

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 819

SEPTEMBER 1993

Price 13p



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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September 1st, 1993

Our Dear Friends,

In November and December 1991, what can only be described as a remarkable event took place in the Balkan peninsula in South Eastern Europe. God began to speak in visions and dreams to twenty-four Mullahs scattered along the Turkish border in Southern Bulgaria.

A Mullah is similar to the pastor of a Christian Church. He is the interpreter of the religious law within a modern Mosque and is therefore the leader of the congregation.

Jesus appeared to individual leaders of twenty-four mosques saying, "I am Jesus Christ the Messiah, you must repent of your sins and put your faith in Me to be forgiven. God has sent Me to turn you from error to truth. You must go to the Mosques and proclaim this to the people."

None of these Mullahs knew then about each other Mullah who was receiving the same vision. But each of them obeyed the vision of Jesus and on their next worship day proclaimed to their entire congregations what they had seen and heard. Without hesitation, their congregations began to seek the true God through His Son Jesus, repenting of their sins; and immediately they were filled with the Holy Spirit as those recorded in the Book of Acts Chapter Two. Men began to speak out with messages in tongues and others interpreted. Sick people were healed and men prophesied. All this happening without the benefit of Christian witness.

In each of these Moslem congregations, but now no longer Moslem, the majority of the men voted to follow Jesus with a few leaving the mosque in order to remain Moslem; (only men can go to the mosque, women are told how to believe by their husbands),

As these twenty-four Mullahs learned of each others experience, they realised that all they knew was what they had been told in these visions and dreams. Subsequently, in February 1992 they sent two of the Mullahs to Sofia, Bulgaria's capital and largest city, to look for what they described as, "The People who worship Jesus the Messiah, speak in unknown languages and have people healed of various diseases." They were directed to the Bulgaria Pentecostal Church, where they told their story and asked, "Can you provide us with Bibles and teachers?"

Doctor Ian Hall, a missionary evangelist to the Balkan States has responded to their appeal, and each of the twenty-four Mosques has a Christian Cross on the top of their Minarets.

God continues to speak today to people world wide; let us thank Him for this and have a listening ear to what He is wanting to say to us.

James, Catherine, Mark & Rebekah.

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1993

Wednesday, September 1st

8.00 p.m. Ansley Ladies.

Sunday, September 5th—Trinity 13

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer A.S.B.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer 1662 Prayer Book.

Tuesday, September 7th

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union.

Wednesday, September 8th

8.00 p.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

Saturday, September 11th

2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Parochial Church Council.

Sunday, September 12th—Trinity 14

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Wednesday, September 15th

7.30 p.m. "Walk of 1000 Men," St. Michael's, Arley.

Sunday, September 19th

10.30 a.m. Anniversary Service at Stoneleigh.

6.30 p.m. Parish Communion.

Wednesday, September 22nd

8.00 a.m. The Wednesday Fellowship.

Friday, September 24th

7.30 p.m. Ploughman's Supper and Evening of Entertainment.

Sunday, September 26th

10.00 a.m. Family Service at St. John's, Ansley Common.

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (alternative service book).

Every Friday we meet in Church for Prayer at 6.45 p.m. You are invited to join us. It is planned to last for just half an hour.

If you plan to use the special Church bus going to the Grand Ring of the Stoneleigh Showground on Sunday, September 19th you will need to add your name to the list. The bus leaves our Church car park at 9.30 a.m., for the 75th Anniversary of the Coventry Diocese Celebration Service at which the Archbishop of Canterbury will preach. We take our own picnic and the pageant, which follows on, is concluded at 3.00 p.m. We shall then return. The evening service at 6.30 p.m., will be our only service of that day in our own Church. The cost of the bus will be £2 per adult and £1 per child. Children under five years of age will travel free. The list to which names are added is on the literature table in Church.

Ansley Ladies re-commence for the Autumn programme on September 1st at Ansley Church Hall at 8.00 p.m. Speaker to be arranged. Everyone welcome. W. Ponder.

Ansley Mothers' Union starts again after the Summer break on September 7th at Ansley Village Church Hall at 3.00 p.m. New members welcome. W. Ponder.

Music, Magic and Madness is the title that David Ward gives to his contribution at the Ploughman's Supper in the Social Club, Ansley Village on Friday, September 24th at 7.30 p.m. Tickets for this event are on sale price £3.00. David Ward has previously appeared on television, featured on the radio and has done some recording. He is a business man and enjoys sharing his Christian faith in unique ways. He is already known to many of us at Church, having visited us on several occasions.

The Parochial Church Council meet on Saturday, September 11th in Ansley Village Church Hall from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m., to discuss mainly "The Way Forward" for our Church. This will be an important meeting.

Several men from our neighbouring parish of Arley will be speaking at St. Michael's, Arley on Wednesday, September 15th at 7.30 p.m., about their experiences during their participation in the "Walk of 1000 men." It promises to be a stimulating meeting.

Children's Meetings have been taking place on the Common at Birchley Heath on some summer evenings during the holidays. It has been good to have the help of adults on several occasions. Thank you! We trust that the same thing can be done next year.

Peter and Lyndy Valentine have sent a number of copies of their prayer letter. These are available on the literature table. Their work at Temuco continues to grow in spite of various difficulties mainly the language problem. We continue to pray for them that God will equip and use them.

"September Serenade." Patricia Garnham, a professional singer now living at Spring Hill, Arley is combining her talents with those of Jane Kimberley (flutist) and Ulla Vangsgaard (pianist) to present a musical evening in church on Saturday, September 11th at 7.30 p.m. This will hopefully be the first of a series of concerts in aid of our depleted Church Funds.

Please come along and support this venture. I am sure you will enjoy the varied programme. Tickets, priced at £2.50, will include light refreshments. They are available from P.C.C. members, the Flower Festival marquee, at Church services or on the evening itself.

Margaret Kimberley (Evening organist).

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptism

"Learning to be faithful in worship, prayer, trust and confirmation."
July 25—Elisha Amos, of Birmingham Road, Ansley Village,

Holy Matrimony

"To love, comfort, honour, protect and be faithful,"

July 31—Paul Ian Carnell, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire to Stephanie Anita Stain, of Galley Common,

Aug. 21—Robert Paul Bates, of Bulkington to Gail Oxford, of Stockingford,

Burial of Ashes "The dead in Christ shall rise."

Aug. 7—Frank Mercer,

Funeral

Aug. 19—Elizabeth Annie Dingley, 93 years of Ridge Lane.

Funerals at the Crematorium Chapel

Aug. 9—Bernard Richard Wilson, 68 years of Ansley Common.

Aug. 12—Herbert John Cope, 79 years of Ansley Common,

We express our deepest sympathy to Alec and Miriam Richardson in the passing away of Miriam's mother Mrs. Elizabeth Annie Dingley. Mrs. Dingley's love for the Lord was expressed in many ways but especially in supporting her husband, the late Ernest Dingley in his Christian work at Ridge Lane Methodist Church and St. John's Church, Ansley Common, and in giving hospitality to the preachers. Her life here is over and her work on earth is done and we thank God for her and every memory of her.

COMMENTS ON LIVELY CHURCHES

(From the newsletter of the Parish Church of St. Cuthberts, Elsdon.
A village in Northumberland),

A LIVELY church has parking problems:
a dead church doesn't,

A LIVELY church has lots of 'noisy' children and young people.
a dead church is fairly quiet,

A LIVELY church often changes the way things are done:
a dead church doesn't have to,

A LIVELY church often asks for more programme & mission money;
a dead church has plenty of money for what it does,

A LIVELY church asks people to open up and risk involvement;
a dead church plays it safe and never risks,

A LIVELY church apologises, forgives and seeks forgiveness;
a dead church never makes mistakes,

A LIVELY church uses its tradition and facilities to serve people;
a dead church use people to preserve facilities and traditions,

A LIVELY church believes in God's future and 'lets go' with faith;
a dead church believes in the past and 'holds on.'

A LIVELY church is filled with committed givers;
a dead church is filled with tippers,

A LIVELY church dares to dream great dreams for God's Kingdom;
a dead church has nightmares,

NOW THEN, WHAT ABOUT OUR CHURCH here at St. Laurence ?