

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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**Print Centre 0800 389 4089**

We are not talking about websites (not even our own [www.ansleychurch.org](http://www.ansleychurch.org)).

We are talking of one of the great truths of the Christian faith –the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrated that great event on May 17.

Let's look again at the final paragraph of Matthew's Gospel (Matthew chapter 28 verses 16-20)

Jesus meets his disciples for the last time before returning to his Father. What happens next can be summed up in three w's.

### Worship.

"When the eleven disciples saw Jesus they worshipped him"

It was almost unbelievable that the disciples of Jesus worshipped him. Taught all their lives to worship only the one true God, worshipped their best friend, Jesus. Over the centuries Christians have their instinct was right for Jesus is God the Son.

### Witness

"Go", said Jesus "and make all nations my disciples".

What we have is too good to keep to ourselves. It must be shared.

### Word.

"Teach them", Jesus continued, "To observe all I have commanded you".

These are not our ideas. We need to know and understand all Jesus commanded his disciples so we can apply it in our lives and pass it on to others.

Enjoy serving our Risen and Ascended Lord.

Your friend and vicar,

Peter

### St. Laurence's Church - Services

Sunday 3 <sup>d</sup>	Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	Family Service
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing
Sunday 24 <sup>h</sup>	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

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

Sunday 3 <sup>d</sup>	Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer

### Open church

As in previous years the church will be open from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. on alternate Saturdays commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> June. (2<sup>nd</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>) There will be light refreshments available in the annexe. This gives an opportunity for a chat in the annexe or a time for quiet reflection and private prayer in our beautiful old church.

### Other regular activities

These continue as normal full details on the notice boards.

### Annual General Meeting.

As mentioned in the May issue the report of the Annual General Meeting is included in this month's magazine.

There being no other nominations Moreen Freestone and Margaret Antill were re-elected as Church Wardens.

There is a full copy of the accounts and reports on display in the Church Porch and at St. John's.

The number on the new electoral roll is 79. It should be emphasised for those on the electoral roll that there should be a commitment to the church both in attendance and in giving.

P. Rees has been elected as a member, and Gwyneth Hickman has been co-opted on to the P.C.C.

As with all public buildings the electrics have to be checked every five years and the Church's wiring failed in November. The electrician had been rectifying the various problems and it was mentioned at the meeting that three lighting wires had to be replaced. This work was in hand, but the amount at the time was not known, but the work was to take 6 days, and the final bill was over £2500.

Other matters mentioned were that we have an attack of masonry bees on the South chancel wall, this has been treated, and we are very grateful to Ron Morewood who came and filled all the holes once the bees had all gone.

Also of note was that another cherry tree has died.



11.30 a.m. in the Village Church Hall and a 'Stay and Play' session each Friday morning from 10.00 – 11.30 a.m. in St John's church hall. At these sessions parents have the opportunity to meet other parents and talk to the trained leaders. The district Nurse and other professionals also call in from time to time.

The existing sessions of 'Bumps and Babies' at St John's on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. and the 'Stay and Play' from 9.45 a.m. in the Village Hall on Wednesday mornings will be continuing.

### Churchyard Competition

If you visit the churchyard regularly you may already know that we have entered the County best kept churchyard competition this year. To our great surprise last year we came second. We would ask everyone who visits the churchyard to only put flowers on their loved one's grave, and keep them on the head stone to make it easier to mow. Please remember do not put cards, toys or ornaments in the churchyard. Please help keep it tidy by putting rubbish in the correct bin i.e. only flowers and greenery in the green as directed on the bin and on the notice at the top of the car park, as each week we have to go through the green bins to remove paper, plastic, oasis etc. It was back in the 1970's when we last won the best kept churchyard competition.

### Faith Communities Regeneration Project

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Kay Aldersley the projects support officer will be holding the next F.A.C.E. Faith Action Community Enterprise event in the Village Church Hall from 9.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. there will be a presentation by Vicky Odams our youth worker and she will be talking on her work in the community and leading a workshop and discussion on working ethically in youth work. There will also be the opportunity to be entertained by a troop of Chinese Lion Dancers. Light refreshments will be provided.

### Village Church Hall

We are pleased to say that we have now received the funding from the North Warwickshire Borough Council Area Forum Fund for the additional tables and new chairs for the hall. This will ensure that the old tables that are wobbly and the ones with wood worm can now be disposed of. We will now have 60 matching chairs that will stack easily and 16 folding tables. We are also purchasing trolleys to move the chairs and tables around the hall and these will make getting them out and putting them away much easier. When we have sorted the old chairs there will probably be about 30 of two different types that could be sold. If you would be interested in these do please have a word with one of the wardens.

We are making good progress with the hall the curtains are now up. However there is still the games room area to be completed, with work to the floor, the re-fixing of the cupboards and decoration to be carried out. We also have to do some work on the fascia and guttering at the front and to the one side. This will be completed as soon as funds are available.

It is hoped all the work will be completed by September 9<sup>th</sup> when we hope to hold a Thanksgiving service, lunch and party.

### Disappointment in our youth

At 1 p.m. Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May St. John's was burgled and three youths were seen coming out of the building with items hidden under their jackets, and when challenged they ran off. Many items had been stolen including the safe. Later a man walking his dog, found most of the items in a hedge, but not everything was found. If the perpetrators are found, we intend to take whatever steps are necessary to see they are punished.

### Benches

The P.C.C. would like to acknowledge the gift of two new benches in the churchyard given in memory of Daphne and Kenneth Norwood the other in memory of John Keeling Frank and Pat Keeling and Sandra Brandrick. These have been placed along the path from the car park. They replace one which had to be removed for safety reasons, and the other, in memory of Mrs Morley, which has now been placed alongside the annexe which is where people congregate before entering as a family group at memorial services etc. The new benches are made of Iroko, a hard wood that will not require varnish. The wood will weather and there will be little maintenance Thank you to the respective families and friends for these generous gifts.

### Easter

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Easter Flowers (a total of £123.54 was received), to those who gave flowers, and to all who helped decorate the church ready for this very special Christian celebration. The Church looked beautiful decked in such lovely spring colours, and helped create a joyful atmosphere for our festival services.

### Christmas Tree Festival

Here we are, nearly at the height of summer and we are thinking about Christmas! Numerous groups organisations and individuals expressed an interest in taking part in the Christmas 2007 Festival and from now until August is the time to 'back a tree' if you are still keen to participate!! We will again ask for a £10 for each tree, and as last year we would ask you to fill in a form and return it as soon as possible. Please contact Margaret Kimberley (024 7638 4680, Moreen Freestone 024 7638 1833 or Margaret Antill 01827 874520.

### St. John's Prize Bingo

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> the committee at St. John's organised a St. George's day prize bingo. This was great fun and enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Alan Lavis who did the calling and to all who gave the lovely prizes and supported this occasion. A total of £123 was raised for the hall funds.

### Marie's Coffee Morning.

From last month please remember Marie and Dave's coffee morning on 6<sup>th</sup> June from 10a.m. at 28 Nuthurst Crescent in aid of Acorn Children's Hospice.

### Home Made Cake Sale for Spurgeon Child Care

In the Village Church Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> June at 3.00 p.m. to raise money for this Christian charity that cares and supports children with all kinds of long and short term problems, Margaret Oliver will be pleased to accept all donations of cakes for sale gratefully accepted Saturday morning at 33 Nuthurst Crescent or at the hall in the afternoon. There will be tea and coffee and cake (to eat) for sale during the afternoon.

### Champagne Flutes

Jane Kimberley will be having a work shop in the Annexe on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June followed by a concert in Church at 7.30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to the concert.

### Sure Start.

Sure Start are extending their activities in both our halls as from the beginning of this month. There will be a 'Bumps and Babies' sessions each Monday mornings from 9.30 to



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I never thought I would live to see the day when the English were waiting for it is rain.

It has always been the case that people would say "When will it ever stop raining?", as the rain poured down day after day, but until the beginning of May when the rain did finally arrive, we couldn't remember when we last needed an umbrella. Of course it arrived on the May Day Bank Holiday, but for once the good old British rain was very welcome, especially by gardeners and farmers, but it wasn't long before we were saying "When will it ever stop raining?"

If anyone wants to see England's green and pleasant land at it's best, there is a wonderful sight down the lane before you get to Mancetter Church which leads to Purley Chase. The beautiful Bluebells have died but now it is a magical ride through arches of bright green trees, and then there are Lambs in the field a little farther on. It is well worth visiting, and unforgettable.

I was amazed to see a young mother pushing her child in the push chair straight onto a bus. It made me remember when my children were small. You had to put your child on the bus seat or some kind person would hold him or her, then fold down the pushchair and lift it onto the bus and into the box provided at the front. This was no mean task as there were no lightweight buggies. The best solution I ever found was to walk everywhere, even in snow and rain.

It was funny hearing that Ikea now supply flat pack houses, which can be put up in four days. Of course this isn't a new idea as we are of a certain age will remember the 'prefabs' of many years ago. However, I don't think that even the greatest fan of 'flat packs' would want to attempt to erect a house, but it is not to say they might be worthwhile as the prefabs were only intended to last a short time and 60 years or so on some are still being lived in.

I thought this was good from my Bible Notes :-

When you meet someone who needs encouragement, give it to them! Why? Because more people die of broken hearts than swelled heads".

Marie Cove.