

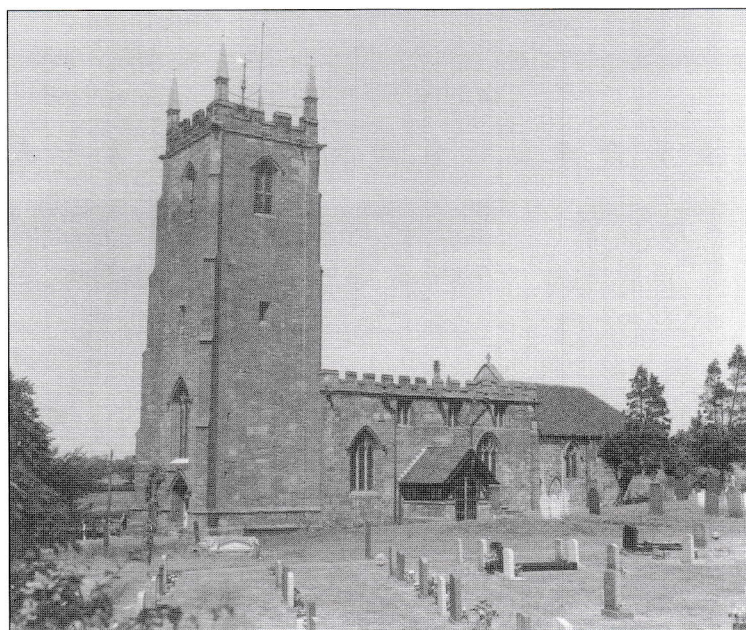
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 962

AUGUST 2005

Price 25p



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AUGUST EDITORIAL

We live in difficult times. News of the London bombings leaves us saddened, perplexed and anxious. As people, as a nation how should we respond? Detailed surveillance and security matters are not our expertise. Our feelings of inadequacy can so easily diminish us. Instead let us renew our commitment to God and to one another, face hate with love and pursue with greater courage, sensitivity and determination the tasks God has called us to.

Above all else, pray. Pray for our nation and our world and for the little part of it that we can influence and improve. Pray for the efforts of our churches to make the world a better place. Pray for all that happens in our buildings - for the Godly Play Sessions in the Village Hall, for the Flower Festival. As the funding bid goes to the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, please pray for that also that a youth worker may be appointed to help all our young people and those who care for them.

And whatever you are doing this summer enjoy yourselves. In the midst of sadness, it is still a beautiful world.

Your friend and vicar,

Peter

August What's On

St. Laurence's Church

Sunday 7 th	Trinity 11	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	B.C.P. Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th	St. Laurence	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Baptism
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 21 st	Trinity 13	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Friday 26 th	Flower Festival	7.00 p.m.	Service of Dedication
Sunday 28 th	Flower Festival	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Monday 29 th	Flower Festival	7.30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Service

St John's Hall Ansley Common Services

Wednesday 3 rd		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th	Trinity 11	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship
Sunday 14 th	Trinity 12	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Sunday School
Wednesday 17 th		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 21 st	Trinity 13	10.30 a.m.	Family Worship
Sunday 28 th	Flower Festival	10.30 a.m.	Joint service at St Laurence

Other Activities at St. John's Church Hall

Monday 1 st	7.00 p.m.	Indoor Bowls.
Tuesdays	9.00 – 12.00 a.m.	Krazy Kettle Kafé
Tuesdays	9.00 – 12.00 a.m.	Table top sale
Tuesdays	7.30 p.m.	Line Dancing
Wednesdays	6.00 p.m.	A.C.Y.C.

Activities at Village Church Hall

Tuesdays	10.00 a.m.	Senior Citizens
Wednesdays	10.30 – 12.30 p.m.	Community Café
Thursday 11 th & 18 th	11.00 – 12. Noon	Godly Play

Other Parish activities

Thursday 4 th & 18 th	7.30 p.m.	Ansley Common Fellowship.
Saturday 13 th	2.00.–5.00 p.m.	Open Church with light refreshments.
From Monday 15 th	9. a.m. onwards	Church Yard Working party
Friday 26 th	6.00 p.m.	Flower Festival
Saturday 27 th	10. a.m.– 7. p.m.	Flower Festival
Sunday 28 th	12. a.m. – 6.30 p.m.	Flower Festival
Monday 29 th	10. a.m.– 7. p.m.	Flower Festival

From the Registers

Baptisms.

On a lovely hot sunny day Erin Susan Rose Hunt, Connor Jay Stevenson, and Roman Eric Phillips were baptised with their many friends and families present, at the morning service. At the evening service Thomas Ray Leonard Jones was also baptised. He looked at the vicar with his lovely eyes, and was as good as gold.

Interments

Following a short service in the church on 20th June the ashes of Edith Annie Harvey aged 94 were interred in the grave of her husband Frank. Mrs Harvey died in Corby

where she had lived with her daughter Sylvia for many years. She had always kept her interest in Ansley Church.

Following a service at Heart of England Crematorium on 14th July the ashes of Jonathan Andrew Sherwood were interred with his great grandfather in the family grave at St. Laurence. Jonathan (still-born child of 36 weeks) is deeply mourned by Mum and Dad Nigel and Julie his brother Ben and his sister Rachel.

American Buffet

On Saturday 2nd July the Community Café held an American Buffet and although the wind was keen the weather was dry and everyone was able to be outside and enjoy a very pleasant evening, with a great variety of good food and live music from Pete McParland. There were outside games, skittles etc, a quiz, guessing game and a raffle.

The Senior Citizens were also able to enjoy a visit on the 5th and with their generous donation of their full subs. a total of £240 was raised towards the decorating of the Village Church Hall once the other part of the project has been completed.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event in any way.

Flower Festival

For most of August there are few activities, but at the end of the month this all changes for our annual Flower Festival. This is an event that takes a lot of planning and behind the scenes work by a great many people. Help in many different ways is always very much appreciated.

Before the event.

Work at Church begins on Monday 15th from 9 a.m. with the tidying up of the Churchyard and car park. The trees and hedges need to be trimmed, and a good tidy up all round. The sweeping of the paths and cutting back of the grass is time consuming, and will take quite a few days, but it does make such a difference to the general appearance of the Churchyard. Please come and bring your tools the more helpers the easier it will be for everyone.

The posters advertising the event are available and if you know of anywhere where an advertisement will be of benefit please do ask for some.

We always appreciate the gift of flowers from people's gardens as it helps make the whole event more individual to St. Laurence's Church. If you wish to bring some it would be helpful you can do so by Thursday lunchtime please. Alternatively you may wish to make a donation towards the cost of the bought flowers and this would be very much appreciated. Most years the flowers are all paid for before the event commences.

As with all preparations once the work has been completed the cleaning has to commence. This year several of our regular helpers will be unable to help and if you could spare some time on Friday afternoon to clean the annexe or the Church it will make the task much easier for all. Please bring your duster etc. with you.

(We have purchased a new "Henry" vacuum cleaner this year!)

During the event.

We also vacuum the carpets on Saturday morning 9.45 a.m., evening 7.p.m. and Monday morning. If you could help at any of these times please have a word. Gifts for the refreshments are most welcome it is lovely when we can offer such a variety of home made cakes etc. to the visitors. Please contact Marcia Sutton 024 7639 2488

We also need help to serve the refreshments throughout the event. If you could spare a few hours during the weekend and enjoy talking to the visitors please contact Diana Kealey 024 7639 5089.

The produce stall is always greatly appreciated by the visitors and any produce from gardens or allotments is very welcome. Every year we owe a great debt to the allotment association who are so very generous. This year we also need help manning the stall if you wish to spend an hour on the stall please contact Dave Cove 024 7639 4114.

To provide a warm welcome to all visitors makes such a difference and we would appreciate further assistance to provide stewards in Church during the weekend. Please contact Diana Kealey 024 7639 5089

The Event

This year for our 41st festival we have the theme of Angels, which the different scenes will portray. Angels appear many times in the Bible, from standing guard over the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve have been expelled, to supporting Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Telling Mary of the birth of her Son and also the women of His Resurrection. They are with us too in times of need "Angels of Mercy", and the Angel of Mons". Angels at creation, and around the Throne in Heaven at the end of time.

The festival will be open from 6 p.m. Friday 26th with a short service of dedication at 7 p.m. The Church will be open from 10 a.m. Saturday Sunday and Monday. Closing around 7 p.m. on Saturday, after the evening service on Sunday and after the short service of thanksgiving at 7.30 p.m. on Monday. There will be a party in the annexe, to which we hope everyone will come.

The taxi will run from St. John's for both Sunday services Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. and Evensong at 6.30 p.m.

The proceeds will be divided between the usual charities which we have supported for many years 25% to The Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends, 25% to the Acorn Children's Hospice, Selly Oak and 50% to Church Funds.

Please do come with your friends and families, and tell others about our Festival. It is a wonderful time of meeting with old friends and making new, people enjoy our lovely old Church in its truly rural setting. A time to spend in a house of God and find 'His Angels' at work in our lives.

After the Event.

Any help on Wednesday 31st to clear out the flowers and deliver posies to the sick and bereaved would be appreciated.

Summer Holiday Playtime

During the summer holidays there will be some introductory sessions of 'Godly Play' in Ansley Village church Hall. This is a new way of running Sunday School, the aim is to show children between the ages of 3-8 years a different way of telling Bible stories. There will also be free playtime and refreshments. The sessions will last approximately 1 hour.

Session times 11.00 – 12 noon Thursday 11th and 18th August.

VE Celebrations

Along with many other churches the bells of Ansley Church were rung at 5 p.m. for half an hour on 10th July to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the ending of WWII.

Magazine

We always welcome comments on items included in the magazine, if you have any comments regarding the Church items please contact Marie Cove 024 7639 4114. For items from the Parish Council please contact Mrs J. Sands 024 7639 4670.

August, 2005.

Ansley Parish Council have advised that they will no longer be putting their news in the Church Magazine, as it is their intention to issue their own Newsletter on a regular basis, which will be distributed to every household in the Parish.

On the radio recently a school in Yorkshire was re-introducing the art of long rope skipping. This amused me as I remember we had an old length of clothes line which stretched all the way over the main road (no cars hardly), and many of us could skip at the same time. We sang songs like "Nebuchadnezzar the King of the Jews bought his wife a pair of shoes", or "Mrs Moore she lived on the shore, she had children 3 or 4" and many many more. We would also have nobody skipping and sing "When it is your birthday please run in" which meant everyone eventually had a turn at skipping. At this school in Yorkshire they asked the children to make up their own skipping songs and they came up with "How many divorces will I have" and "Who will change the baby's napkin". What sad, sad children and what a lack of imagination. Perhaps they should have had some elderly people teach them some good old skipping songs, which they could pass on to future generations.

Have you noticed that not only eating habits but drinking habits have changed too. Most children now take bottles of water to school, and some schools actually put water on every desk. We were taught never to drink out of a bottle (there were no cans) and drinking during lessons was unthought of. It makes you wonder how on earth our mothers reared us to be healthy and strong without us drinking bottled water as if it is going out of fashion. Milk out of a small bottle with a straw was provided at school and a drink of water out of the tap, and now lo and behold the medical experts think drinking milk would prevent osteoporosis. Our mothers did indeed know best.

Have you noticed this summer how everything in the garden has grown so huge? We had a small Hosta and this year it is enormous. Also the Delphiniums have been so tall, and to our astonishment we have very few slugs and snails in comparison to last year. I wonder whose garden they have gone into?

The garden is in colour adorned, the birds are busy from early morn.
This year everything has been a wonderful sight, with bird song well into night.
The flowers in profusion are tall and straight.
With Clematis clambering over wall and gate.
We can thank the Lord for this summer full of colour and dappled shade.
With warm sunshine aplenty nature's voice has been obeyed.

Marie Cove.