

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 986

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2007

Price 25p



Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

Wardens:

MARGARET ANTILL

Tel: 01827 874520

MOREEN FREESTONE

Tel: 024 7638 1833

St. Johns Leaders

DAVID & MARIE COVE

Tel: 024 7639 4114

Lay Reader:

MANDY WATTS

Tel: 024 7639 7654

www.ansleychurch.org

Print Centre 0800 389 4089

Learning and Celebrating

So summer is over. What we've had of it with all the rain! Whether you have travelled or stayed put, I hope you have found opportunity to rest and relax.

So now it's September.

First of all September is a time for celebration –talking of our holidays, sharing your news. We have two very different reasons for celebrating this month and I hope you will enjoy them both.

On Sunday September 9 we are celebrating the refurbishment of the Village Church Hall, starting with a service in the Hall at 10.30pm and followed by a meal and entertainment in and around the Hall with games, festivities and live music.

By contrast on Saturday September 15 we are celebrating the licensing of Gwyneth Hickman and the re-licensing of Mandy Watts as Readers of our churches. Do be at Coventry Cathedral by 3.40pm to support them both at this great occasion.

Second, September is a time for learning - Back to School. Of course we never finish learning. As a Deanery there is a wide variety of courses on offer from preaching to leading worship, from a day of contemplation to working with the elderly and much more besides. If you are looking to discover a new skill or embark on a journey of discovery pick up a leaflet from St. Laurence's or St. John's or ask me for a copy.

Enjoy learning! Enjoy celebrating! Enjoy September!

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

St. Laurence's Church - Services

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday 2 nd | Trinity 13 | 10.30 a.m. | Morning Worship |
| | | 4.00 p.m. | Family Service |
| | | 6.30 p.m. | Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing |
| Sunday 9 th | Trinity 14 | 10.30 a.m. | Celebration in Village Church Hall |
| | | 6.30 p.m. | Evensong |
| Sunday 16 th | Trinity 15 | 10.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| | | 4.00 p.m. | Baptism |
| | | 6.30 p.m. | Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing |
| Sunday 23 rd | Trinity 16 | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| | | 6.30 p.m. | Evensong |
| Sunday 30 th | Trinity 17 | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| | | 6.30 p.m. | Evensong |

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| Sunday 2 nd | Trinity 13 | 10.30 a.m. | Family Service |
| Wednesday 5 th | | 9.00 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 9 th | Trinity 14 | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 16 th | Trinity 15 | 10.30 a.m. | Family Service |
| Wednesday 19 th | | 9.00 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Sunday 23 rd | Trinity 16 | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 30 th | Trinity 17 | 10.30 a.m. | Songs of Praise |

Please note there will be no 10.30 a.m. service at St. Laurence on 9th September

Other regular activities

These continue as normal full details on the notice boards. Term time activities will recommence as usual following the Summer Holidays.

From the Registers

Baptism

On 29th July we celebrated the baptism of Maisie Grace Jones aged 11 months. It was a beautiful occasion enjoyed by all. We pray that day by day Maisie will grow in the love of Christ.

Wedding.

On a bright sunny 11th August Tristan Tiffany married Sarah Stephen, before a large congregation of family and friends including many smartly dressed children.

We wish to thank the guests for their cooperation over parking which was restricted because of the foot and mouth outbreak.

Funerals

The funeral of Beryl Hicks (77years) took place at the Heart of England Crematorium on 23rd July, her ashes being interred in St. Laurence churchyard.

Beryl living all her life in the village, was a lady who was always busy doing, involved with so many things both in the village and surrounding area. She was a leading member of the Good Companions and we remember her running the Whist drives in the Village Church Hall and more recently the Bingo sessions. Beryl will be sadly missed by

Husband Bert, son John, daughter in law Elizabeth, grandchildren and all family and friends.

Kath Jones

It is with sadness that we mark the funeral of Kathleen Jones (91 years) on the 10th August, buried in the churchyard with husband Tom. Kath, a long and faithful member of our church family at St Laurence. Kath was a kind and generous giver; she gave freely and generously, not only to family and friends but to the thousands of children who she taught during her long career as a teacher, especially at Queens Road School.

And so because of the proof of Kath's service and generosity in the sharing of her gifts with God's Grace we will remember her with deep affection and thank God for his precious gift.

We pray for son John, grandchildren, many nieces and nephews with confidence in the Easter promise, that one day they will be united with those they love.

Village Church Hall

The thanksgiving and celebrations to commemorate the completion of the work carried out on the hall will commence with a special service in the hall at 10.30 p.m. At 11.45 the Polesworth Marching Band will leave the Club march up to the turn and back via Nuthurst Crescent, round St. Lawrence Estate and down to the hall. There will be a free cold finger buffet for everyone with tea and coffee provided. There will be entertainment for the children on the vicarage lawn, an exhibition of Morris dancing with time for visitors to participate and a Chinese Lion Dance in which the children can take part. There will also be a display of photographs showing before during and after, the work was carried out. The Invitation is to all hall users, those who have helped with the work, those who have helped with the financing of the project and of course all parishioners.

This will be a wonderful culmination of all the hard work put in by many people to provide a community facility for the people of Ansley Village and the surrounding area.

DO COME - EVERYONE IS INVITED.

Lay Readers

On Saturday September 15th at 4 p.m. in Coventry Cathedral Gwyneth will be licensed as a lay reader to our parish, Mandy will also be re licensed having now completed five years as a reader.

Everyone is invited to attend, but would ask that you be at the Cathedral by 3.40 p.m. Please come and give your support to our readers who carry out such a lot of the ministry in our parish. We thank Mandy for her commitment and hard work over the past years and pray that both Gwyneth and Mandy will be blessed in the work they carry out.

Hymn Sing

The total for this event has now risen to £888. This has been apportioned to the appropriate accounts.

We are very grateful to all who have supported this event.

Operation Christmas Child

We are again this year supporting Operation Christmas Child (a project of Samaritan's Purse) providing shoe boxes for children who are victims of war, poverty, famine, disease and natural disaster, while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is very worthwhile as your shoe box may be the only Christmas present the child receives.

If you would like to take part, or want more details, please contact Marie Cove on 024 7639 4114 or Pauline Allan on 024 7639 9070.

Conkers

The Ley Group Young People's Project organised a trip to Conkers on 4th August. 114 people attended and had a fun-filled day at the site in the National Forest near Ashby. Coaches were provided from each village of the Ley Group area including Ansley Village and Ansley Common and transport and entry prices were heavily subsidised by the project to keep the day affordable for all.

Throughout the day there were exciting activities like shelter building, sculpture making and orienteering which were thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated. Others spent the day exploring the large outdoor site, getting lost in the maze, doing the very challenging assault course in investigating the enchanted forest before boarding the Coochahoo train back to the coach home. A really great day for everyone who came, thanks to everyone who supported this trip by coming along with your families.

Ansley Common Junior Youth Club

On Wednesday 25th the children of the younger section of the youth club from Ansley Common went on a trip to the National Space Centre at Leicester. They were given rocks to identify including meteorites and a strange object which proved to be Dinosaur dung. There was a space ship to explore, lots of different interactive games and then they went to the theatre for a film called 'Astronaut'. This amazing film made you feel you were whizzing through space, floating above the earth and the pictures were all around. They learnt how the astronauts trained and the effect it has on their bodies.

They were able to climb the 144 steps to the top of a rocket and all had a wonderful time before getting into the coach all very tired, but with lots to tell.

Margaret & Ian's Coast to Coast Walk

In the May issue I mentioned the Coast to Coast walk Ian and I were undertaking during our summer holiday in July. We walked for 192 miles over 14 days. After dipping our feet into the North Sea water at Robin Hood's Bay Yorkshire we left the coastal plain and then climbed the ridges of the North York Moors, looked over the vale of York and beyond, then descended to Ingleby Cross. We crossed the vale of York to Richmond and then climbed the Yorkshire Dales, saw the ruins of the old lead mines and imagined the harsh working conditions of the miners, passed half way at Keld, crossed the water shed and saw the wonderful views from Nine Standards Rigg. Descended again at Kirkby Stephen then the long 21 miles in one day crossing the M6 and into Shap. The next day we entered the Lake District climbed Kidsty Pike at 2560ft. and again wonderful views seeing the Solway Firth and further. From Grasmere we took the higher route over Helm Crag 1299ft. and Gibson Knott 1379ft. again wonderful views of the crags and dales lakes and mountains. Passing by Ennerdale Water and over the last hill of Dent we descended again to the coastal plain and after a walk by St. Bees Head descended to the Beach at St. Bees and ceremonially dipped our feet into the Irish Sea. Very tired and very happy that we had completed the goal.

We had walked for 69½ hours had 21 hours for eating etc. and in all that time we had had less than 9½ hours rain. The sun was not too hot and the views were incredible.

We still have to collect some of our sponsor money and will let you know the total in due course.

Margaret Antill

I bought a small shrub, not knowing exactly what it was, but I recognised the leaf and thought it might be what I call a 'Buttercup Bush'. I was delighted when it had a single large flower, just like a Buttercup, and was covered in Hover Flies. I said 'Never mind it will be bigger next year' My husband soon dampened my enthusiasm when he said 'I shouldn't worry about it starting to grow; I should worry about it stopping because that bush covered the whole pit bank at Arley. I don't care, I still like it and so do the Hover Flies.

We have had a Wren's nest in one of our hanging baskets and I have never seen such busy parents. The trouble was we couldn't water the plants because we dare not risk drowning the tiny chicks. Luckily the parent birds and chicks have flown and we may be able to salvage most of the plants, but how late for birds to produce chicks - August.

Are you like me and can't remember certain facts like - 'One hump or two?' Well you'll know your Camels if you remember the Bactrian's back is like a B and the Dromedary is like a D. Also the order of the Planets - Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto using the initial letters of the following phrase becomes 'My Very Easy Method: Just Set Up Nine Planets. We, as children, used to have rhymes like the colours of the Rainbow - Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain - Red Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo Violet. The trouble with this is the rhymes themselves are not always easy to remember.

The T.V. was interviewing people about a web site where you made friends and one young man said he had only joined recently and already had 150 friends. I could not believe it! I have heard of close friends, family friends, bosom friends and even pen friends but to me those only spoken to or met on a computer seem more like 'virtual' not 'reality'. How could you in the press of a button be close to 150 people as good friendships usually stand the test of time. The dictionary meaning of a 'friend' is one joined to another in intimacy and mutual benevolence - I think they should find a different interpretation for their web site friends.

Do you remember those sayings which started 'Happiness is' well, just lately I have found a few of these - 'Happiness is when your 5 year old granddaughter remembers you like shells and brings you 129 (she counted them) from her holiday'. Happiness is 'When the rain finally eases off, the sky clears to end the day with a brilliant red sky and a beautiful rainbow.' Happiness is 'When you see a 2 week old baby and feel his velvety skin and see his perfect little fingers' I expect you all have a few of these, which may seem very small things and don't cost any money, but they light up your lives in happiness.

Marie Cove.