

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

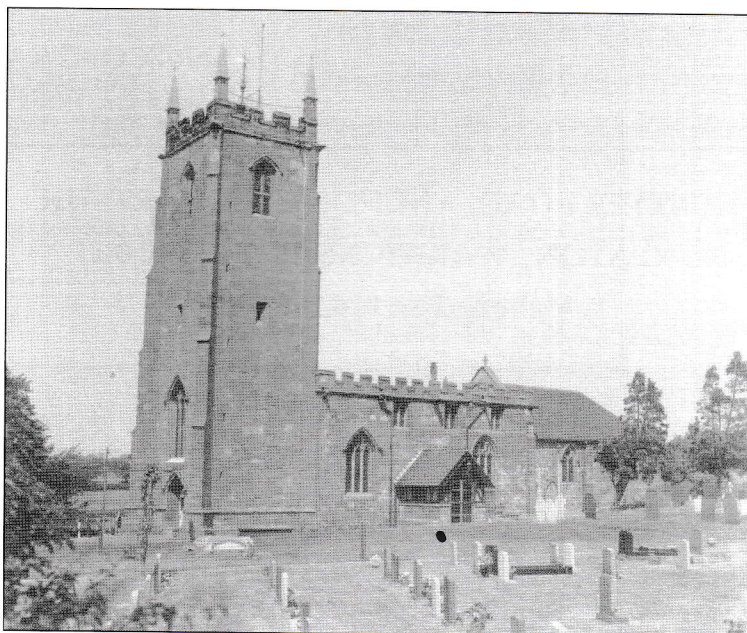
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Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

Wardens:

MARGARET ANTILL  
MOREEN FREESTONE

Tel: 01827 874520

Tel: 024 7638 1833

St. Johns Leaders

DAVID & MARIE COVE

Tel: 024 7639 4114

Lay Reader:

MANDY WATTS  
GWYNETH HICKMAN

Tel: 024 7639 7654

Tel: 024 7639 8901

[www.ansleychurch.org](http://www.ansleychurch.org)

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Print Centre 0800 389 4089

## August Editorial

It's been a wonderful Spring and early Summer.

We have been delighted in our garden to enjoy watching Bluetit, Robin and Woodpecker feeding their young.

Perhaps one of the most wonderful things we can ever do is to share in the joy of new life - the birth of a baby, the joy of seeing children grow and make new discoveries. But new life is not only for children. It's for adults too. It lies at the heart of our Christian faith. We hope and pray it lies at the heart of the life of our Church too.

This month I would like to commend to you what I hope will become (perhaps with slight amendments) our parish prayer.

I commend it for your consideration, but much more I commend it for your prayer. Please use it when you join us for worship. If you are not able to join us, please pray this at our times of worship that we may all be united in purpose and in love.

Loving Father, we come as one family to worship and thank you. We need your wisdom and guidance to find our way forward, to deepen our spiritual life and to increase our care for each other and those no longer able to worship at church. We also seek your help to welcome new families and children and to widen our social life in the community. Help us to learn to know one another lovingly, with sensitivity and understanding and may we value what each person can give, support them and thus learn afresh your loving care for us all. In the name of Christ our Saviour. Amen

DISCOVER NEW LIFE THIS SUMMER,

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

### August, St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Trinity 9	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	St. Laurence	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 11	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Trinity 12	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Flower Festival	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

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

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Trinity 9	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 10	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 11	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	4 O' Clock Club
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Trinity 12	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Flower Festival	10.30 a.m.	Joint at St. Laurence

Discussing the parables Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7.30 p.m. 46 Nuthurst Crescent  
Church Open Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 2.00 – 5 p.m. light refreshments in the annexe.

### Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards.

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

On 27 June we welcomed in baptism Charlie Arthur Farmer and Belle Rose Shaw. The timing of the baptism was a story in itself. It coincided with the England/Germany game in the World Cup. I don't think anyone who attended the baptism felt afterwards that they had made missed out. Of one thing we can be certain. Choose God and we'll be on the winning side.

On 18 July we welcomed in baptism Harvey Louise Jevons. A lively young lad he seemed to enjoy the service as much as everyone else. We prayed that as he grew up his life would be full of love and joy given and received and that every frustration would be an opportunity for love.

#### Weddings

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July saw a full church for the marriage of Amy Murphy to Richard Barrs, after the reading by a family friend Richard's younger brother Dominic spoke of the differences between Richard and Amy and the Vicar continued that differences compliment each other. They left the church on a tractor and trailer in the sunshine.



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July was another sunny, although windy day, when Matthew Lawley married Charlotte Buckley at 12 noon, their soloist sang at various points in the service including the entrance of the bride.

The second wedding was at 2 p.m. when Christopher Skelton married Leanne Horsley. Leanne's grandmother was determined not to be late and arrived at the church in good time and was able to see the first couple in the churchyard.

We wish all three couples every happiness in their lives together.

### Flower Festival

Our 46<sup>th</sup> festival will be over the August Bank Holiday weekend, and at the time of writing planning and preparations are well underway.

Our theme for 2010 is 'Dreams' there are many dreams told in the bible and we have chosen some of them in the twenty seven displays. The ones most of us know best are from the Old Testament, Jacob's dream of the ladder with the angels ascending and descending, then there are the dreams of Joseph and Pharaoh. There are also dreams in the New Testament, Simeon and Paul, and the wonderful coming of the Holy Spirit with the Prophet Joel's prediction of all people having dreams. They all culminate in pieces from the dream of St. John The Divine with the wonderful revelation of life to come.

Work in earnest will start on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. with the tidying up of the churchyard, cutting the hedges, pruning the bushes and trees, sorting the gardens and sweeping the paths. This work will continue all through until the festival commences on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have any time to spare please do just come along and spend an hour, bring your own tools and do any job that you see needs to be done.

Help is needed to spring clean the annexe on the Friday morning also to clean and tidy the church in the afternoon ready for the Festival to open at 6 p.m. on 27<sup>th</sup>.

There will be the usual produce stall and refreshments available and donations of both cakes and garden produce will be much appreciated. We will also require volunteers to man the stall and serve refreshments, if anyone would like to help please do have a word there is always a job to be done.

Donations towards the cost of the flowers (the price of which has risen substantially in recent times) will be much appreciated, it is always reassuring when all the costs have been met before the event commences.

Help to steward in church will also be required, this event sees many people come each year and they often comment on their warm welcome, please help to make this year the same. It will also be useful to have someone directing traffic in the car park during the busy afternoon periods.

The Festival commences at 6 p.m. on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> with the Service of Dedication at 7 p.m. the Church will then be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and Monday 30<sup>th</sup>. On the Sunday there will be the Morning Service of Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. and Evensong at 6.30 p.m. the church being open and refreshments available the remainder of the time. The morning service is joint with St John's and transport will be available, if you wish to have a lift from any part of the parish please ask Margaret Antill and transport can be arranged.

During the event a jar for prayer requests will be in the vestry and all prayers placed in the jar will be brought to God during the Festival services.

The Ansley Morris Group are planning to put on a display of Morris Dancing on Saturday afternoon this is a very popular pastime and the group will encourage others to join in and 'have a go'

The proceeds this year from the Festival will be for church funds and a donation will be given to Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends and Acorn Children's Hospice.

Do please make this event known to your family and friends. If you can display a poster or know of a local shop etc where one can be placed please do ask for some.

If you require any information or are able to help please contact Margaret Antill on 01827 874520 or Moreen Freestone on 024 7638 833

### Games Evening

St John's hall committee are holding a games evening in the hall on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30p.m. There will be cards and dominoes etc. Tickets £1 please bring your own food and drink.

### Midsummer Madness

This new venture on 19<sup>th</sup> June, was a great success. Trying something new is always difficult and everyone is feeling their way, but on the night everyone had a very enjoyable time. The lively musicians' lead the barn dancing with good calling, and the roast pork was delicious. The PCC is very grateful to Val Maund who organised the event. The raffle and tombola raised £180 for church funds, Thank you to those who gave the prizes and to all who supported this event.

### Prize Bingo

The 5<sup>th</sup> July bingo as usual was a fun event which raised £140 for hall funds. The hall committee are grateful to Alan Lavis who comes each time to do the calling and those who provide the refreshments. Thanks are also offered to those with imagination who select the bingo prizes, and of course to all who support these sessions the proceeds are most welcome as the kitty is very low after all the improvements. The next Prize Bingo is on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Joy's Tea & Cake

Report next month.

### 'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'

The total paid into our Fabric Fund in June was £53.00, bringing the total to £186.00 so far this year all from the small change collection. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

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### Prayer Requests

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

August 2010

I recently read a really amusing article entitled "Elf and safety forgot". There were various pictures – a boy sitting on an unexploded bomb; a horse drawn carriage taking boys to Boarding School loaded with suitcases three high and the pupils sitting on the top. In contrast you apparently can't even stand upstairs on a London bus. There was a picture of a girl shooting bow and arrow, with lots of girls and the teacher standing at the side of the target. These are extreme cases but you have to admit they were very carefree times.

I can remember my Father many years ago saying "When you are older, you will never have to work the long hours I do now. The retirement age will be down to 55, and the work will be shared so that everyone gets more leisure time" It seems he couldn't have been more wrong, as the retirement age will, in a few years, be up to 66 or even to 70. Also working hours are still the same.

As I stood in a long queue the checkout at 'Iceland', I couldn't help but compare this with the relaxed way we shopped when I was a young mother. I had a note book where I wrote down what I needed, I walked to the Co-op two streets away, with the baby in the pram, handed in the book and the groceries were delivered a few days later. Not only was it without any stress but you only received what you had ordered. As I saw in that Iceland queue the elderly people flagging in the heat and toddlers becoming fractious, I thought how lucky I had been all those years ago. They may have their goods delivered, if required, but still don't afford the long queues.

Well, what do you think? Researchers now say that drinking red wine can save your eyesight as well as protect against heart disease and cancer. A potent anti-ageing compound found in the skin of red grapes has been found to stop vision deterioration. If this is the case why not eat the grapes themselves? Apparently the properties of red wine switch on 'survival pathways' in the body, whatever that means.

To conclude - in 1814 in London's Horse Shoe Brewery, a huge vat of beer burst resulting in a tidal wave of beer that destroyed the entire neighbourhood. Eight people died, at least one from drinking too much of the beer.

Marie Cove.