

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

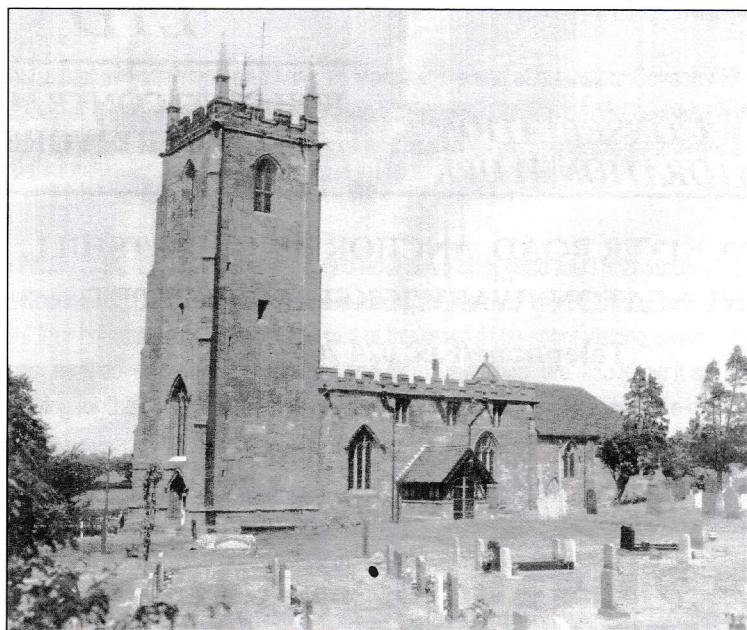
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## Between Now and Then

When you read this article I will have returned from Nigeria.

What it will be like, the challenges I will face and the excitements of our trip I can only guess at.

What I do know is that mid afternoon on Friday 15 March at the end of his visit to Coventry Rt. Revd. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury will pray for Bishop Christopher, for Marion McClennan ( a lay person from Rugby with considerable experience of Africa) and myself as we prepare to fly to Nigeria.

We fly out on Friday night. On arrival there is a two hour drive on a good road from Abuja (the capital and the airport) to Kaduna. As I write we do not have the programme but I know Sunday will include worship that lasts about four hours and that most of the rest of the time will be spent visiting community projects, women's groups, rural development programmes and clergy meetings. We also know it will be hot and I'll probably be longing for the cooler weather of an English Spring! We fly back during the day on Wednesday 20th.

By the time you read this I will have gone and come back. I don't know what it will be like other than to say I believe it will be a transforming and wonderful time.

Perhaps the days before Easter is an appropriate occasion to be entering into something new with only a vague idea of what will happen. As Jesus walked resolutely to Jerusalem to his time of suffering and of death, all must have been incomprehensible to his disciples and the future totally uncertain. They heard Jesus talk of his resurrection but it made little sense - but we know he was raised from the dead and we rejoice.

Let us live our lives confident in the knowledge that Jesus rose again and that in all the uncertainties of life, He is victorious!

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

### April St. Laurence's Church Services

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 2	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Easter 4	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 5	10.30 a.m.	The Lord is here
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

### St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 2	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Easter 4	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter 5	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### Discussion Groups

Prayers in the Bible – No meeting at 10 Nuthurst Crescent this month.

Fellowship Group – Tuesday, 9th April, 7 p.m. in St. John's Church Hall.

### From the Registers

No entries this month.

### Confirmation Course About to Begin

With the present confirmation course nearing completion I am anticipating starting a new course shortly. If you are interested in joining please contact me, Peter, as soon as possible. This particular course will be at a weekend. If weekends are not suitable please speak to me and I will contact you with details of the next weekday course.

### Ascension Day- Advance Notice

Members from St Wilfred's, St Michael's, St Laurence's and St John's churches are warmly invited to join the Wesleyan Chapel congregation at Old Arley for a service at 7.30p.m. on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

### Final Study Session

The final study session on the theme "Glimpses of God" will be held in the Annexe on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30p.m. You are welcome to attend as each session has its own theme.

### Ansley PCC AGM

This will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April in the Annexe at 7.30p.m. The first part of the meeting is open to all and consists of reports on the past year, including ones from



the vicar, the churchwardens and hall committees as well as regular groups. Please come along if you are interested in finding out more about how the church is run.

### Electoral Roll

The new electoral roll will be presented at the AGM. Names can be added during the year, so please speak to a warden if you would like to fill in a form or if you want to know more.

### Quiz night

There will be a quiz night at Ansley Village Church Hall on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Please arrive at 7.15 for a prompt start at 7.30p.m. You may bring a team of 4 to 6 people, or come along and join a team on the night. Sue Ricketts will be question master(?). After five rounds of questions there will be a supper of filled rolls and a dessert, followed by another five rounds. Answers will be marked after each session. There will be a raffle and prizes will be awarded at the end of the evening. Tickets costing £3.50 can be obtained from Sue and church members, or bought on the night. It would be very helpful to the caterers if you could phone Diana Kealey in advance to book tickets on 02476395089.

We are sharing the proceeds from the night equally between the church fabric fund and Sue's granddaughter, Emma Ricketts. Emma is 16 years old and a kayaker. She has been selected to attend National Team training camps in different parts of the world, including Canada. In 2012 she was crowned National Junior Champion. She is hoping to be selected to represent our country in the 2016 Olympic Games. She was recently awarded the Wilkinson Sword Trophy, having been voted Junior Sports Person of the Year in the Nuneaton area. Any funds raised would greatly help her with travel and other expenses.

### Women's World Day of Prayer, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

This annual service was held at 10.30a.m. this year. The women of France had prepared a lively, thoughtful service, which was used throughout the world on that day. Next year's service will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014, when we plan to hold a morning service again. A sum of £53 was sent to the organisation from donations received to help fund work with women in need of help and support.

### Lent Appeal

Report next month

### Mothering Sunday

We would like to thank Marie Cove for once again preparing the posies that were handed out at our services. It must have been quite a task to find flowers this year!

### St John's Bingo night

This event on 4<sup>th</sup> March, under new leadership, was well attended. There were some lovely prizes. People had a good time and raised £100.

St John's Easter Bonnet Social  
Report next month.

Historic Churches Trust, Warwickshire

Each September individuals are invited to take part in a sponsored bicycle ride to raise funds for this charity. The aim is to visit as many Warwickshire churches as possible in a day. Half of the amount collected by each rider is used to provide grants to Warwickshire churches and half is given to the rider's church. £69.50 has been added to St Laurence's funds through the gallant efforts of our one cyclist in 2012, Mr. Philip Rees. The next "Ride and Stride" will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013, so there is plenty of time to train if you would like to challenge yourself and take part in this event.

Ansley Village Church Hall

The improvements to the church hall that were itemised in the February magazine have now been completed. A new fence has been constructed and the electrics have been updated, costing a total of £2976. This was a North Warwickshire LEADER project supported through the Rural Development Programme for England, which is jointly funded by Defra and the European Union and is delivered by Defra. The hall committee and the community groups who use it are very grateful that these works have been carried out.

50 years ago

From the magazine of April 1963

Ansley Church Restoration Fund. As already announced the target of our Appeal Fund for repairs needed to the Parish Church is £6,000, of which we are seeking to raise £2,000 this year. Since the Appeal was launched after the fire last November we have received £656.6s.0d., for which we are most grateful.

(The fire mentioned was in the roof of the nave next to the Norman Arch and the charred remains of one of the boss's is still in the gallery today – showing just how fortunate Ansley Church was not to have damaged more than the few square yards of the roof at that time.)

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.

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Please pray for .....who is .....



Did you know that 40% of girls born this year will live to 100 years old? When King George V started the practice of sending anniversary messages in 1917 when someone reached 100 years, he sent just 24. By 1952 this number had increased to 225 and in 2011 it boomed to 9763. Experts are predicting there will be half a million people aged 100 or over living in the UK by 2066.

If there is one thing that has improved drastically in the last few years, it is door locks. For many years most front doors had Yale locks so if you pulled the door to behind you and forgot your key, you were locked out, but not many people used their front door. This was evident when my eldest sister got married. Dad bought the house in 1935 and the wedding was in 1945, so having never been opened the front door was shut fast. My Dad pulled and someone pushed but the door wouldn't budge and eventually, when he was fuming with rage, Dad gave one mighty heave and the door flew open and smashed the glass in the picture on the wall behind. Needless to say Dad kept the hinges oiled and planed the door before he needed to open it again for the next wedding.

I was watching a football match and a player cut his head badly. The medical staff plastered his wound with Vaseline, and it made me think how useful Vaseline is. If I have ever had a creaky door, I don't use oil, I use Vaseline, as it is much cleaner. Also my hands get really chapped in cold weather so I cover my hands with Vaseline, as well as wearing gloves. This made me think that when we were young there were very few hand or face creams so all we had was Vaseline and Ponds Cold Cream. Not much choice but they did the job.

Why do we say 'To bring home the bacon', which means to earn the money to maintain the household? It describes the custom at country fairs of greasing a live pig and letting it loose among a group of blindfolded contestants. Whoever successfully caught the greased pig could keep it and so bring home the bacon!

Fair April, a month to stir the soul. A month when Spring begins to unfold.  
Sun and showers and lighter days. Rainbow shining through watery rays.  
Flowers appear in wood, field and lane. Trees show buds and shoots again.  
New born lambs and chicks abound. In fact new life is all around.

Marie Cove