

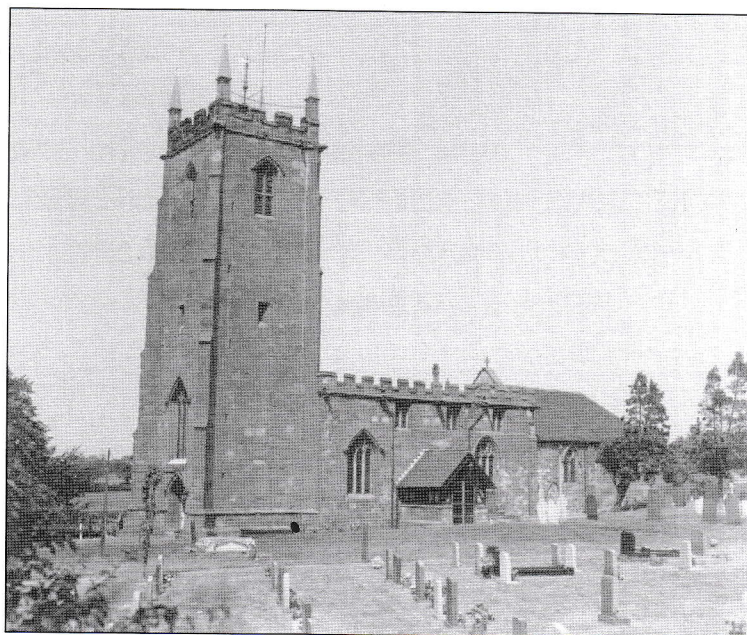
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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Talk with Jesus, Talk about Jesus

So the building work progresses.

We are back worshipping at St. Laurence's. Many thanks to all who put in so many hours to make it clean and spotless.

Work at St. John's is over half way through.

Arley and St. Michael's Community Project will soon reach that point.

St. Wilfrid's Roof and The Old Barn will be starting shortly.

Much to celebrate. God has greatly blessed us.

But what happens next?

We are called to be clear where God is leading us.

We need a vision that is focussed and memorable.

Our parishes are different but one task unites us all.

I believe that task can be summed up in six words.

Talk with Jesus. Talk about Jesus.

Jesus. Many criticise or condemn the Church - sadly sometimes with good reason. Many are very angry with God. But few criticise Jesus.

Talk about Jesus. For so many people he remains an exciting, attractive person. Well worth imitating. Well worth talking about.

So there are plenty of opportunities to talk about Jesus and what he means to us.

But if we are going to have any impact we must also talk with Jesus. Not just **to** Jesus - telling him what we want - but talking **with** Jesus. We must take time to listen.

These go together. The more we talk with Jesus the more we shall want to talk about him.

The more we talk about him the more we shall want to talk with him.

So here's my suggestion for the tasks ahead. Talk with Jesus. Talk about Jesus.

And may God Bless you as you do so,

Peter

June, St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 7 th	Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	Family Service in Village Church Hall
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Baptism and Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 21 st	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Please note All Services will be held at the centre St. John's Close until the work on the hall has been completed

Sunday 7 th	Trinity	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 14 th	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 st	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 28 th	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards. No activities will be taking place in St. John's Hall until the refurbishment is complete.

From the Registers

For March and April St. Laurence's was out of use with the building work that has now been completed.

During this time we used St. Wilfrid's for two baptisms and one funeral. We would like to take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank St. Wilfrid's for their generous hospitality.

Baptisms

Postponed from 8 February and transferred from St. Laurence's we eventually made it on 8th March when at our morning service we celebrated the baptisms of Daniel Ralph and Joshua Collins. It was a delightful occasion of joy and gladness - despite being in less familiar surroundings.

Weddings

Saturday 2nd May saw the first service in the church for nine weeks this was the marriage of Stephen Bannister and Katy Martin.

In May Margaret and Ray Coxon celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary. As this marriage did not take place in Ansley no mention was made in the magazine last year, we wish them every happiness for the future.

Funerals

On April 9 we marked the Funeral of Cyril Clifford George Jones. This was followed by Committal at the Heart of England Crematorium and interment at St. Laurence's on April 17. Always known as Ciggy he delighted in mechanical and construction projects. He will be

greatly missed by wife Peggy, daughter Denise, grand-daughter Brooke and by all his family and many friends.

Father's Day Open Church

It has been realised that there are many visitors to the Church and Churchyard over the Mothering Sunday weekend and last year the Open church weekend coincided with the Father's Day weekend and the number of visitors was significantly higher than on a normal Saturday afternoon. The P.C.C. have decided this year to have the Church open on that Saturday, which is 20th June, from 10.a.m. to 4 p.m. and light refreshments will again be available in the annexe. It will mean that the church will not be open so many Saturdays this year, but it is felt that there will be more different people that will be able to access the Church.

St. John's Church Hall

Further good progress is being made with the work on the hall and at the time of writing was still on target to be completed by end of July. The hall committee were very pleased to receive £5,000 from the Alan Edward Higgs Trust towards the project which will provide for the electrical work in the existing building.

As there will still be insurance and utility bills to be paid even though the hall is not in use and with no income while the hall is closed members of the hall committee will be holding a Tea Afternoon on Saturday 27th from 2.00 p.m. at the home of Joy Pethick No 6 Limes Coppice (the house next to the hall on the right hand side when looking at the hall) Do come and support this event weather permitting you will be sitting outside enjoying the sunshine, a good chat as well as tea and cake.

The Church

How wonderful to see St Laurence's back in use, and while it was an interesting experience to use the annexe each week it did have its drawbacks. While we know that we can meet with our Lord at any time and place it is still right to have that very special place which is dedicated to Glory of God alone.

The P.C.C. are very grateful for the forbearance of the many who have supported them through this difficult time.

A very big thank you to the many who worked so very hard to get the Church clean again, it is estimated that nearly two hundred hours were spent cleaning, starting with the 25ft ceilings and the tower cleaning the windows and walls and scrubbing the floors and putting the carpets back. Getting the dust from so many different corners and polishing of the wood work, and finding where all the different things had been packed away.

Thank you to everyone it was a mammoth task done so willingly by so many.

At the time of writing it is not clear when the decorating will or can take place the plaster is taking a long time to dry. Also the cost of the work will have to be considered as our resources have been greatly reduced. The P.C.C. are very grateful to its insurers who have been very helpful to them during this long and protracted project to carry out the work to cover the loss. It was also prudent to carry out the additional repairs at the same time when the contractors were on site.

We pray that the Church will always be there for those who seek the help of the Lord in their lives.

'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'.

The total paid into our Fabric Fund in April was £76.30 increasing the total to £211.80 all from the small change collection. Thank you to everyone who contributed. The jars will be in

Church for the rest of the year

Plant Sale.

Things went very slow this year, many of the bedding plants were not ready and there were not so many people. However the sale did raise over £350 for hall funds and those who came enjoyed their visit. Very many thanks to all who helped with this sale.

AGM

It was at the A.G.M. which was held on 30th April in the Annexe that the reports and review of 2008 took place, the officers were appointed for 2009 and discussions were had on some of the aspects in the way forward for Ansley Church. The Vicar brought the need to Talk with Jesus, Talk about Jesus to the members.

Thanks were given to all who have worked so hard for the good of the Church particularly in 2008 and it was expressed that so much work is unseen, but if it did not happen things would not run so smoothly. If you were not present at the meeting please take this as a thank you, for your work to support the Church.

The P.C.C. have re appointed the treasurer as Margaret Kimberley and Margaret Silver as Electoral Roll officer

The two Church Wardens Moreen Freestone and Margaret Antill will this year receive their commission from the Bishop at the Cathedral at 7.30 p.m. on 4th June. This special Episcopal Visitation will replace the Archdeacons Visitation which was on a Deanery basis. This is an important and very special occasion with all the wardens of the diocese receiving the Bishop's Charge at the same time. This service is open to all church members of the congregation who will be most welcome and the wardens would welcome the support. If you would like to attend please have a word with the wardens to aid transport and enable the people from Ansley to sit together.

Around the parish

On Tuesday June 9th the Vicar will be spending the day in Birchley Heath if you would like him to visit please do contact him. Meal and some coffee would be appreciated to enable the whole day to be spent in the area. Please do contact 024 7639 9070.

Confirmation

The Deanery Confirmation

This year the Confirmation service is to be held in Wolvey Church at 4 p.m. on Sunday 14th June. Please remember our four candidates Val and Terry Askew, Sarah Ralph and Micheala Lawson in your prayers. If you would like to attend this service and require transport please have a word.

Advanced notice Marie's Coffee Morning.

This year Marie will be holding her coffee morning on Thursday 2nd July full details next month.

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 forwho is

June, 2009

Someone correctly analysed our weather during May when he said that sometimes we have four seasons in one day. We had bright sunshine, light showers, torrential rain, thunder and lightning, hail and really strong, cold winds. I wouldn't have been surprised to see snow as it was cold enough, but despite this I have to agree with the presenters at Chelsea Flower Show that the Blossom has been a sight to behold this Spring. Also the wild flowers - Bluebells, Wild Garlic and Wood Anemones have been marvellous and our own garden has been a riot of colour.

Just when you think you have cracked what is good to eat, lo and behold we are now told that chocolate is less harmful to children's teeth than raisins and bananas because raisins are full of sugar and they and bananas are extremely sweet and so sticky they stay on the teeth, but that's not all. I just don't know what young children will find to drink as orange juice, apple juice, to name two flavours destroy teeth, and blackcurrant has already been banned, so it seems that only thing left is water.

There is a saying 'familiarity breeds contempt' and this came to my mind when I saw a picture of Lichfield Cathedral and realised I have never been to Lichfield, never mind the Cathedral. Then my son asked what Arbury Hall was like and I had to admit that despite walking in the grounds and visiting Craft Fairs etc., we had only been inside once when we had visitors from Wales and they suggested a visit, but I must say it is a beautiful house inside.

For many years we have looked forward to seeing the Blackbirds nesting in the fir trees at the bottom of our garden and feeding their young, but this year, much to our delight, we have Robins which must be nesting nearby as we have a young Robin feeding on the path. He is such a character and although he hasn't got his red breast yet, you couldn't mistake him for any other bird than a Robin. Just like adult Robins he is almost tame as he doesn't fly off when we are in the garden, and he can hold his own with the Sparrows. May I say, we haven't forgotten the Blackbirds as they too have come back in abundance.

I can remember my mother quoting the following but only the first two lines:

Another door opens by Helen Keller: When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

Marie Cove.