

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No. 926

AUGUST 2002

Price 25p



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1st August, 2002

The theme of Ansley Flower Festival this year is FAITH. This is a vast subject as our Christian lives are founded on faith—faith in God our Father, faith in Jesus His Son and faith in the Holy Spirit. Examples of faith can be found in varying degrees throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelations, and as we go round the church and see many depictions of faith, may our faith in each other be made stronger, our faith in God be made steadfast, and let us be moved to greater faith by the beauty of the flower displays and the words from the Bible, crafted by hard work and loving hands.

I was watching a gardening programme and they were showing how gardens have changed since the end of World War 2. During those years every spare piece of earth was dug and planted with potatoes and other vegetables, some people kept a few chickens and perhaps a pig, all to eke out the rations. Today there are lots of Garden Centres packed with flowers of every size, shape and colour, from every part of the World, from lowly pansies to exotic orchids, and we gardeners cannot resist buying. However, if I am honest, although I love to see the colourful hanging baskets and tubs, my favourites are still the old fashioned flowers such as Lupins, Poppies, Delphiniums, Sweet Peas and Roses, to name a few, and to my delight we now have roses with beautiful scents, which for a time disappeared.

St. Swithin's Day, July 15th came and it was fine all day, not a drop of rain. Is this good news as the saying is that if it rains on St. Swithin's, it will rain for 40 days and 40 nights.

Sometimes we hear people say that old remedies are the best. One tablet which is taken by millions now to prevent heart attacks, is Aspirin and this is a very old medicine as it has been with us since 1898, when it was made from the bark of the Willow Tree.

On the flower theme I would like to close with some words Jesus said: 'Consider the lilies of the field how they grow; they toil not, they spin not, and yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.'

Marie Cove,

AUGUST SERVICES

ST. JOHN'S HALL, ANSLEY COMMON. Services 10.30 a.m.

August 11th—Family Service.

August 25th—Bus will run for Flower Festival service.

ST. LAURENCE CHURCH. Services 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

August 4th—a.m. All Age Worship. W. Team and Sarah Trafford.
p.m. BCP Holy Communion. Mark Bryant.

August 11th—a.m. Baptism. Rev. P. Stote,
p.m. Evensong. Sarah Trafford.

August 18th—a.m. All Age Worship. W. Team and Colin Udall.
p.m. Holy Communion. Rev. L. Beard.

August 25th—a.m. The Lord is Here. Bishop Colin,
p.m. Evensong. Rev. D. Robinson.

If you require the services of a vicar, please have a word with Moreen who is dealing with baptisms and Margaret weddings. Funerals can be arranged with either.

Ansley Fellowship meet every alternate Monday.

August 7th—Prayer Meeting at 3.00 p.m. at 'Wayside,' Birchley Heath.

Links group will have a break for the summer holidays. We wish all children a happy holiday.

The Church will be open on Sunday, 10th August after the wedding at 2.00 p.m. until 5.00 p.m.

Gill and Geoff have been very happy at the college and they hope to fly out to Romania in the 3rd week of July to start learning the language.

Senior Citizens: Monthly Service on Tuesday, 20th August, at 9.30 a.m.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Blessing of Marriage: July 2nd between Carl and Donna Wyatt.

On June 28th Mrs. Dorothy Light, aged 96, was laid to rest in the Churchyard. The service was conducted by Rev. Stan Marriott.

Letter from Mary Buckler

I would like to thank you all for all your help and kindness to me on the passing of Peter. He always wanted to come back to Ansley where we were married and to have his friends around him.

The Service of Thanksgiving was something that will remain with me always, Rev. Annette Reed taking the service and his great friend Rev. Stan Marriott giving the address. To those who prepared the Church and flowers and the lovely mown Churchyard, thank you. Mary.

Elsewhere Mary wrote of the funeral "Even in the sorrow I found a great peace and could almost feel he was joining in the singing."

The results of the Great Cake Bake on June 22nd was a wonderful sum of £120. This money will be sent to Spurgeon's Child Care. Many thanks to the great number of people who made the cakes and buns, etc., and also to the people who came and bought. Thanks are also due to Margaret Oliver who organises this event each year. This event is over very quickly. I wonder why?

I have to say a very big personal thank you to all who gave so generously at my Birthday Barbecue. £1,810 was raised for the Building Fund. I very much enjoyed the day and appreciated the help given, i.e. washing up, making trifles, etc., and the loan of the different items that made it such a wonderful day and such a tremendous financial result. Thank you.

Hospital Visiting—A Ministry for You?

The Chaplaincy at the George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust is developing its ministry. The clergy of the different denominations in the North Warwickshire/Nuneaton/Hinckley areas have been forwarded information about the commitment of the once a week visitation to the wards of the Hospital by the Lay Visiting Team.

A 12 week Lay Visitors Course (one evening a week for 12 weeks)

is being run by the Chaplaincy Team from September 2002 to prepare any who feel that their ministry may be in the Hospital which serves our communities.

All prospective visitors need to be recommended by their Vicar or Minister before further details are sought. The ministry of care for those in Hospital is the ministry of the whole church and needs to be one of unity by the local church for the local community.

If you feel called to this ministry and would like to know more, please contact your Vicar, Minister or Priest.

Yours sincerely, Rev. Canon Edward Pogmore,
Chaplaincy Co-ordinator.

Recycling—It has been brought to our attention that old mobile phones can be recycled by Water Aid and this will raise £30 per phone for Water Aid, who help some of the poorest people in Asia and Africa gain access to clean water and effective sanitation.

Coventry City Mission Turnaround Project is now collecting your donations of good quality second-hand furniture and electrical goods and delivering them to people in need. Contact 024 7666 1400.

FLOWER FESTIVAL

It was decided by the P.C.C. that the proceeds of this year's Flower Festival be split between the usual charities i.e. 25% to The Nuneaton Hospitals League of Friends, 25% to The Acorn Children's Hospice, Selly Oak. Also again this year the 50% usually put to Church general funds be used for the Building Fund instead.

Volunteers as usual are needed to:—

Tidy the Churchyard, e.g. cutting the hedges, tidying the trees, sweeping the paths, please come along even if just for an hour any time on Monday, 12th August or any day preceding the festival. Please bring your own tools.

To help put up the tent at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 22nd.

Friday afternoon to clean the church ready for the 6.00 p.m., opening.

To serve refreshments—**We particularly need additional help in the tent** as it has been very stretched over the last few years. If you could spare just an hour it will assist greatly. Please do not wait to be asked, just let Marcia Sutton know on 024 7639 2488.

To act as steward in Church—please let Diana Kealey know what times on 024 7639 5089.

To provide refreshments and produce, plants and preserves for the stall.

And then of course to clear everything away on Wednesday 28th from 10.00 a.m.

There will be a short service of dedication at 7.00 on the Friday evening.

On Sunday 25th there will be no service at St. John's that day, but the taxi will run both in the morning and evening.

At 10.30 a.m. Family Holy Communion. Led by Bishop Colin. In all the previous 37 years of the Flower Festival it has never been

possible to have the Bishop of Coventry. (We have had the Bishop of Warwick on several occasions). It is also planned to consecrate a Pyx (a silver box used to carry previously consecrated bread and wine for Communion by extension e.g. to St. John's or to the sick). This has been given in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Sturgess and members of the Sturgess family hope to be present at this service.

At 6.30 p.m. Festival Evensong will be led by Canon David Robinson the Precentor's Assistant at the Cathedral,

The Church will be open for visitors from 6.00 p.m. Friday, all day Saturday, Sunday and Monday,

The whole event will finish at 8.00 p.m., on Monday with the finale. Please come and bring your friends and enjoy time in the tent, find peace in the surroundings and in the Church God's presence.

Tuesday, 20th August: Duncan and Helen Watts are having an Open House at 10 Nuthurst Crescent, 10.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. If you would like to know what they have been doing in Central Asia, what they intend to do on their return, or just say hello, you are all very welcome.

There will be a Beetle Drive at St. John's Hall, Ansley Common on Tuesday, 6th August, 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., in aid of Hall Funds. Everyone welcome, Admission 50p.

Special thanks to Mrs. Nancy Williams for her donation of £50 to St. John's. This is greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Light who died in June, was one of the oldest of Ansley's residents. She came to Ansley after the Coventry Blitz with her husband and young daughter. During the war Mrs. Light did her bit at The Daimler. Many will remember her standing at her front door with a happy cheerful word for everyone.

Ansley Parish Church News: Meeting June 13th in Ansley Village. Residents disappointed no new local Police Officer installed. Atherstone Police to be consulted as to exact timescale for this, also monthly updates on matters brought to police's attention, as Council unable to answer residents' questions.

Drainage improvements to Ansley Recreation Ground, applications submitted but no decisions until September/October, too late in the year for these improvements and agreed works be deferred until next Spring.

Tenders for fencing at Birchley Heath Common ranging from £1630 to £2150.

Confirmation and authorisation still awaited from Merevale and Blythe Estate.

Further vandalism to noticeboard in Ansley Common—young person identified and asked to pay for repair.

Planning matters related to proposals by Purley Chase Golf Club for hotel and leisure facilities. Meeting by developer due in June. Information on first meeting of Mancetter Quarry Liaison Committee to be held in June was also made available.

Public Meeting will be held on July 9th re proposed closure of Doctors Surgery, Ansley.

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