

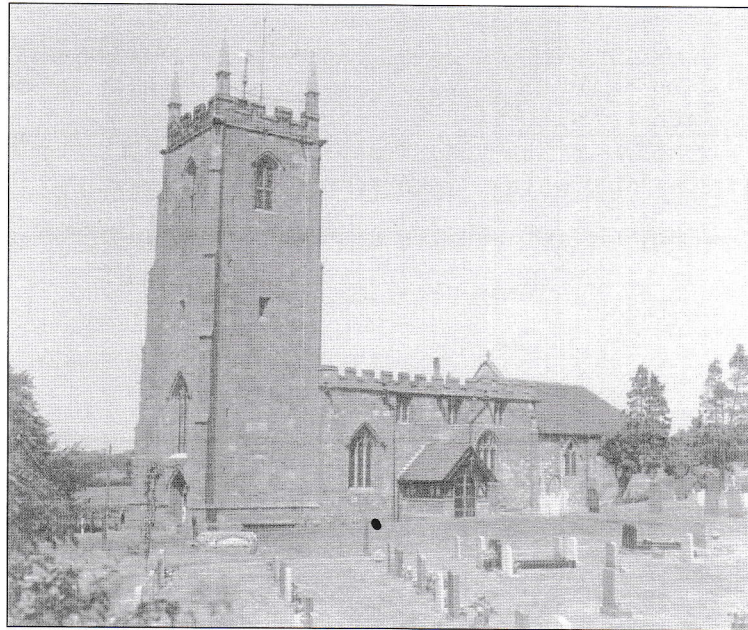
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 1014

JUNE 2010

Price 25p



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NORTH,SOUTH,EAST AND WEST!

So summer is on its way!

Many of us who have the privilege of being able to travel will be going off in all directions.

Ansley church has decided to travel in four directions.

No we won't be going to the four winds but we will be seeking to do things better.

After much thought and prayer as a Church we have highlighted four areas to concentrate upon.

1. Deepening our spiritual life. Rooted ourselves in the love of God through prayer, Bible Study, contemplation and waiting on God to speak to us.
2. Widening our welcome. Creating services and activities that attract young and old alike. We are particularly conscious that we are sometimes not as good as we would wish in welcoming children and families and want to ensure them of the warmest of welcomes.
3. Strengthening our Pastoral Care. We want to be seen as a place of love and care. We are aware that those who are unable to continue to come to church because of illness and infirmity do not receive as good support and care as we would wish and we want to put this right.
4. Celebrating together. We would love to run a range of social events that attract not just church members but all who live and work here. We used to do this. We don't do it so well now. We want to restart a great tradition.!

If you can help with any of these we would value your prayers, your thoughts and your support.

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

June, St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 6 th	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 13 th	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 20 th	Father's Day	10.30 a.m.	Special Family Service
	Trinity 3	6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 27 th	Trinity 4	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 6 th	Trinity 1	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
Sunday 13 th	Trinity 2	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 th	Trinity 3	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	4 O' Clock Club
Sunday 27 th	Trinity 4	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Village Church Hall

Sunday 6 th	Trinity 1	4.00 p.m.	4 O' Clock Club
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Discussing the parables Monday 7th - 7.30 p.m. 46 Nuthurst Crescent

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards.

From the Registers

Burial of ashes.

Following a service at the Heart of England Crematorium the Ashes of Elizabeth Mary West who used to live at 156 Birmingham Road and died 11th April aged 88 were brought back to St. Laurence's churchyard. They were interred with those of her husband Jack who had died last September.

Marie's Coffee Morning

For many years Marie and Dave have opened their home to everyone to come and enjoy a pleasant time, usually in their garden, which has so many different plants as well as some interesting animals!

This year the coffee morning will be on Wednesday 16th June from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be a raffle, bring and buy stall, tea, coffee, cake and time for a chat. Proceeds this year will be divided equally between St. John's Church Hall and the local Air Ambulance.

Midsummer Madness

On Saturday 19th June there will be a great family fun evening in the Big Red Barn at Hoar Park from 7 p.m. This new event will have live Country & Western music, a hog roast, raffle, tombola, activities for children and young people. Tickets are £2 each which includes a 50p discount from your first hog roast batch.

Tickets are available from:

- The Collections Shop - Hoar Park,
- Ansley Village Post Office
- Manor Farm Shop - Church End,
- Steve Mellor Butcher's Shop - Chapel End
- Church members.

Tickets will also be available at the door.

If anyone has any raffle or tombola prizes they will be much appreciated.

Surplus proceeds will be for church funds. Do come and enjoy a good evening's entertainment.

Father's Day and Open Church

This year Father's day is on Sunday 20th June and we will be having a special family service at 10.30 a.m.

Over the past few years it has been noticeable that the number of people visiting the churchyard this particular weekend has increased. Therefore we have ensured that the church will be open from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday 19th giving an opportunity for private prayer or just to have a look in church. There will also be light refreshments available in the annexe and a leaflet available to take away to read at your leisure.

Plant Sale

Full report next month.

Easter Bonnet & St. George's Day Dances

Every one who attended the Easter Bonnet and St. George's Day dances on 26th March and 23rd April respectively had a great time and lots of laughs. There was plenty of dancing, a quiz and generally a fun time.

The two events have raised £102 for hall funds. It is good to see the hall used for such community events.

Prize Bingo

The latest prize bingo session was on Monday 10th May this was not as well attended as the previous two sessions, but every one had a good time. The clock that was a prize for one of the houses was in great demand and the young man who took it home was delighted. Whilst it is important to have good social events it is encouraging when a surplus is made and this time £130 was raised for hall funds.

Visitation

At the PCC's AGM on April 15th April Moreen Freestone and Margaret Antill were re-elected as Church Wardens for a further 12 months. However they do not officially take office for the coming year until they have taken their oath of office which this year will be at Coventry Cathedral in the presence of Bishop Christopher on Wednesday 16th June at 7.30 p.m.

At this special service the Bishop will give the wardens of the diocese their charge for the next year. He will also ask for God to give the respective wardens guidance and understanding to take on this ancient position.

Being Church Warden is a very varied task as each parish is different and each year is also different, with the many problems and tasks arising that are foreseen. The wardens are able to seek advice from the officials in the diocesan offices about many issues. There are issues that today are covered by legislation and do not require a decision, only how to implement same within our particular parish. Many other situations arise where it is only by prayer and talking to the local people that the way forward is clear. Please remember the wardens in your prayers especially on the 16th as they take their responsibilities for 2010-2011.

This service is open to anyone who may wish to attend and give their support you will be most welcome. It would probably be an advantage if you could let the wardens or the vicar know if you wish to attend then it may be possible to share transport and sit together, please do have a word. After the service there will be time to talk to other wardens, clergy, diocesan officials and members of the congregation. There will also be some refreshments.

Donations

The PCC gratefully acknowledge two very generous donations one to fabric fund and the other to the churchyard fund, both given in memory of a loved one.

Chancel Window

The PCC have been aware for some time that one of the panels in the stained glass window on the south side of the chancel has bowed badly and therefore is in need of repair, hopefully this year. An application has been submitted to the diocese for a faculty to have this work carried out and now the public notices are on the church notice boards. Our architect is advising the PCC on this specialist work and quotations are in process. This particular window was installed in the 1890s.

It should be mentioned that in the not too distant future most of our windows will need attention as they are all 80 or considerably older and the average life expectancy of a window of this kind is 70-100 years.

'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'.

We did not receive any money in for the small change collection in April. The total remains at £77.00 so far this year all from the small change collection.

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

Well, after sweltering in the heat and thinking at last the bad weather is over, lo and behold it turns bitter cold, and we even have night frosts. There's one thing you can say about the English weather - it is never boring, as you don't know what is coming from one day to the next. However, it doesn't seem to have done much harm as everything is in full swing.

When the airlines were suffering cancellations because of the volcanic dust cloud, I read that in the late 1700's this same volcano erupted, although at the time the people in Britain didn't know what was happening. The crops were covered in ash and failed, livestock died and lots of people died from breathing complaints. Charles Wesley said people thought it was the end of the world as they had sweltering hot weather followed by snow and frost in the middle of the summer - does that sound familiar. People were dropping to their knees in the streets and the churches were full. By this account we seem to have come off lightly, although I don't suppose stranded travellers would think so.

I have continued to read the old magazines and have especially loved to read Rev. Heaton's letters, but then he says after almost 32 years, he is retiring to make way for a younger man. Generous to the last he says that he will not be accepting a pension. It must have seemed like the end of an era for the Ansley people, and indeed only a few years ago a lady in the village was talking about him, and at the time I thought she was exaggerating, but now I don't think so.

Then I was amazed at the way the people of the Parish of Ansley responded to the needy in all sorts of ways despite having very little themselves. They even invited a party of children from London who had seen their communities devastated by war, to Ansley for a holiday. They opened up their homes and it must have been amazing for these children to enjoy the peaceful, green fields of Ansley and the surrounding district. They also, had egg services, where, despite the rationing they were able to send 165 eggs to Nuneaton Hospital. You may think this strange but when my sister was in hospital many years ago, we would take her an egg and also a pot of jam.

June is the month we await with joy, a month when flowers the sunshine enjoy.
A month when the Rose comes into her own, as she flowers and then the petals strewn.
So let us enjoy every hour of light, every hour of sunshine and June's delight.

Marie Cove.