

# **Church of St. Laurence Magazine**

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

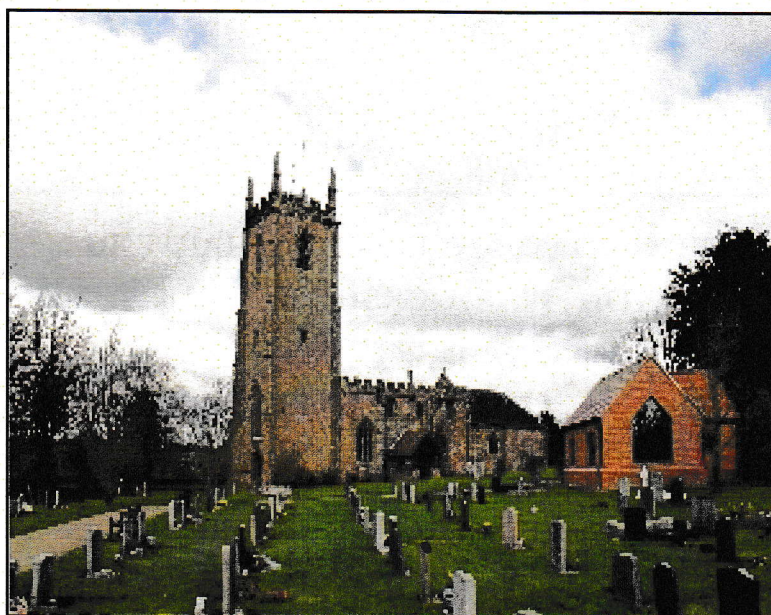
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Well, here we are – July has arrived. We have said goodbye to Peter who has served us so well for the last 13 years or so. Serving all four churches must have been quite a task sometimes – putting up with all our trials and tribulations. Two lots of PCCs and so on.

So now we are all faced with new beginnings.

Peter as he starts his retirement and settles into a more relaxed lifestyle with Pauline in their new home with their family nearby.

We, as we try to find a new vicar and continue for a while with no regular priest.

As we all face these new beginnings, may God give us the necessary guidance, strength and wisdom to continue His work. May God be at the centre of all our decisions, so that the future will hold good things for the growth of the kingdom here in Ansley and Ansley Common and Birchley Heath. And may Peter and Pauline enjoy a happy, healthy and long retirement.

To give us strength, here is a prayer by Myrtle Hall from "The Lion Book of Prayers."

"Today, Lord, a new chapter is laid open and here we are waiting to step into it. And yet there is a feeling of uncertainty, even fear – of what it holds – fear of what it will demand of us. Have we the resources Lord, to meet this new chapter? Can we enter it with joy and certainty and contentment?

My children, this is the day I have made for you.

Accept it gladly, dance into it and carry with you the joy of resurrection, the peace of self giving, the love that forgives and gives. Delight yourself in this new chapter as a child delights in all that is new. Revel in it, absorb it, for it is *today*, new, that new chapter that I have made."

Gwyneth Hickman



### July St. Laurence's Church Services

Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Morning Service
			6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
			6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
			6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 9	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
			6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday	31 <sup>st</sup>	Trinity 10	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
			6.30 p.m.	Songs of Praise

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

Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Trinity 6	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 7	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 8	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday	31 <sup>st</sup>	Trinity 10	10.30 a.m.	Family Service

### Please note

During the interregnum it may be necessary to change the pattern of services from time to time at fairly short notice. This would be to enable visiting clergy to hold a Communion service.

### From the Registers

The wedding of Robert Dormand and Lucy Varnham took place on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May. May they enjoy many happy years together.

Christopher Morewood and Emma Shannon celebrated their wedding on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. We wish them every happiness for the future.

### Farewell to Peter

St John's congregation were able to say their farewells to Peter on 29<sup>th</sup>, his last service with them. Some were also able to join the service at St Michael's.

For his last evening service at St Laurence's, Peter chose to present a personal Songs of Praise. He introduced ten hymns that related to his life story from childhood to the present day.

The last morning service at St Laurence's was very well attended. There was time after the service for people to chat to Peter and Pauline, to thank them for the past years and to wish them well for the future.

The final, final event at St Michael's, New Arley, brought together many people of all ages from the local community and churches. Seven people spoke about how Peter had helped them in their lives and in their faith journeys. St Laurence's presented a cheque to Peter to thank him for all his work. The people of Arley laid on a wonderful selection of refreshments - Thank you all - and the occasion was a fitting celebration of Peter's time in Arley and Ansley.

## THANK YOU

It's just a week since my final day with you and I am still overawed by the appreciation and generous gifts. What can I say but "Thank You".

It's not just the words and gifts. Even more I would like to thank you for thirteen very special years. It has been a great time. God was good to me to make my final years of ministry so special with such diversity, so many varied challenges and opportunities and so many wonderful friendships. He certainly kept the best till last!

I shall pray God will guide you by His Spirit as you work towards finding a new Vicar who will lead all the churches in faith, hope and love. Under their ministry and leadership you may find much joy and share that joy with many who do not yet know Jesus.

And please do keep in touch. We would love to hear your news. We move on June 30th to 26 Hazel Grove Mapperley Nottingham NG3 6DN and can be contacted by email [allan\\_p2@sky.com](mailto:allan_p2@sky.com) or phone 0115 891 2296. Peter Allan

### Next Steps

Following Peter's retirement the PCCs of Ansley and Arley will be appointing a small committee to draw up a Parish Profile. This will then be submitted to Morris Rodham, our Archdeacon Missioner. After revision the profile will be brought to the full PCCs for approval and will form the substance of the advertisement for a new vicar

### Donation

The PCC would like to acknowledge with gratitude the receipt of a cheque to the value of £5,000. The money has been split between the £4,000 to the Fabric Fund and £1,000 to the Churchyard Fund, as approved by the family concerned.

### St John's Tea and Cake Afternoon

You will be very welcome at this event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. There will be refreshments, bric a brac and other stalls and an opportunity to meet up with old friends and/or make new ones. Proceeds will be in aid of Hall funds.

### Advance Notice – 52<sup>nd</sup> Flower Festival

Over the August Bank Holiday weekend the 52<sup>nd</sup> Flower Festival will be held at St Laurence's. The theme this year is God's creation.

We are very grateful to our Borough Councillor for ensuring that road signs now direct visitors to the church. Finding the building had proved a problem to some visitors in the past.

Details of the times and arrangements will be in next month's magazine. Ansley Morris will be dancing on the Monday afternoon in the churchyard. If the weather 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 hope visitors will leave a donation.



### Can you help?

We would love to have extra volunteers to join the teams that help make the flower festival such a success. Jobs needed include helping to tidy the churchyard in the weeks before - bring your own tools! Also more volunteers in the annexe, on the produce stall and cake raffle would be appreciated. We also would like stewards to be present in the church. Each person's contribution, whether for an hour or several hours, makes a real difference. Please help or persuade others to do so!!!

### Open Church

It is pleasing to note from the visitors' book that people have been using the opportunity to visit St Laurence's on Sunday afternoons. The church will continue to be open on Sundays between 12.00 noon and 6.00 p.m. throughout the summer.

### St John's Prize Bingo

This event on 30<sup>th</sup> May raised £100 for Hall funds and was an enjoyable and sociable evening.

### Celebration of the Her Majesty the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

There were about twenty people in and around the church to listen to Coventry Guild Ringers ring a quarter peal in honour of the Queen's birthday. This involved 1320 changes.

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June, the parish history displays were placed around church for visitors to enjoy. The annexe was also open and members of "Nuneaton Memories" website were present to scan local history photos brought along by local people. £44.50 was donated to the church.

The Queen's birthday social at St John's Hall enabled locals to meet together to mark and enjoy this special occasion.

### Marie's Coffee Morning in aid of "Childline"

In spite of the unusually poor weather, people gathered at Marie and Dave's to enjoy a social get together and raised a total of £120 for this good cause.

### Thank you

Following Mandy and Bill's move to Oxfordshire, the PCC had hoped to be able to present Mandy personally with a cheque to show their appreciation. Instead the cheque was posted with a covering note and the PCC have received a lovely thank you letter, which is in the porch.

### 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, 2016

In May the Painting Group at Ansley Common had their annual Canal Boat outing. It was a glorious occasion – the sun shone, the scenery was beautiful and then we had a delicious meal at 'The Anchor'. We even stopped for Icecream on the way back. It sounds silly to say we took all day to get to Atherstone and back, but believe me it is the most relaxing day – no cars, no noise and lots of conversation.

What is the origin of the expression 'Pin Money'. Well, Catherine Howard the wife of Henry 8<sup>th</sup> introduced pins to England from France. As they were very expensive at first, a separate sum for this luxury was granted to the ladies by their husbands. Hence the expression 'Pin Money'.

I really love flowers as anyone can see from our garden. I also love flowers and plants in the house, and I look forward every year to the Spring flowers, especially Daffodils and Tulips. The Tulips seem to have had a very long season this year, and even if I have flowers in the house, if I see Tulips I can't resist buying more.

When you see pictures of Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup>, you can tell she loved Pearls, and when she died her successor James 1 inherited 6 large pearl necklaces with 25 pearls as big as nutmegs and 7 large single pearls for earrings and dress ornaments. She certainly loved her Pearls.

Perhaps washing up is not your favourite chore but perhaps we should look at it from the following point of view –

Thank God for dirty dishes, they have a tale to tell.

For by this pile that I have here it seems we're living well.  
While others there are starving, I've not the heart to fuss,  
for by this pile it's evident – God's very good to us.

Marie Cove