



# Ansley Church News

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**Vicar :** THE REVD. TIM GOULDSTONE, M.Sc.

The Vicarage, Birmingham Road, Ansley

Tel.: Chapel End 392240

## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

December 11th — FAMILY WORSHIP at 11.00 a.m.

December 18th — CAROL SERVICE at 6.30 p.m.

December 24th — MIDNIGHT COMMUNION at 11.30 p.m.  
(Christmas Eve)

December 25th — FAMILY COMMUNION at 11.00 a.m.  
(Christmas Day)

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On Sunday, 18th December there will be Carol Singing around the village in aid of the Church of England Children's Society. Meet at "The Nelson" at 11.00 a.m. ALL ARE WELCOME to take part in this.

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## TRANSPORT ?

A bus runs for the evening service. Leaves Ansley Corner at 6.00 p.m., picks up through the village, leaves Ansley Common at 6.10 p.m., and Birchley Heath at 6.15 p.m.

Dear Friends,

### **SEPARATION**

As we get nearer to Christmas we like to think of parties and reunions with families and friends. Lots of people "go away for Christmas"—close-knit villages like Ansley find this easier than many places where people are far away from families and friends.

Unfortunately some will be separated from our families this Christmas. But we need never be separated from God. Separation from God means that we have no hope and are "without God in the world." (Ephesians 2.12).

The message of Christmas is that we need not live as though God had abandoned us to a hopeless and pointless fate. Christmas is a time to turn again to the basic truth of the Christian faith, that in the Lord Jesus God revealed himself to his world. This is HIS world, not ours; and Jesus Christ means that our lives need never be without him. Have we responded to God, or are we still separated from him?

### **CHURCH END SCHOOL**

The meeting on November 24th was highly successful. It proved to the working party that we are quite capable of doing our homework when it comes to saying why we want the school to remain open. It is significant that many want the school to remain because of its links with the Church and with Christian teaching. As a country we have sadly neglected this important part of our Christian tradition over the past few decades, with the result that education has become increasingly secular and in many ways lacking any firm base in the authority of Christian truth.

I want to thank all parents and friends who organised such a successful campaign and also all who came to the meeting, which expressed views that were firm but without acrimony.

### **CHURCH ENVELOPE SCHEME**

The envelopes for next year have now arrived and can be collected from the Church on Sundays. Please take the set with your name on if you are already a member of this scheme. If you would like to join this excellent means of making a **regular** contribution to the day-to-day running expenses of our Church please give your names to the Vicar or Mrs. Truelove and we can include you in the scheme. It is remarkable what a difference this planned giving can make to our finances. It is also commanded in the Scriptures:

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside . . ." (1 Corinthians 16.2).

### **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation at Fillongley last month was very enjoyable and six candidates were confirmed from Ansley. In addition one or two others used the opportunity to renew their vows of commitment to the Lord. The "Kentucky Fried" afterwards was also much appreciated, thanks to the hospitality of Fillongley Christians.

### **"PANTOMIME"**

Some of the younger people of our parish are putting on a Christmas "Pantomime" (?) in the Village Church Hall on Thursday, 22nd December at 7.00 p.m. Programmes are available from Mrs. Marie Cove at 28 Nuthurst Crescent, price 15p. All welcome.

### **MOTHERS' UNION**

The village branch of the Mothers' Union will be holding a Carol Service on Tuesday, 6th December at 3.00 p.m., in the Village Church Hall.

### **ST. JOHN'S NEWS**

There will be no service at St. John's in December as the 4th Sunday is Christmas Day.

St. John's Mothers' Union is meeting on Wednesday, 14th December at 7.00 p.m., when there will be Christmas Carols and a "Bring and Buy" stall.

In November the P.C.C. decided to go ahead with a scheme for total rewiring of St. John's Hall using some of the interest from the sale of the land adjacent to the hall. We hope that this will brighten up this building and make it a more attractive facility for our parish.

There will be a meeting of the P.C.C. at 8.00 p.m., on Wednesday, 7th December in St. John's Hall.

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We have had to close the 'Mums and Toddlers' Group in the village owing to lack of consistent support. The money left over after paying the rent is £2.40 and will be given to the Church of England Children's Society via the Carol Singing on December 18th, unless anyone objects. The toys can be reclaimed by their previous owners by Christmas; if not, they will be donated to another Toddlers Group.

JANE GOULDSTONE



## APOLOGIES

As the magazine went to press in the summer, news came of the passing of Denise Bowen at the early age of 28, and this was omitted from the following month's news. Denise had been unwell for a number of years and bore her last illness with considerable courage. Her passing was a sad blow to her parents in Arley Lane, to whom we offer our continuing thoughts and prayers.

November saw the death of Mrs. Mary Lloyd of Ansley Common. Mary had been unwell for some months but only became seriously ill when she returned from a holiday in Ireland. Her funeral took place on the first anniversary of her Confirmation, which meant a great deal to her and her husband Bill. At her funeral we sang F. W. Faber's hymn, "My God, how wonderful thou art" :

Yet I may love thee too, O Lord,  
Almighty as thou art,  
For thou hast stooped to ask of me  
The love of my poor heart.

Sadness mixed with Christian joy and hope are the feature at every funeral of those who share the sure hope of faith in Christ Jesus as Lord.

Mrs. Winifred Daulman of Ansley Post Office passed away very suddenly last month; her own battle with her failing health was a very private one which caused her much trouble. She had very few relatives locally. Our thoughts are with Keith Clay of Galley Common as he continues with the business.

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A Coffee Evening in the Village Church Hall on October 26th raised £30 for hall funds. Mrs. Parsley and P.C. Terry Jones proved most interesting castaways for "Desert Island Discs" and were entertaining and challenging in their choice of music. A surprisingly small group of people came—the rest of you missed a really interesting evening! £9 was raised for hall funds. The Christmas Bazaar on November 27th was however very well attended and £310 was raised for Church funds. There were a lot of new faces amongst the 130 people who attended, an encouraging sign. Thanks to everyone who made this event possible.

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**BIBLE—Note.** Rather than sidesmen giving out our pew Bibles for our worship, it seems a better idea for worshippers to pick up their own copy and return it to the "shelf" afterwards. Thank you.

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

Nov. 20—Emma Jane Ingram, Woodlands Cottage Farm.  
Karen Anne Davison, 34 St. Lawrence Road.  
Paul Lee Fallows, 130 Ansley Common.

Confirmed by the Bishop of Warwick and by the Revd. A. Burke  
of the Methodist Church at Fillongley on November 9th:

Sharon Forryan, 59 Bretts Hall.  
Maxine Hall, 156 Ansley Common.  
Dawn Hadley, 134 Ansley Common.  
Tracey Bailey, 99 St. Lawrence Road.  
Dorothy Bateman, 164 Ansley Common.  
Andrej Nisevic, 30 Brookdale Road, Nuneaton.

### Funerals

July 26—Denise Bowen, aged 28 (at Arley).  
Nov. 6—Mary Josephine Lloyd, aged 69.  
16—Winifred Mary Daulman, aged 72.

 *With Hearty  
Christmas Greetings*