

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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**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,

August 1st, 1996

Our Dear Friends,

An 85 year old gentleman wrote the following:—"In the early stages of my stroke I had to go into hospital for treatment. I found plenty of opportunities to share my faith. For example, on one occasion I was taken to the toilet last thing at night by a caring nurse. On sitting me on the seat she blurted out "I don't believe in God." This rather stunned me and there was a moment of silence which was broken when she added, "You don't like to hear me say that do you?" "No" I replied with fervour "because I have believed in God practically the whole of my life, and what is more, I have proved Him."

"Then I explained, I was fortunate to be brought up by Christian parents, "What about you?" I questioned, "They were unbelievers," she replied so I had to admit that in comparison I had received a favourable start on her, "However" I added, "it is never too late to start," then adding Bible words, "Now is the day,"

I further questioned (still on the toilet seat!) "Why do you not believe?" "Because," she replied, "I have a twenty-three year old brother who is dying of cancer and when he dies he will leave behind a young child. There cannot be a God who would allow this." I explained that the God in whom I believe so loves the world—you and me—that He allowed His Son to die (not of cancer) but a cruel death of crucifixion on a cross to become the Saviour of the world; your Saviour and my Saviour, and in accepting Him into our lives one becomes a Christian believer.

"To conclude this rather unexpected conversation, I asked, "What is your name?" she replied "Kate, mate." Then I explained; the reason why I ask is this, if I have failed to convince you tonight I shall especially remember you in prayer that your blind eyes may be opened, not only for your sake, but for the sake of your family that they may not grow up to be unbelievers. My prayers continue for her.'

Margaret Antill, surrounded by a large group of supporters, will, this month be involved in launching the 32nd Flower Festival. There will be a lot of energy, skill and enthusiasm put into this Bank Holiday weekend event; and for that we are most grateful. This is an annual date most look forward to and the theme is "Grow."

Nothing grows unless it is living and that includes our faith. We grow in faith in proportion to our commitment. We who are followers of God will be encouraged by this gentleman's quoted letter and his enthusiasm for planting God's living Word. The variety of flower displays illustrate ways in which we too may express our faith.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

## DIARY FOR AUGUST

### Sunday, August 4th

- 8.00 a.m. Parish Communion (Book of Common Prayer).
- 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Alternative Service Book).
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer).

### Sunday, August 11th

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion (Alternative Service Book).
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

### Sunday, August 18th

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

### Thursday, August 22nd

- 7.00 p.m. Erecting the Marquee.

### Friday, August 23rd — Flower Festival

- 6.00 p.m. Church is open for viewing.
- 8.00 p.m. Service of Dedication for the Flower Festival.

### Saturday, August 24th

- 10.00 a.m. Church is open for viewing.
- Marquee open for refreshments and sale of produce.

### Sunday, August 25th

- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Preacher: The Rev. Paul Simmonds, Diocesan Mission Adviser.

### Bank Holiday Monday, August 26th

- 10.00 a.m. Church is open for viewing.
- 8.00 p.m. Festival concludes with the Concert.

### Tuesday, August 27th

- 7.00 p.m. Marquee taken down.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptism "Do you turn to Christ?" "I turn to Him."

- July 7—Ryan Peter Morris of Tunnel Road,  
Thomas Richard Dingley of Nuthurst Crescent.

### Holy Matrimony "Till death us do part."

- July 6—Marcus John Sutton of Manor House Farm to Helen  
Wilkinson of Simon Close, Nuneaton.

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

- July 3—Ellen Asbury, aged 87 years of Ansley Village.
- July 11—Daniel Arthur Greenway, aged 78 years, of Nuneaton,  
formerly of Ansley Common.

**Ellen Asbury** moved from Ansley Village to Bracebridge Court. She was a person of far reaching goals and high ideals and this was expressed in the Bible Reading which was read at the service Philippians 3 : 14 "I run straight towards the goal in order to win the prize which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above." We offer our condolences to all the family.



**Daniel Arthur Greenway**, affectionately known as D.A.G., led a very full and active life; successful in his business life and popular in his public life.

President of the Builders Federation, the Rotary Club and Nuneaton Lions, Chairman of The Royal Warwickshire Regiment and Secretary of the Stockingford British Legion. He was a member of our Church Council and a Sidesman. He was full of good works and good fun. We offer our deepest sympathy to Eileen, to whom he was married for 54 years, and also to the rest of the family.

**Planned for the Autumn** is a course of Christian Introduction called "The Alpha Course." This commences on Wednesday, September 25th with a dinner at Ansley Village Church Hall. After the meal Colin Brown, who comes from Nuneaton and manages the Co-op Shop on the Foleshill Road in Coventry, will introduce the course and answer any questions you may have. Colin has been involved in Alpha Courses at Coton Parish Church (which is currently conducting its 8th course). The meal and talk on that evening will explain the project, which has proved so popular in thousands of Churches throughout our country. **Come and bring a friend for that evening without any obligation to join the course.** Those who want to join will then enrol and the eight week course begins on Wednesday, October 9th. Arley will also be joining us.

**At the P.C.C. Meeting in July** appreciation was expressed to Pauline Gaskin who has provided carpet runners for some pews in Church. Also to Ray Hobbs who has painted the garden seat and signs in the Churchyard. And to David Morley who organised the "Open Gardens" in June, and also to Eileen Evans for repairing the frontal for the Communion Table. This frontal is something like 90 years old, having been made by Mrs. Charles Heaton. Mr. Heaton was Vicar here from 1892 to 1923.

**Strong men are needed** to help erect the marquee in preparation for the Flower Festival on Thursday night at 7.00 p.m., August 22nd and to take it down and store it away Tuesday 7.00 p.m., August 27th, please come and help us.

**Our preacher for the Flower Festival** on the Sunday evening plays a prominent role on forward thinking in our diocese, as plans for evangelistic outreach are considered, to take us into the next century. He is also Associate Minister in the parish of Wolston. We give him a warm welcome.

**There are always** plenty of the Diocesan monthly bulletins called "Diamond" left on the literature table; few bother to know what is going on in our diocese. But we may well want to get hold of this month's. Not only does it tell the story of our **Alpha course dinner speaker** and the many churches using the course, but gives an insight into the Coventry Diocese Research Planning, and what we can expect Ansley Church to be doing in as short a time as twenty years.

#### **FLOWER FESTIVAL**

Once again this year, over the August Bank Holiday we shall be holding our Annual Flower Festival as we have every year had since 1965. As in other years many hands make light work and any help in any way, would be much appreciated.

If anyone has any time in the week commencing, during the event, or on the Wednesday after your assistance would be very acceptable.

A team of cleaners is required on Friday 23rd from 4.00-6.00 p.m., for which any one can volunteer, to ensure that the Church is ready for our visitors.

To ensure someone is in Church all the time it is open, additional new stewards are needed this year, as due to changes in some of our previous helpers circumstances there will be some slots not covered. If you could spare an hour during the festival it would be most helpful. Please contact me on 01827 874520.

There are also jobs in the churchyard that need attention, i.e. sweeping the paths and weeding the gardens, etc. Please just come and do any job you see that needs to be done at any time. Please bring tools and turn up.

Additional help is also needed with the refreshments, any gifts of cakes would be greatly received by Mrs. Sutton. Also help serving refreshments would be appreciated. Please contact Mrs. Sutton on 392488.

Any gifts for the produce stall will be welcomed by Mr. Cove. contact him on 394114.

If any one has flowers, or wishes to contribute to the cost of bought flowers, please contact me on 01827 874520 (or 01676 541105 during the week of the festival).

The theme for this year's Festival is "Growth." During the week-end please come and bring your friends to see our lovely Church and help make it the success it always has been over the past 31 years. I hope that they, and you, will enjoy the festival and share in team work, camaraderie and friendship as so many people have over the years. The Church will be open from 6.00 p.m., on Friday evening and from 9.30 a.m. till dusk Saturday to Monday. The Festival finishes with our usual finale at 8.00 p.m. to which all are invited. All proceeds will be divided between Church funds, the Nuneaton Hospitals League of Friends and The Acorn Children's Hospice at Selly Oak, Birmingham.

Margaret Antill

#### **Our responsibility to our Children in our home**

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.  
If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith.  
If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight.  
If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice.  
If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy.  
If a child lives with praise, he learns to appreciate.  
If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilty.  
If a child lives with encouragement, he learns confidence.  
If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient.  
If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself.  
If a child lives with acceptance and friendship, he learns to find love in the world.