and Thanksgiving in the days of victory.

The second important occasion for us in our parish is the **31st Flower Festival** which will be taking place over the August Bank Holiday weekend. The theme chosen for this year is the Ten Commandments—God's code of conduct for life's highway.

To attempt to observe the highway code is the safest approach when taking any journey we may choose to make. But I suppose all of us, pedestrian or motorist, break the code from time to time. The Ten Commandments set for us very high standards of safety too. They call us to give God our worship and to concern ourselves with the integrity of our neighbour's life, home, property and good name.

Now, the interesting thing is that, God's purpose in giving us the Law was to rob us of self praise as we make an honest assessment of our conduct; and then to push us to Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who has carried our guilt on the cross. Mind you, once we embrace the Lord, we will want to live in the way that pleases Him and by His grace acquaint ourselves with His commandments and conduct ourselves accordingly.

Without the enthusiasm of our Church Warden Mrs. Margaret Antill, we would be hard pressed to hold this valuable annual event. We do thank her most warmly and look forward to this special time that brings us all together.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY FOR AUGUST

Sunday, August 6th

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

Sunday, August 13th

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

Monday, August 14th

- 9.00 a.m. Churchyard Clean-up.

Saturday, August 19th

- 5.00 p.m. Barbecue at Birchley Heath.

Sunday, August 20th

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

Wednesday, August 23rd

- 9.00 a.m. Festival preparations, all day and Thursday and Friday.

Thursday, August 24th

- 7.00 p.m. Erecting the Marquee.

Friday, August 25th

- 6.00 p.m. Flower Festival Opens.
- 8.00 p.m. Flower Festival Dedication Service.

Saturday, August 26th

- 10.00 a.m. Church open for Viewing and Marquee open for refreshments and produce sale.

Sunday, August 27th

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Festival Service.
- Preacher: Captain Craig Grocock of the Church Army and on the staff of Bedworth Parish Church.

Monday, August 28th

- 10.00 a.m. Church open for Viewing and Marquee open for refreshments and produce sale.
- 8.00 p.m. Evening of Music and Readings in Church.

Tuesday, August 29th

- 7.00 p.m. Taking down Marquee.

Wednesday, August 30th

- 9.00 a.m. Dismantling Flower Arrangements.

Every Tuesday

- 10.00 a.m. Senior Citizens in the Village Church Hall.
- 6.00 p.m. Children's Club.

Every Friday

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

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Matrimony "With this ring I thee wed"

July 8—Alan Brayne and Clare Raynor, both of Camp Hill.

Funeral "Abide with me"

June 29—Doreen Jones, 73 years, of Nuthurst Crescent.

We offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Doreen Jones especially to Leslie her husband and also to Alan, Gay and Michael their children.

Children's Bible Crusade conducted by our very good friends Gordon and Ruth Chilvers is once again taking place during this month of August, but with a difference. Instead of every day for a week it is every Tuesday for six weeks, Commencing Tuesday, July 25th through to Tuesday, August 29th. The main meeting begins at 10.00 a.m. Then games, etc., will be organised in their spacious grounds. This annual event attracts a large number of children from the surrounding district including Ansley Common. Grateful parents give a helping hand. For further details ring 392313.

Resulting from the Barbecue on July 1st we were able to send the Church Army approximately £125. Thank you so much for supporting that evening. A letter of appreciation together with the receipt will be put on the noticeboard in the Church porch when we receive it.

Ansley in Bloom income was £257. We had not got the final figure when the July magazine went to print. This amount has been added to the growing income for the new building. Thank you.

FLOWER FESTIVAL NEWS

Theme: "Commandments"

Churchyard Work Team will be busy during this month to help make the grounds suitable for the Festival. Will you please help? Removing dead flowers, etc., and any rubbish and generally giving a helping hand. The main team gets to work on Monday, August 14th please bring tools and turn up.

A Team of Cleaners is required on Friday, August 25th from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m., for which any one can volunteer to ensure that the Church is ready for our visitors. Help is also needed on Wednesday 30th when we will be cleaning up after the Festival. Please contact Diana Kealey Tel.: 395089.

Stewards are needed in Church all the time it is open. If you could spare an hour during the Festival it would be much appreciated. Please contact Mr. Ray Hobbs Tel.: 395723.

Any gifts of cakes would be greatly appreciated by the catering group to help with refreshments. Also help in the marquee to serve customers. Please telephone Mrs. Berridge 392092.

The Produce Stall. Offers of help and produce will be welcomed by David Cove. Telephone 394114.

If anyone has flowers, or wishes to contribute to the cost of bought flowers, I will be pleased to hear from you. My telephone number is 01827 874520 or (01676 541105) during the week of the Festival.

Margaret Antill.

Do bring your friends to the Flower Festival. We trust that they, and you, will enjoy the floral displays illustrating the many Biblical occasions when God's commands are spoken. The Church will be open from 6.00 p.m., on Friday evening and also from 10.00 a.m., on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The Festival concludes with our usual finale on the Monday night at 8.00 p.m., to which all are invited. The

proceeds will be divided amongst Church funds, The Nuneaton Hospitals League of Friends and The Acorn Children's Hospice at Selly Oak, Birmingham. Margaret Antill.

On Saturday, August 19th another Barbecue evening is being planned to take place on the Common at Birchley Heath, commencing at about 5.00 p.m. Music is being provided by a team from Atherstone Parish Church, Youth experts are looking after the food. So we are trusting that we shall enjoy as good an evening as we did about three or four years ago on that same site. Please help us to put the marquee up at approximately 3.30 p.m. Should the weather be unsuitable for that site we shall hold the event in Dr. & Mrs. John Harris's Barn.

Summer Fete held on Saturday, July 8th in the Vicarage garden was a very enjoyable time. Very many thanks to all who helped and to all the customers who kindly supported us. The weather was very summery, so lots of tea and ice cream was consumed. The children enjoyed their fancy dress costumes and the adults enjoyed the "Judging." For the general funds the income was £184.

Car Treasure Hunt. Kindly organised by Tony and Joyce Allton proved to be quite an entertaining evening. The cars were well organised and the drivers received a simple road route to follow. The evening concluded with welcome refreshments, and the winning car was suitably decked! and the "Treasure" presented. The occasion was a further opportunity to boost the rising indicator on the New Building Barometer.

The dead WILL rise! In a cemetery in Hanover, Germany is a grave on which were placed huge slabs of granite and marble cemented together and fastened with huge heavy steel clasps. It was occupied by a woman who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. Yet strangely, she directed in her will that her grave be made so secure that if there was a resurrection of the dead it could not reach her. In time a seed, covered by the stones began to grow, slowly pushing its way through the soil and out from beneath them. As the seed grew into a tree the great slabs were gradually shifted and the steel straps were wrenched apart. A tiny seed had been the means of showing the utter futility of attempting to avoid the resurrection of the dead and the final Judgement. Unbelief cannot deter the resurrection but faith in the risen Christ opens a door to the blessings that His resurrection guarantees.

Finding new sources of water is vital to life in places like Ethiopia and Eritrea. That is why a British company called "Groundflow" is working there with a new water survey technique with one of **TEAR FUND'S Churches** called the Kale Heywet Church. By means of a metal plate hooked up to a computer the engineer and **TEAR FUND'S MANAGER**, is able to locate water which has sunk deep below the earth's surface. When pockets of water have been located drilling can take place and the water brought to the surface for use by local communities. The survey works by detecting electrokinetic signals which are generated when seismic impulses shake porous rocks containing liquid which is moving. Impulses are caused by striking the metal plate with a large hammer. The method is capable of penetrating to a depth of 100 metres and is said to be 100% accurate.