

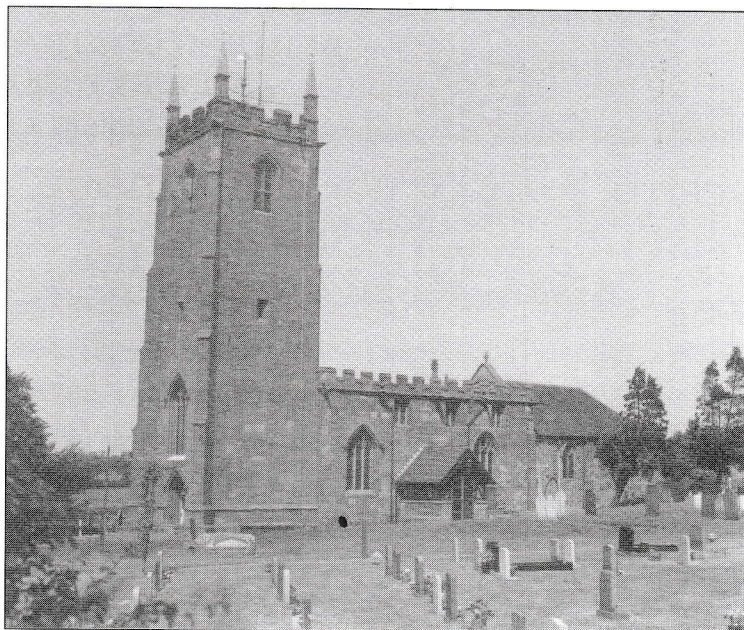
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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Spring is in the Air

It doesn't seem like it! The bitterly cold, but very beautiful frosts are very much signs of winter, but at the same time we are enjoying the beauty of snowdrops, crocuses and aconites. These small flowers rather than the frost covered lawns are the shape of things to come. Colour and life is on its way and its victory cannot be stopped.

Enjoy the Spring! Enjoy Easter! Share with us in our worship!

Yet just as Spring is special because it emerges from winter so Easter is special because we have been through Lent and Holy Week. So do join us of our worship at this time and especially in Holy Week. Besides everything else it will make Easter so much more special!

Easter Day will be my last Sunday with you until my return from my Sabbatical. From March 24th – June 25th please contact Barry Jacques about baptisms, weddings, and funerals. For all other matters please contact the churchwardens or leave them to await my return. Barry was until recently Priest in Charge of Weddington and Caldecote and his telephone number is 024 7635 3400. Even if your enquiry relates to the period when I am away please refer everything to me until Easter Day.

May the new life of Spring speak to you of the new life that Jesus made possible on that first Easter Day.

Your friend and vicar,

Peter.

St. Laurence's Church - Services

Sunday 2nd	Mothering	10.30 a.m.	Special Mothering Sunday service
		4.00 p.m.	Family Service in Village Church Hall
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
Friday 7th	Special Service	7.30 p.m.	Women's World Day of Prayer
Sunday 9th	Passion	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 16th	Palm Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
Friday 21st	Good Friday	7.30 p.m.	Meditation
Sunday 23rd	Easter Day	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
		10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 30th	Easter 2	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 2nd	Mothering	10.30 a.m.	Special Mothering Sunday service
Wednesday 5th		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 9th	Passion	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th	Palm Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Joint at St Laurence
Wednesday 19th		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Thursday 20th	Maundy	7.00 p.m.	Last Supper
Sunday 23rd	Easter Day	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	Easter 2	10.30 a.m.	Songs of Praise

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards

From the Registers

Baptism

We enjoyed the baptism on 27th January of Leon son of Becky and Steve Wilson a delightful family affair at St. John's Ansley Common

Interment of Ashes

The ashes of Mary James aged 92 who died in December were brought back to Ansley to be buried in a family grave with those of her husband's.

The P.C.C. are very grateful to the family for a very generous donation to the Church Fabric Fund in her memory.

Mothering Sunday

This year Mothering Sunday is on 2nd March we will be having our usual special services on that day and will be distributing bunches of flowers to all.

On Saturday 1st we will be having the Church open for everyone who wishes to come. Either for quiet reflection or prayer, there will also be light refreshments available in the annexe and the chance to have a chat.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Please remember this special service on Friday 7th at St. Laurence at 7.30 p.m. Full details were in last months magazine

Palm Sunday

On 16th March as has been our custom on Palm Sunday, over recent years the congregation of St. John's will join with those from 10.30 a.m. at St. Laurence and meet in the Annexe to commence our worship before processing into the Church for the rest of the service. Palm crosses will be distributed at all services.

Maundy Thursday

To commemorate and remember our Lord's Last Supper we will meet at St. John's Church Hall at 7.00 p.m. where we will eat bread and soup, celebrate Holy Communion and sing hymns. Please bring your bowl a spoon and a glass.

Good Friday

At 7.30 p.m. there will be a vigil at St. Laurence, this is a very reflective service that will concentrate our minds on the suffering of our Lord and of man's inhumanity to man.

Easter Saturday

From 9 a.m. decorating will commence in Church, we only had a few helpers over the last few years and any additional help will be very much appreciated, if anyone has an hour or two to spare on Saturday morning to both decorate and tidy the Church ready for Easter it would be much appreciated. If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers particularly in memory of a loved one please do so.

The service of first light will be held at St. Michael's at 8p.m. It is at this service that those who have been confirmed will receive their first Communion.

Easter Day

On this special day of celebration our services are 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion and 6.30 p.m. Evensong at St. Laurence and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. John's. Each one will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, and will be a special time to think of the wonderful meaning of Easter. Please try to come to one of the services.

Letter received

Please accept this donation to St. Laurence Church Funds. 64 years ago, on 24th January, we were married at St. Laurence's and have been blessed to have been together since. We have had a wonderful life, faced the ups and downs with support of our two children family and friends, and now realise how fortunate we are to still be together. This is a small acknowledgement of our blessings and thanks to God.

Midge and Jim King.

The P.C.C. wish to thank Midge & Jim for their generous donation and to send our best wishes.

Christmas Quiz

The winner of the Christmas quiz that was run over the Christmas Tree Festival was Stella Niblock with 38 points out of 40. Thank you to all those who took part if anyone wishes to know the answers please ask for a copy of the list.

Car Park Gates

All will be aware that the gates have been locked since Christmas due to circumstances beyond our control this has been a lot longer than was originally anticipated. We are

working to have them open during the usual times and apologise for any inconvenience caused

Duncan & Helen Watts

During Lent we are having a collection for Duncan and Helen to help them in their work in central Asia. We are aware that they have been having a difficult time this winter and not only from the very cold weather temperatures down to -30°C and no water in the house (pipes all frozen).

Please remember Duncan and Helen and their two small children Hannah and Simeon in your prayers as they face the future and if you wish to make a donation for their work please do so.

Gift Aid

In 2007 the PCC was able to claim £3424.43 from the Government by claiming back the tax that individuals had paid on their income. This is a considerable figure for the PCC and is very much appreciated. However because of changes in our tax from 5th April this year the rate that the Government will return will be reducing the rate. Last year the total amount given through Gift Aid was £12085 and if this figure remains the same this current year we will have a reduction of approximately £400 in the amount refunded. Are there any more among our supporters who have to pay tax on their savings who can financially support in this way, even an annual small token will help. Please do have a word with Margaret Kimberley or one of the Wardens. As you can see Gift Aid is a very significant part of our income.

Nick Miles -An Introduction

As I am joining the Parishes of Ansley and Arley for six weeks on my Reader training placement I thought you may like to know a bit about me.

I was born, bred and lived in Nuneaton until I moved to Hartshill in 1999. I was in the choir at St. Nicholas in Nuneaton for about seven years until I was 16. Initially I worked at Rolls Royce in Coventry but now work for Barclays Bank as an Information Security Manager. My wife's name is Carol and between us we have five daughters aged 12,13,15,16 & 16, hence my grey hair! Since moving to Hartshill I have become more involved in the local Church (Holy Trinity). I am currently studying to become a Reader and if all goes well I will be licensed this September at Coventry Cathedral. I will be with you for about six weeks as part of my training so come and say hello - but you should know that remembering names is not my strong point!!!

Prayer Requests

If you would like someone or a particular situation remembered in prayer at our Sunday Services both at St. Laurence and St. John's please hand the slip below to a member of the Church Congregation or contact the Vicar on 024 7639 9070. Please remember the vicar would be pleased to visit anyone who is sick, but he does need to know again please ring.

Please pray for who is

March, 2008.

'Lego' is 50 years old. Those of us with grown up children will well remember the Lego of old, which had a nasty habit of disappearing into the Hoover. What a difference today! Lego now is so hi-tech (and expensive) and is as much appreciated by adults as children. They can make fantastic models, some with motors, and of course there is Lego land which is a whole park made from Lego. However, if you still have some of the very old Lego bricks they can still fit onto the new sets, so they can be passed through the generations.

The New Year is now two months old - resolutions are probably mostly forgotten, but now we are in Lent, when many people, especially Christians, give up luxuries such as chocolate. I wonder how many will last the 40 days and 40 nights, as to make it even more difficult Valentines Day arrives just as the 'giving up' starts and of course many partners buy their loved ones chocolate.

My daughter was washing up at our house and she was up to her elbows in hot water and bubbles from washing up liquid. It reminded me of how washing up was such a chore in our younger days. We only had a kettle of hot water and Fairy Liquid hadn't been thought of. It was hard work as the kettle was the only means of hot water except on Monday (wash day), when the copper had been on. Of course even washing up by hand is out now as many people have dish washers, but I must admit I love having my hands in lovely soapy water, but I hate drying and putting away.

I have always loved the drink 'Horlicks' and can you remember the Horlicks Tablets which we used to eat as sweets, they were lovely? Recently I tried to be good and bought Horlicks Light, and was surprised to find it tasted exactly the same, but instead of a jar, it is in a plastic container with a plastic cover over it, which makes it not only childproof but granny proof. I had to get the scissors and find a way in to take the outer cover off and then I couldn't open the container itself, broke two nails and finally used a knife to prise it open, but after all this it was pointed out to me some letters at the base of the lid 'Push' and of course then the lid flew open. However, the instruction was very hard to see and it didn't help with the outer cover.

A quote from my Bible notes: 'God's laws are not an 'a la carte' menu, where you can pick those you want to keep and leave out those you don't want to keep'.

Marie Cove.