

ANSLEY CHURCH MAGAZINE

No. 762

DECEMBER 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.

Newdegate Printers, Nuneaton — Tel.: 382902

Ansley Vicarage,

1st December, 1988

Our Dear Friends,

The nation of South Korea will remember 1988 as being their year of prestige having had the privilege of staging the World Olympic Games.

But Korea is attracting world attention for another reason. Within just over 100 years of a Korean child receiving three copies of the Bible in the Korean language the Christian Faith has swept over the land at an extraordinary speed. So much so that Seoul has a Church with the largest Christian congregation in the world, with over half a million members. Every Sunday there are seven services at the Church, each with a congregation of over 71,000 people, and they worship the Lord enthusiastically.

It all began in 1866 when Robert Thomas, a Welshman, sailed to Korea loaded with Bibles. The ship arrived at Sook-Syum on the western coast. This coast has huge tidal levels. As the River Taitong receded the ship got stuck on the mud banks. The Koreans were determined to burn the boat and did so on September 3rd, 1866 with burning pine branches. The crew and passengers jumped into the water to escape and were killed as they waded ashore. Amongst them was Thomas who offered his attacker a Bible, which was at first refused. Thomas then knelt down to pray and was killed. The man who killed him took the Bible home, his nephew read it and embraced the Christian faith and later became a Bible translator.

But that is not all. The Korean child, I've already mentioned, was a twelve year old boy in the crowd of onlookers to whom Thomas gave three Bibles as he distributed them on shore. But the boy was afraid to keep those books so he gave them to a soldier who took them home, tore out all the pages and used them to wallpaper his house. Through reading the wallpaper many visitors to his home became staunch followers of Jesus Christ.

In such unexpected circumstances the Christian Church was born in Korea.

It is said that, on one occasion, when Queen Victoria was asked what was the secret of Britain's greatness, she did not say the empire, our industry, or our armed forces; but she replied, 'The Bible—our greatest possession.'

December 11th is called 'Bible Sunday.' The Christian Church uses this day to emphasise, not only what the Bible contains, but what the Bible is. It is a book with Divine Power.

As this year draws to a close and a new one commences no better decision can be made than to read its pages with the prayer that Jesus Christ may become real to you.

Have a happy Christmas time.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah

Carol Singing around the parish is on December 19th, 21st and 22nd. There will be a collecting tin carried by a member of the party, and gifts of money will be put towards the Church Urban Fund, Come and join us.

The Christmas Family Services will be on December 18th at 11.00 a.m. at the Parish Church. The Children will be acting out the Christmas scene events and the Orchestra will be leading the singing of the Carols.

At 3.00 p.m. at St. John's, Ansley Common a special play involving the Children will be given at the service. It will be followed by a mince pie and a cup of tea served by the ladies. The collection will be given to T.E.A.R. fund to support their work in the Third World.

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

The meeting on November 1st was very well attended. We had a talk by a Christian Magistrate, given by Mrs. R. Windridge of Corley M.U. Our next meeting will be on December 6th and this will be the Annual Christmas Party. Hope all members will be able to attend.
W. M. Ponder.

ANSLEY LADIES' ASSOCIATION

The meeting on December 7th will be the Annual Christmas Party. This will start at 7.30 p.m. Hope all members will be able to attend.
W. M. Ponder.

Church Repairs. The scaffolding has now been removed; the roof timbers have been treated with chemicals to kill the death watch beetle and woodworm. The cracked beam has a metal plate fixed on it, some new timber has been used. The roof has been insulated. New electric lighting has been installed and the decorators are painting the ceiling and walls. All these repairs have involved necessary cleaning of the building in readiness for Worship each Sunday. We are very grateful to those loyal few who have faithfully turned up every Saturday morning to sweep and wash and dust. Thank you very much.

The Churchwardens Appeal now stands at £2348.02, not included in this figure is £521 collected from the sponsored hymn singing held last October. We are very grateful for all these gifts and will continue to welcome more. The total expenses for this work may well come to approximately £9000.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child,
"They brought Children for Jesus to Bless."

Nov. 20—James Alexander Scott.

Funerals—"I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless"

Nov. 3—George Frederick Gill, 84 years of Ansley Village.

Nov. 7—Stanley John Drakeley, 82 years of Hartshill.

Nov. 18—Dorothy E. Ward, 69 years of Stockingford.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9th at 7.00 p.m.

in ANSLEY VILLAGE CHURCH HALL



Father Christmas, Stalls and Refreshments

Christmas present problems solved

Ansley Common Luncheon Club are urgently looking for volunteers. Helpers are needed at the Club to help serve up the lunches each Monday and Wednesday. Drivers are also needed to deliver meals to people who cannot attend the Club—a mileage allowance of 23.7 pence per mile is given to cover costs.

If anyone is interested in knowing more details or would like to become a volunteer could they please contact me, Liz Stuart on Atherstone 715081 or call into the office at 105 Long Street, Atherstone.

Church Urban Fund is organised by the Archbishop of Canterbury for areas of deprivation in inner City parishes. For those who would like to contribute to this fund a plate at the door at the close of the services on the first Sunday in each month will be provided. We are asked to contribute £830 over the next two years.

The Service of Morning Prayer on the first Sunday of each month at 11.00 a.m. is introduced to meet the request of some of our regular worshippers. If you would like to make your views known on this, please contact the Churchwardens in time for the P.C.C. on January 23rd.

Martin and Margaret Oliver invite you to their home at 33 Nuthurst Crescent on Monday, December 5th at 8.00 p.m. Refreshments will be served and please bring your Children's Society Collecting Box to be opened. Margaret is the Society's local secretary, and will be sending to the Society not only the gifts from the boxes but also the collection: from the Annual Service of Lessons and Carols.

On January 6th will be the Parish Party held at St. John's, Ansley Common. The evening will commence with informal worship followed by refreshments and games. Friends from the Ley Group parishes are also invited. It promises to be an enjoyable evening. All are welcome and invited to bring something to contribute to the eats.

DIARY FOR DECEMBER

Friday, December 2nd

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, December 4th — Bible Sunday

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer — The Bible and its Contents.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer — The Bible and its Structure.

Tuesday, December 6th

3.00 p.m. Mothers' Union Christmas Party.

Wednesday, December 7th

8.00 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship at the Vicarage.

Friday, December 9th

6.30 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

7.00 p.m. Christmas Fayre.

Sunday, December 11th — Advent 3

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion — Advent.

6.30 p.m. Evening Service — Sermon on the Mount 8:
Happiness in Trials.

Friday, December 16th

6.30 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Sunday, December 18th — Advent 4

11.00 a.m. Christmas Family Service.

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

6.30 p.m. Lessons and Carols.

Monday, December 19th

6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Carol Singing Ansley Village,
Meet at the Hall.

Wednesday, December 21st

6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Carol Singing Ansley Common
Meet at St. John's.

Thursday, December 22nd

6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Carol Singing Birchley Heath.
Meet at the Post Office.

Friday, December 23rd

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.

Saturday, December 24th — Christmas Eve

10.00 p.m. Holy Communion — St. John's, Ansley Common.

11.30 p.m. Holy Communion — Parish Church.

Christmas Day

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

Friday, December 30th

6.45 p.m. Meeting for Prayer in Church.