

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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The Vicar would like to hear of cases of sickness. Please send messages to the Vicarage.

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Ansley Vicarage, September 1st, 1987

Our Dear Friends,

Our Sunday School begins again this month under the able leadership of Marie. She is making some attractive plans for the future. We must all support the Sunday School with our interest, our prayers and our encouragement. Why not get to know the names of each child; write them down, divide the list into seven and you will then have a number of children to pray for each day of the week. To your prayers for them you can add their parents and their homes. Don't forget to pray for the Sunday School teachers, maybe the Lord wants you to be a helper or teacher in the Sunday School. Marie is looking for more helpers. It is a grand work, one in which the Lord has a specific interest. He often called a little child to be at His side whilst He was preaching.

"But wait a minute," I can imagine someone saying, "Don't you think that religion is out of date? I find it boring! don't forget this is 1987 not 30 A.D." The questioner clearly assumes that learning about God is unpractical and irrelevant for life. In fact, however, it is the most practical project anyone can engage in. Knowing about God is crucially important for the living of our lives.

We are cruel to ourselves if we try to live in this world without knowing about the God whose world it is and who runs it. The world becomes a strange, mad, painful place and life in it a disappointing and unpleasant business, for those who do not know about God. Disregard God and we sentence ourselves to stumble and blunder through life blindfold with no sense of direction and no understanding of what surrounds us. This way we can waste our life and lose our soul.

To get to know something of the greatness of God is definitely improving to the mind. It is a subject so vast that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity. No subject will tend more to humble the mind than thoughts of God. But while the subject humbles the mind it also expands the mind. He who often thinks of God will have a larger mind than the man who simply plods around the globe with a self-indulgent attitude. This knowledge is for the pleasure of the child to know and the privilege of the adult to teach.

Just one other thing, please spend another two minutes to read this letter again.

God Bless you,

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1987

Tuesday, September 1st

10.30 a.m. Energetic helpers needed to help take down the marquee after the Flower Festival.

Thursday, September 3rd

St. John's Hall. Committee meets to plan visit of parishioners from St. Columbus, Corby at Harvest Weekend.

Friday, September 4th

7.45 p.m. Confirmation Class at the Vicarage.

Sunday, September 6th — Trinity 12

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Family Communion. Preacher: The Rev. Glenn Martin. Mrs. Sally Martin will sing.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "I am the light of the World."

Wednesday, September 9th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Sunday, September 13th — Trinity 13

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "I am the Bread of Life."

Sunday, September 20th — Trinity 14

11.00 a.m. The Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. "I am the Good Shepherd."

Wednesday, September 23rd

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Sunday, September 27th — Trinity 15

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

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

Monday, September 28th

8.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council Meeting at St. John's Hall.

We are very grateful to the team of helpers who have organised the 1987 Flower Festival under the able and experienced leadership of Edith Truelove. Over the years this event has become one of our Church's annual highlights and that is right that it should be so. This year's theme is a reminder to us that the central message of the Gospel is not to capture our attention for merely one week of the year but for all times and all places.

"Money is a good servant, but a poor master." Bonhours.

Money will buy

a bed but not sleep

books but not brains

finery but not beauty

food but not an appetite

a house but not a home

medicine but not health

Luxuries but not culture

amusement but not happiness

a church but not heaven.

It is better to have your bank in heaven than to have your heaven in a bank.

The final Gift Day amount was £614.97. Many people were very generous and the Church Council are encouraged. It was decided at the recent Council meeting that another Gift Day be planned for 1988.

The Church acknowledges with very grateful thanks donations amounting to £50 given instead of wreaths at the funeral of William Leslie Clark; and donations amounting to £600 instead of wreaths plus gifts in memory of Mrs. Letitia May Mander. This second amount has been placed in the fabric fund. To both families and their friends the Church records its warmest appreciation.

VISIT OF PARISHIONERS FROM ST. COLUMBUS CHURCH CORBY NORTHANTS.

They came to meet us last May, they come again for the Harvest Weekend October 9th, 10th and 11th. On the 3rd of September the committee, formed to arrange the event, meets for the second time. If anyone would like to invite the visitors for a meal or a house meeting or coffee morning or to simply help in any way do please let the Wardens or any member of the Committee know.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Marriages

"A sight to warm the heart, a man and wife who are inseparable"

Aug. 1—Darren John Wright to Jane Clark.

Aug. 8—Michael Anthony Riley to Corrine Jayne Barker.

Funerals

"In Christ shall the believer be made alive"

July 13—William Leslie Clarke of Cottage Farm, aged 77 years.

July 25—Thomas Middleton.

July 25—Letitia May Mander of Atherstone and late of Wood Barn Farm, aged 92 years.

July 30—Alfred James Smith.

Ansley Ladies' Association is holding a Fashion Show on Wednesday, September 2nd by Websters Wools in Ansley Village Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. Admission 50p. Tickets available from members. Refreshments will be available.

Ansley Village Mothers' Union will meet on Tuesday, September 1st at 3.00 p.m., in Ansley Village Church Hall. Speaker will be Mrs. Phillips, wife of Rev. P. Phillips, the Rector of Arley. Everyone welcome.

On July 13th Bill Clarke of Cottage Farm, Birchley Heath, was laid to rest in Ansley Churchyard. We are all very sorry about this as Bill had quietly supported Ansley Church for a very long time. He and his wife were to be seen at Church functions and in their seat in Church very often. To Lucy, his wife, and to all his family we send a message of deep sympathy

and pray that God will give them His support and comfort at this sad time.

'Religion does bring large profits but only to those who are content with what they have.' This was said in reference to the late Letitia Mander. Saturday morning the 25th July saw the car park and lane choked with cars and the Church packed with friends and relations who had come to thank God for the life of the little old lady of 92, she was barely 5ft tall, always friendly and cheerful. She never lost her interest or concern for farming. She would have understood and applauded the mourner who arrived late in a cattle truck, having been tending a sick cow. Modern technology she disregarded although her life had spanned the introduction of so much. Until too frail to carry on she devoted her life to the service of Ansley Church. Hers was a self effacing supportive role, supporting her husband, the late Ernest Mander who was Church Warden for 42 years. She took pleasure in her grandchildren and great grandchildren and they were all kind in their response to her. On the eve of her death she attended the Ruby Wedding celebrations of the marriage of her nephew Henry and Marjorie Plumb. As she left she reminded Henry of the announcement of his birth. A sheet on the line at Park Farm breaking the news to Barn Farm across the Valley. Little did she think that he would sit in a pew at her funeral, President of Europe. She went to bed quite happily having had her usual supper. Taken ill at 5.30 a.m., she had joined her Lord and Ernest before twenty minutes had gone. Hers was a simple faith expressed in service to others and to her Church. The epitaph to Ernest and Letitia will be to know that the Church they loved continues to thrive and be a Blessing to others as it was to them. She has proved for herself that Jesus has kept His word. I go to prepare a place for you . . . I will come again and receive you unto myself.

BIBLE IMPORT 'MIRACLE'

A shipment of Russian Bibles and hymn books has arrived in Moscow through official channels.

Details of the delivery, on June 9th, were announced by United Bible Societies, the international co-ordinating fellowship of Bible Societies.

It also reported the successful delivery on June 6th of a quantity of paper to Soviet Georgia on which the Georgian Orthodox Church will print 10,000 Bibles.

The Russian Bibles were printed in Stuttgart and taken to Moscow by Sovtrans, the official Soviet transport agency.

Speedy transport was accomplished with a minimum of import formalities.

"This is a miracle," commented the Rev. Alexei Bichkov, the Baptists' general secretary. "These Bibles will be distributed among Evangelical Baptists, both to registered churches and to non-registered groups."