

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

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Vicar:

Reverend JAMES R. JASPER

Honorary Church Army Evangelist:

Mrs. CATHERINE A. JASPER

The Vicarage, Ansley Village, Nuneaton CV10 9PS

Telephone: Chapel End 396403

Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Birchley Heath Post Office 6.10 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

September 1st, 1989

Our Dear Friends,

With the football season getting under way once again few fans, of whatever team they support, will easily forget the tragic game at Hillsborough some few months ago when 95 people lost their lives.

Kenny Dalglish manages the Liverpool team as each season it rises to great heights of achievement. Yet nothing he has done on the pitch as a player nor what he has achieved in his meteoric rise to being a most successful manager, can ever compare with his simple statement immediately after the horrendous tragedy at Hillsborough. This is what he said, "Football does not matter at the moment." Those dignified words contrasted sharply with those once uttered by Bill Shankly a former manager of Liverpool who said, "Football is more important than life or death." Football, or anything else for that matter, loses significance in the presence of eternal issues. The Hillsborough tragedy speaks to our priorities. The psalmist got it right when he prayed, "Teach us to number our days aright that we may give our hearts to wisdom." Psalm 90 12.

People who have hearts of wisdom live with eternal values at heart. The work of Ezra Lawiri comes to mind as an illustration. He is in his 70's and lives in his village of Mundri in Sudan translating the Bible into the Moru language which is spoken by nearly 70,000 people. His work has gone on in spite of the civil war. He has had to hide each completed manuscript and then send them out of the country for printing. On one occasion his village was attacked and he was severely beaten but his manuscripts were safe; he later fled with them into the bush country before escaping to Uganda.

Living with eternal values at heart also takes my mind to Ethiopia where at least 741 Christians are serving prison sentences for the "crime" of praying or that of speaking at a funeral or for meeting together to worship God. Yet in a letter recently smuggled out they can actually write, "It is good for the Gospel that we are imprisoned because many prison inmates have come to believe in Christ as they have listened to the Gospel spoken by the Christian prisoners. They can burn our Churches or close them. They can destroy our Bibles or take our freedom from us, but they cannot destroy our faith."

To them eternal things matter more than the material and the temporal. Let us too attempt to cultivate an attitude to life that relegates the material and temporal and promotes the meaningful and eternal values.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1989

Friday, September 1st

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, September 3rd — Trinity 15

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Incidents from Acts — "Philip"

Monday, September 4th

7.30 p.m. Parochial Church Council in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Tuesday, September 5th

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union.

Wednesday, September 6th

8.00 p.m. Women's Association.

Thursday, September 7th

7.30 p.m. "JABOC" Theatre presentation, Coton Church Hall.

Friday, September 8th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, September 9th

10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Mission in Partnership Conference for Diocese at the Cathedral. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, September 10th

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Incidents from Acts — "Progress"

Wednesday, September 13th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, September 14th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, September 16th

11.00 a.m. National Christian Demonstration.

Assemble in Priory Street, Coventry.

March for Jesus across the Nation.

3.00 p.m. Teddy Bear Picnic in Ansley Village Church Hall.

Sunday, September 17th — Church Urban Fund Week (17th-24th)

11.00 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion. Incidents from Acts —
"About Change"

Wednesday, September 20th

8.00 p.m. Women's Association.

Friday, September 22nd

6.30 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

7.30 p.m. Gospel Service, St. James, Tile Hill.

Sunday, September 24th

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

3.00 p.m. Family Service, St. John's, Ansley Common,

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer. Incidents from Acts — "Malta"

Wednesday, September 27th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, September 29th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

O Father, Your Son means everything to me,
You sacrificed your only one
To bring me victory,
You promised that my sins
Would be dealt with once for all
So that You and I could be together
He opened heaven's door,

O Jesus, Your Life means everything to me,
You left the Father's glory
To bring me victory
You promised to be with me
From now until the end,
And sent your Holy Spirit,
Some time with me to spend,

O Spirit, Your Presence means everything to me,
You bring me peace and love and hope
In such great quantity.
I pray that you again will fill
My life with awesome power
And come once more and breath afresh
Holy Spirit fire,

Rebekah M. Jasper.

We are holding a Teddy Bears picnic in the Church Hall at 3.00 p.m., on September 16th. There will be a bring and buy stall. Light refreshments together with competitions for you and your Teddy to enter. Admission 20p if accompanied by your Teddy, 50p if alone. Do come and have fun.

Margaret Antill

Many thanks to the ladies, Pat, Sheilah, Tina and Lynda, who organised the Jumble Sale last month at St. John's and raised £14 for the Church Funds.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Marriage "To have and to hold from this day forward"

August 5—Christopher Harrison of Nuneaton to Cheryl Gibbs of Pipers Lane,

August 12—Darren Mark Taylor of Birchley Heath to Leslie Jane Bird of Galley Common,

Maurice George Clark of Birchley Heath to Julie Elizabeth Beecham of Ansley Village.

August 19—John Paul Wootton of Camp Hill to Deborah Nicholson of Camp Hill and on electoral roll of this parish,
Paul Amos and Julie Alton both of Birchley Heath.

Funerals "The valley of the shadow"

August 7—Irene Leonora Faulkner, 82 years of Ansley Village.

The March for Jesus across the Nation is a national event organised by many Christian denominations. It is planned to take place on Saturday, September 16th in 44 cities in our country. We are invited to join in the one at Coventry in Priory Street by the Cathedral where the march commences. Eight buses have already been booked from Nuneaton leaving at 10.00 a.m. Tickets are £1.25, one bus will be coming through Ansley. The bus is timed to leave Coventry on the return journey at 2.30 p.m. Before the march begins each of the 44 centres in the United Kingdom will be simultaneously linked to pray together for the nation.

"WE SAW YOUR SMOKE SIGNAL"

Apparent calamities may sometimes be blessings. An only survivor of a wreck was thrown on an uninhabited island. After a while he managed to put together for himself some sort of a hut in which he placed the little "all" that he had saved from the wreck.

Every day he prayed to God for deliverance, and every day he anxiously scanned the horizon for any sign of a passing ship that might come near enough to see him.

One day, on returning from a hunt for food, he was horrified to find his hut in flames and his "all" gone up in smoke. The worst had happened! But what seemed to be the worst was in reality the best. To God's infinite wisdom it was the best thing; to his limited vision it was the worst.

The next day a ship arrived. "We saw your smoke signal," the captain said.