

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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Ansley Village, Church End

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## Thoughts from a rainy day

Last week I took my day off on Saturday. Friday had been fine but on Saturday it was raining. Not torrential but not a day to spend ambling outside. So Pauline and I decided to visit the exhibition of the history of children's television at the Herbert Museum. (Incidentally it was fascinating.)

We stopped for a light lunch at The Rising Cafe beside the Cathedral. It is a very good project supporting people recovering from addiction but more importantly for us at the time (it was my day off!) there was great food in excellent surroundings - I'd recommend you to try it! Then we made our way to The Herbert.

Just as we entered there were two stands. One was advertising Fostering and Adoption. The other was about higher education. In neither case did anyone on the stalls make eye contact. It was easy to understand why. A man of my age is hardly the candidate they are looking for! After a passing thought I moved on. If age excluded me, so be it. I have had a good life with much to celebrate and I hope much to celebrate in the future. I walked on without a further thought until I came to think about this article.

My feeling of not being the right age was minor and passed off very quickly but what about the numerous people who are excluded by reason of gender, class, race, poverty, illness and age? Sadly for so many these feelings live with them all day long. I am delighted that Jesus was always there to welcome the excluded and to give new chances to those who had no hope. His example needs to be a continuing inspiration to us all.

As Christians we cannot stop at just giving people new chances in their day-to-day existence. We short change people if we fail to share the faith that has given us so much in life. So our task is two-fold - to remove all the barriers that prevent people playing their full part in society and to raise their sights to the one who brings the hope that is eternal - Jesus Christ himself. What an amazing task we have been given!

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER,

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

### July St. Laurence's Church Services

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 5	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Ordinary Time [Screen]
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	Baptism
		6.30 p.m.	Songs of Praise

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

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 5	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### From the Registers

On 20<sup>th</sup> May the baptism of Emily Kay Plowman and the wedding of her parents Garry Plowman and Samantha Varley were celebrated together at the same service.

On 21<sup>st</sup> May the baptisms took place of Ben Keeling and Beatrice Collier.

Altogether this made for a weekend of joy and the celebration of life and love.

### Open Church

Over the summer the church will be open on Sundays from 12.00 noon to 6.00p.m.

### Invitation from the Girls' Brigade

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July the Girls' Brigade will be holding their annual presentation evening in St John's Hall, beginning at 6.00 p.m. Badges and awards will be given out and the year reviewed. Everyone is welcome to join them for this celebration evening.

### St John's Tea and Cake Afternoon

You are warmly invited to enjoy refreshments and chat at St John's Hall from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July. There will be stalls, competitions and raffles. Proceeds will be for Hall funds.

### Flower Festival 2015 August Bank Holiday Weekend – Advance Notice

This year will be our 51st festival. Plans are well advanced and will, we pray, ensure that it will be another festival when people will write in our visitor's book that it is the "best ever," or words to that effect.

This year the theme is "Bring" and the various arrangers will be displaying in flowers such titles as "Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling.", "They brought children to Jesus.", "I bring you glad tidings of great joy.", "Bring the best robe.", "The grace of God that brings salvation." and "Bringing all my burdens."



The festival will open at 6 p.m. on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> and will be followed by a service of Dedication at 7.00 p.m. The church will be open from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The Sunday services will be 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion and 6.30 p.m. Songs of Praise. The theme for the evening service will be the early years of the Flower Festival. The festival will close with a service of Thanksgiving at 6.30 p.m. on the Monday evening.

During the event there will be refreshments available in the annexe, a produce stall and as usual we will have a raffle for the fruit cake.

Ansley Morris will be dancing on the Monday afternoon in the churchyard, weather permitting. If it is inclement the dancing will be in the church.

As in previous years we will be supporting the Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends and the Acorns Children's Hospice as well as raising money for church funds. Entrance will be free, but we do say, "Please place a gift here not only to thank God for the joy of the Flower Festival, but for all the joys that God has brought to you."

If you would like to be involved in this, one of the 'big' events in the life of Ansley Church, please do offer. There are many tasks to be undertaken particularly during the event. One of the jobs before the start of the weekend is tidying the churchyard. Please just come along with your tools and do whatever you see needs doing. Even if you feel you cannot do a physical task please pray for the event, that it will not only be a financial success but also meet people where they are and help them in their faith.

#### Sponsored Cycle Ride – Advance Notice

The sponsored ride in aid of the Historic Churches Trust will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Details are available from early July at [www.rideandstrideuk.org](http://www.rideandstrideuk.org). Click on the "Near you" box and then use the drop down list of counties near the bottom of the page to choose Warwickshire.

#### St John's Bingo

Holidays reduced the number of people participating last month, but an enjoyable time was had by all. The evening raised £60 for Hall funds.

#### St John's Spring Clean

Thank you to the people at St John's who turned out in force on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to spring clean the kitchen and all the cupboards.

#### Art Exhibition

Ansley Village Art Group raised £100.51 for St Laurence's Church, Ansley from sales of refreshments and donations at their Fourth Art Exhibition on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June in Ansley Village Church Hall. The time and effort involved in making delicious cakes, organising the eye-catching display and stewarding or serving refreshments on the day, were much appreciated. Thank you to all who supported this event. And thank you to the Art Group for choosing to support the church.

### Plant Sale

We would like to thank everyone who supported the annual plant sale. We made a final total profit on the event of £303.43. This was an excellent result. Many thanks again.

M. Freestone.

### Coffee Morning in Aid of Child Line

As in previous years, the morning was sunny and visitors were able to enjoy the wonderful plants in Marie and Dave's garden. There was a wide choice of delicious food to accompany the tea/coffee and chat. £135. will be sent to the charity "Child Line". We apologise to Marie for forgetting to advertise her Coffee Morning in June's magazine.

### Capital Quiz

A total of £36 was received from the sale of the quiz questions in aid of new service books for St John's. Three people sent in correct answers to all the questions. They were The Antill's, Diana Kealey and Mandy and Bill Watts. These names were put into a draw and Diana Kealey was the final winner. The answers are below:-

1. Do you know the way to SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA.
2. A heavy laundry with electrical connections - WASHINGTON DC, USA.
3. Specialist food shop - DELHI, INDIA.
4. Popular bangers at Christmas - CARACAS, VENEZUELA.
5. Make a sweeping brush used by old Swedish pop group - ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA.
6. A pilot's handlebar and a county - TASHKENT < UZBEKISTAN.
7. TO shoot a male bird - BANGKOK, THAILAND.
8. Sun cream to stop this - BERNE, SWITZERLAND.
9. A passenger vehicle's large vault - KHARTOUM, SUDAN.
10. A chicken dish - KIEV, UKRAINE.
11. A harsh, severe city - RIGA, LATVIA.
12. A Ford model with bovine ending - KABUL, AFGHANISTAN.
13. Tired? Need a holiday? Then.... - BUCHAREST, ROMANIA.
14. A settlement associated with batman's coat. - CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.
15. One of these found "about town" - AMMAN, JORDAN.
16. A reddish brown horse follicle - BEIRUT, LEBANON.
17. Mixed up loos. - OSLO, NORWAY.
18. Pate and vegetable often served at Christmas. - BRUSSELS, BELGIUM.
19. Not the cinema version of the "full" Steel City film. - MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY.
20. Put father in a small paper sack. - BAGHDAD, IRAQ.
21. A frenzied, hurried disposal. - MADRID, SPAIN.
22. Fish eating mammal battle - OTTAWA, CANADA.
23. Monarchs weighing 1016.05 kilograms - KINGSTON, JAMAICA.
24. A strong breeze hangs on this - WINDHOOK, NAMIBIA.
25. 3,6,12,24,48 6/8,2,8 - DUBLIN, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.

### Prayer Requests

If you would like someone or a particular situation remembered in prayer at our Sunday Services both at St. Laurence's and at 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 .....



July, 2015

It was a sight I will never forget. A few weeks ago about 6 or 7 baby Sparrows lined up on the bird table asking to be fed. Then they had a good time balancing on the edge of the Potato bag, and diving in. It was like a Sparrow playground, but I was worried they were being too daring and might not be able to get out of the bag. However, I need not have worried because they were fine and they have continued to turn up every day along with a baby Robin and two baby Goldfinches.

We talk about living in troubled times and there is always a war somewhere in the world, but someone asked when in the history of man, has the world been at its most peaceful. The answer was that the world has only been entirely at peace for 268 of the past 3,400 years. But it depends on what is the definition of peace. Even during these years there were smaller battles rather than outright war.

Most politicians love the sound of their own voice but who's the most taciturn one in history? Well, someone who could be a contender in this category is Clement Attlee, British Prime Minister from 1945-51, who was a man of few words. He once sacked a junior Minister with the six-word comment, "Afraid you're not up to it." Then after winning a landslide victory in 1945 he went to Buckingham Palace. He and George VI stood in silence for several minutes. Eventually Attlee remarked, "I've won the election." "I know," the King said, "I heard it on the six o'clock news." And that was it. If only today's politicians were as terse.

Pause for thought: A young lad once complained to his father that the hymns sung in the church were old-fashioned. His father said, 'If you think you can write better hymns, why don't you?' He accepted the challenge. The year was 1690 and the young man was Isaac Watts, who among others wrote 'Joy to the world' and 'When I survey the wondrous cross.' This proves the adage that actions speak louder than words.

Marie Cove