

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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**Vicar:**

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**Honorary Church Army Evangelist:**

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**Sunday Bus Timetable for 6.30 p.m. Evening Service**

Ansley Village turn 6.00 p.m.

Ansley Common St. John's 6.20 p.m.

Return Journey from Parish Church 7.45 p.m.

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1st August, 1994

Our Dear Friends,

Freddie Mercury, the lead singer of the rock group 'Queen,' who died at the end of 1991 wrote in one of his last songs on 'The Miracle' album, 'Does anybody know what we are living for?' In spite of the fact that he had amassed a huge fortune and had attracted thousands of fans, he admitted in an interview shortly before his death that he was desperately lonely. He said, "You can have everything in the world and still be the loneliest man, and that is the most bitter type of loneliness. Success has brought me world idolisation and millions of pounds, but it's prevented me from having the one thing we all need—a loving, ongoing relationship."

He was right, but no human relationship will satisfy completely. There always remains something missing. That is because we are created to live in a relationship with God. Jesus said, "The water that I give will become a spring which will provide people with life—giving water and give them Eternal Life," Jesus gives us Himself. He quenches the thirst felt in every human heart. He makes us inwardly clean and brings to life the new growth of His goodness.

There is a thirst deep within the human heart. Leading psychologists of the twentieth century have all recognised this. Freud said, "People are thirsty for love!" Jung said, "People are hungry for security." Adler said, "People are longing for significance."

Whilst people acknowledge this, there is also a feeling that something is wrong inside of them that first needs to be put right. Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Russian writer, said, "The line separating good and evil passes, not through states, nor through classes, nor between political parties but right through every human heart and through all human hearts." Many others have had this same conviction. C. S. Lewis wrote: "For the first time I examined myself with a seriously practical purpose. And there I found what appalled me; a zoo of lusts, a bedlam of ambitions, a nursery of fears, a harem of fondled hatreds."

We all need forgiveness and only in Christ can it be found. Marghanita Laski, the humanist, debating on television with a Christian, made an amazing confession. She said, "What I envy most about you Christians is your forgiveness." Then she concluded somewhat regretfully, "I have no one to forgive me."

You will see now why the theme of our 30th Annual Flower Festival, "Water," is so relevant. We pray for the many who will come to view the Bible scenes so skilfully displayed in flowers—the result of so much hard work by many people working together—that they will be directed to surrender to the Saviour.

James, Catherine, Mark and Rebekah.



## DIARY FOR AUGUST

### Friday, August 5th

7.30 p.m. Barbecue in the Vicarage garden.

### Sunday, August 7th

8.00 a.m. Parish Communion.

10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Alternative Service Book.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Book of Common Prayer 1662.

### Sunday, August 14th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Alternative Service Book.

### Sunday, August 21st

10.30 a.m. Family Service.

6.30 p.m. Parish Communion.

### Thursday, August 25th

7.00 p.m. Erecting the Marquee.

### Friday, August 26th—Flower Festival commences

6.00 p.m. Church open for viewing.

8.00 p.m. Flower Festival Dedication Service.

### Saturday, August 27th

10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Church open for viewing and marquee open for refreshments and produce sale.

### Sunday, August 28th

10.30 a.m. Family Communion.

6.30 p.m. Festival Service.

Preacher: The Ven. Ian Russell,  
Archdeacon of Coventry.

### Monday, August 29th

10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Church open for viewing and marquee open for refreshments and produce sale.

8.00 p.m. 'Evening of Music' concert in Church.

### Tuesday, August 30th

7.00 p.m. Taking down the Marquee.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Baptisms** in which parents and Godparents have promised to teach their child to be faithful in public worship and private prayer.

July 3—Ryan James Kent of Ansley Village.

Samuel Neal Stevenson of Birchley Heath.

July 17—Tess Matilda Ford of Ansley Common.

Michael Thomas Sperring of Stockingford.

**Holy Matrimony** "Till death do us part"

July 9—Ian Ronald Leaney of Stockingford to Kim Whitehead of Stockingford.

July 23—Gerald Grovenor Ingram of Dosthill to Christine Raynor of Birchley Heath.

**Funerals** "He who believes in Me though he were dead yet shall he live."

June 29—Thomas Frederick Green, 86 years, of Nuneaton.

July 8—Charlotte Annie Brandrick, 78 years, of Stockingford.

### Burial of Body

July 1—Joseph Mallabone, 85 years, of Ansley Village.

### Burial of Ashes

July 6—Ann Atkiss, 87 years, of Weddington.

**George Henry Parkes** was born at Atherstone and went to work at Ansley Colliery at the age of 14 years. He moved to St. Lawrence Road with his wife Marjorie in 1951 and to Croft Mead in 1979. He was a miner for 45 years. We remembered the family in prayer at the Sunday Evening Service, Jean, Susan and George.

**Charlotte Annie Brandrick** was born in 1915 and worked at Nuneaton Hat Factory. She met her husband Charles at Ansley Hall Annual Flower Show in 1935 and married at Ansley Church in 1937. They lived in the Village for many years before moving latterly to Stockingford. We offer our condolences to all the family.

**Preparations for the Flower Festival** are already getting under way. Margaret Antill's enthusiasm is encouraging us all and we greatly appreciate her leadership, vision and imagination. She has written the following:

Over the August Bank holiday we will have what will be our 30th Annual Flower Festival, help in any way would be much appreciated.

A team of cleaners is required on Friday 26th from 4.00-6.00 p.m., for which any one can volunteer, to ensure that the Church is ready for our visitors. Help is also needed on Wednesday 31st, when we will be clearing everything out of the Church. Please contact Diana Keeley on 395089.

Stewards are needed in Church all the time it is open. If you could spare an hour during the festival, please contact Mr. Ray Hobbs on 395723.

There is also work in the church yard, i.e. sweeping the paths and weeding the gardens, etc. Please just come and do any job.

Gifts of cakes please to Mrs. Berridge for the refreshments.

Gifts for the produce stall will be welcomed by Mr. Cove on 394114.

If any one has flowers, or wishes to contribute to the cost of bought flowers, please contact me on 0827 874520 (or 0676 541105 during the week of the festival).

I hope that your friends and you, will enjoy our Festival as many have over the years. The theme for this year's Festival is "Water." The Church will be open from 6.00 p.m. on Friday. It will also be open from 9.30 a.m. onwards. The Festival finishes with our usual finale at 8.00 p.m. Monday to which all are invited. All proceeds will be divided between Church funds, the Nuneaton Hospitals League of Friends, and The Acorn Children's Hospice at Selly Oak, B'ham.

**Thomas Fredrick Green** was a man of many talents. He was organist at St. John's, Ansley Common. A shoe-maker at Nuneaton. A porter at the George Eliot and a gardener at home. He had a friendly personality, and will be sadly missed, not only by his family but also a wide circle of friends. We remember them in prayer.

**B.B.Q.** in the Vicarage garden on Friday evening August 5th at 7.30 p.m. will be in aid of the Church Army. There will be a bring and buy stall too. We shall have this in the Church Hall if the weather is unsuitable for out-doors.

**Children's Open Air** meetings will be held in Birchley Heath during the Summer Holidays as last year. We shall value the help of adults who have an hour to spare from approximately 6.15 p.m. Games, songs, quizzes and stories will feature in the programme.



The Summer Fete was a very enjoyable occasion, the weather was spectacular and that itself encouraged many friends to gather together for fellowship and refreshment. Thank you to all who helped with stalls and baking and preparing, especially to those who came to do the heavy work of carrying chairs and tables, etc. The financial result was £244.

**Town and Country Festival — FREE!** If you would like to gain free access to the Town and Country Festival over the August Bank Holiday there's no problem. All you have to do is man the Diocesan Souvenirs stall some of the time (the rest of the time is yours). Details from The Communications Officer on 0203 413158.

**A small sub-committee** of Parochial Church Council members has been formed to look into the facilities we have at Church End. At the close of the first meeting the following article was written for the magazine.

Due to the fact that the Porta-Cabin used for the Sunday School and the present toilet at St. Laurence Church are in need of replacement a rational decision needs to be made for the benefit of all our parishioners.

In order for this to be taken we would like to invite comments and ideas from any one regarding these changes.

At present the following are considerations only.

- (a) Re-ordering of the Church. That is, change of use of various parts of the present building.
- (b) A meeting room plus toilet block attached to the present Church building.
- (c) A separate purpose built meeting room with toilet block, probably on the site of the present toilets.

Written or verbal comments are invited to be made by September 1st to either of the Church Wardens; George Ponder, 3 Izons Croft. Tel.: 392401.

Margaret Antill, Heanley View, Hurley Common. Tel.: 0827 874520.

To be able to fund such a venture we will have to begin a Fund Raising Scheme, amongst other methods. Please add any ideas for this too.

**Our valued friends, Gordon and Ruth Chilvers** are yet again planning to hold their annual Bible Week in August for children aged 5 to 12 years. This is always an exciting adventure set in the lovely secluded gardens at 'Bethany,' Moorwood Lane, Chapel End. Tel.: 392313. The main meetings held in the marquee have the theme 'The Light Maker.' Jesus in John's Gospel. We see how Jesus brings 'Light' into all sorts of problems. It commences with Bible Games on Monday evening, this is the only evening session. On Tuesday to Friday, each day starts at 10.15 a.m. The finishing time on Tuesday and Wednesday is 1.00 p.m. On Thursday parents and families are invited to the 'At Home' finishing at 4.00 p.m. On Friday 1.30 p.m. Food for the mid-day meal please bring some sandwiches, savouries and cakes to share; hand them in at the kitchen when you arrive. Adult helpers are welcome to serve food, help supervise.

**Joseph Mallabone moved** to Ansley Village with his wife Winifred 20 years ago. He was brought up on the Arbury Estate and lived in and around Nuneaton and Bedworth all his life. Before the second world war he had his own building company, during and after the war he worked as a maintenance foreman. We offer our sympathies to Winifred and all his family.