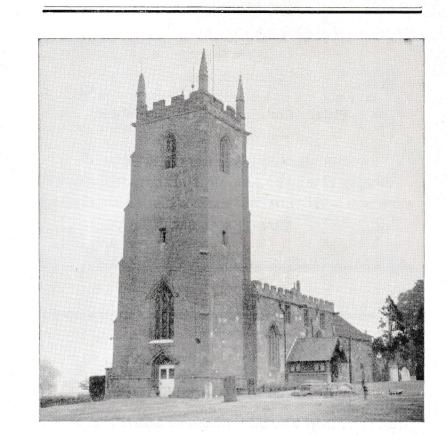
ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

No. 760

OCTOBER 1988

Price 13p



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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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Our Dear Friends,

During this month we shall see piles of rubbish being built in various parts of our parish (and elsewhere) in readiness for that annual event we call bonfire night. Placed amongst the sticks and paper will be an effigy of Guy Fawkes and, come November 5th, many will gather together for plenty of fun.

Some four hundred years ago however, it was not dummies they burnt, but people and on the 16th of this month is the anniversary of the death of two bishops. Hugh Latimer who was Bishop of Worcester, and Nicholas Ridley who was Bishop of London, it happened at Oxford in 1555.

They were both chained to the stake alive, bags of gunpowder were put around their necks and faggots piled high around them. As the fires were lit Hugh Latimer uttered his famous last words: "Be of good comfort Brother Ridley, and play the man, we shall this day light such a candle by God's grace in England, as I trust will never be put out," He was right of course. Men could be martyred, books could be destroyed. But the power at work in England in those days was the teaching of biblical truth which was to change this nation utterly and produce a strong church committed to the authority of the Scriptures,

Hugh Latimer was an elderly man in his 80th year when he was put to death, so what was it that made him such a willing martyr? It was some years earlier that a friend told of how he had found forgiveness for his sins and discovered how a man could know God personally in a simple way through the Scriptures, Being made acceptable to God by faith was the central experience in Hugh Latimer's life that turned him from being merely a Christian in name to one who served God in every area of his life. He wrote, "I perceived by bitter experience that it was impossible to teach the truth without the Bible being plainly put into the hands of people in their mother tongue."

It had been some years previous that William Tyndale, a farmer's son, translated the Bible from the Latin text into English. To do that he had to escape to the Continent and have the finished volumes exported to England concealed in sacks of grain, Eventually Tyndale was betrayed by a friend and stood trial in Belgium, where he was sentenced to death for his work of translation, His last words were: "Lord, open the King of England's eyes." His prayer was answered. Later Henry VIII decreed that every Church, (including ours at Ansley) must display "one book of the whole Bible of the largest volume in English,"

We have plenty of translations of the Bible in our mother tongue today. The truth has been made clear for us. God will bless us as we embrace that truth.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.

DIARY FOR OCTOBER

Sunday, October 2nd

- 8,00 a.m. Holy Communion. The Rev. John Law.
- 11,00 a.m. Morning Prayer. Mr. Donald Parr,
- 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
 - Sermon on the Mount, 1-Happiness through Poverty.

Thursday, October 6th

7,30 p.m. Confirmation Class at the Vicarage.

Friday, October 7th

6.45 p.m. Prayer Meeting in Church.

Saturday, October 8th

Decoration of Church for Harvest,

Sunday, October 9th - HARVEST FESTIVAL

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion,
- 11,00 a.m. Family Service, Gifts of fruit and vegetables received during this service.
- 6,30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Preacher: The Rev. Alan Davies, Vicar of Hartshill,

Monday, October 10th

7.30 p.m. HARVEST SALE,

Wednesday, October 12th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Thursday, October 13th

7.30 p.m. Confirmation Class at the Vicarage,

Friday, October 14th

- 6.30 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.
- 7.30 p.m. Harvest Supper in Village Church Hall.

Tickets for sale £2.00.

Saturday, October 15th

10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Fun Day for the Children of the Church. (See the notes for details).

Sunday, October 16th — Trinity 20.

- 11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer, The Rev. Peter Phillips, Rector of Arley.
- 6.30 p.m. Holy Communion, Sermon on the Mount. 2-Happiness through Mourning,

Thursday, October 20th

7.30 p.m. Confirmation Class at the Vicarage,

Friday, October 21st

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, October 23rd — Trinity 21.

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

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

6,30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Sermon on the Mount. 3-Happiness through Meekness.

Friday, October 28th

6,45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, October 30th - Trinity 22.

11.00 a.m. Morning Service,

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer,

Monday, October 31st

8.00 p.m. Meeting to plan Christmas Fayre.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Thanksgiving for the birth of a Child

"They brought Children to Jesus for blessing"

Sunday, September 18-Rachael Mellor of Galley Common.

Holy Matrimony

"For better, for worse"

September 10—Alan Keith Smith of Ridge Lane to Jane Lorraine Amos of Birchley Heath.

September 24—Anthony William Harris to Julie Ann Stokes, both of Ansley Village.

Funerals

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death"

September 1—Gilbert Hyde Orton, 84 yrs., of Kingswood, Hants. September 7—James Dyde, 84 yrs., of Ansley Common.

Reginald Terrance Fessic, 36 yrs., of Ansley Village. September 12—Florence Ivy Steele, 80 yrs., of Ansley Common. September 26—Betty Anita Holland, 58 yrs., of Ansley Common.

"HYMN-SING" TO BEAT THE BEETLE

On October 16th after Evening Service we are hoping to have a 20 minute "Sponsored Hymn-Sing" during which we will sing as many hymns as we can—one verse only of a 6 or 8 lined verse, or 2 verses of a 4 lined one,

Would **you** help by either joining us for our "Hymn-Sing" or by sponsoring some one who is ?

Please take a form, then your family, friends and neighbours can help us attack the Death Watch Beetle in the roof. Even 2p per hymn will help,

We will try and sing as many of your favourites as we can—give any suggestions to the Vicar, Churchwardens, or just write the first line on the list in the Church Porch.

Many thanks,

Margaret Kimberley

ANSLEY ST. LAURENCE and ST. JOHN'S M.U.

We were pleased to welcome two new members at last month's meeting. On October 4th Mrs, Ivy Love will speak at the Harvest Service, Winnie Ponder

October 5th is the A.G.M. of the Ansley Ladies Association and on October 19th there is a Handicraft evening.

Winnie Ponder

£300 has been given to the Hospital League of Friends from the income of the FLOWER FESTIVAL held in August.

The Christmas Fayre is on **Friday night**, **November 25th** at 7,00 p.m. Can you join the team of helpers? If so, please come to planning meeting on Monday, October 31st at 8.00 p.m., in the Church Hall, Ansley Village.

FUN DAY

PATHFINDERS, EXPLORERS, CLIMBERS

on Saturday, October 15th - 10.30 a.m. till 1.00 p.m.

Bring a picnic lunch to portacabin if fine weather, to Church Hall if wet, Parents welcome from 12 noon onwards.

On September 7th Florie Ivy Steele passed away. We shall all miss her, She was one of the very regular Sunday nighters. Almost to the end she attended the evening service. Florie was born in Hartshill and was a member of the Methodist Church and was a Sunday School teacher. She joined us here at Ansley when the family moved to the Common. She taught at Nursery Hill School for some twenty years and led a very lively 'Brownies' at St. John's until she was 73 years old! Florie always had time for children and shared their enjoyment for life. She was never dull and always loved walking out in the country. Her place will be very hard to fill. It was her readiness to help that we can all learn from, and we share just a little of the deep loss that her husband and family are feeling at this moment and offer them our genuine sympathy.

The Chuchwardens Church roof appeal has received an addition of £330 from donations received from Mrs. Steele's family and friends who gave monetary gifts to this appeal in memory of Florie instead of wreaths. We are very grateful, Thank you.

ACORNS FOR ANSLEY

Farming practice during the recent decades has led to changes in our landscape with much loss of hedgerows, tree cover, ponds and valuable wildlife habitats. Many of our existing oak and ash trees, although beautiful to behold now, may not last into the next century due to disease, maturity and further landscape changes. It is necessary therefore to take positive steps to preserve and enhance our parish.

Many farmers have already planted trees in recent years but only by continuing to plant and nurture our native species of trees and plants will Ansley Parish maintain its very special rural character as distinct from the encroaching urban area.

(continued next month)