

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

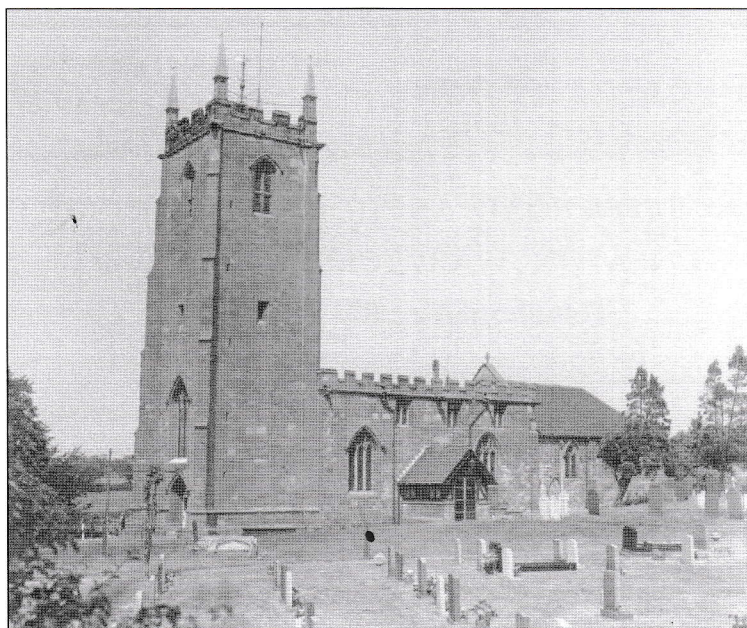
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## JESUS

One of the great things about my job is that I am paid to talk about someone I find both exciting and captivating.

I suppose we get so easily stuck into statements of belief or church practice and we forget the person at the heart of it all.

Put aside everything else for a minute and just think of what an amazing person Jesus was.

What sort of a man is it who tells people to follow him and without question they drop everything and do as they had been asked?

What sort of man draws huge crowds and in that huge crowd concentrates on one person he has never met?

What sort of man can at times be gentle and tender and at other times be fierce and angry and be true to what he believes in both situations?

What sort of man answers stupid questions with amazing stories?

What sort of man gives up a hugely successful career out of love for people who have cared nothing for him?

Whatever your feelings about belief or the Church remember it all begins with one amazing man - Jesus.

What do you think of Jesus?

It is the most important question you'll ever have to answer. Why not explore with us? Why not invite others to join?

Why not?

Your friend and vicar,

Peter

## September St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 7th	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	Family Service in Village Church Hall
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 14th	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 21st	Trinity 18	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th	Trinity 19	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

## St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Wednesday 3rd		9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Sunday 7th	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 14th	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Wednesday 17th		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st	Harvest Festival	10.30 a.m.	Special Service
Sunday 28th	Trinity 19	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

## Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

There was a full church on July 13 at St. Laurence's morning service when four children were baptised: Eden Smith, Lucas and Oliver Pinfold and Olivia Worrall. It was a truly joyous occasion and we look forward to each of them growing in the faith of Christ.

### Tragic accident

Our thoughts and prayers this month are with the family and friends of Megan Mills (5) whose deeply tragic and untimely passing ended a wonderful life of love and laughter.

### Funerals

Geoff Riley 79 of Pipers Lane, Ansley. His devoted work with his brother Ken at Oxhayes Farm was an example and inspiration to all who knew him. He had a quiet but passionate commitment to the animals in his care. He will be greatly missed especially by his wife Margaret and brother Ken. He was buried in St. Laurence's Churchyard on 8 August following the funeral service in church

Ellen Mary Amelia Peters (96), of Moira, Derbyshire, mother to Georgina and Doris. Returning to Ansley where she lived for many years. She was buried alongside her late husband Robert after the funeral service at St. Laurence's on 12 August.

Anthony David Hewitt (55) whose funeral took place at Heart of England Crematorium on 12 August. Whether at work, at leisure or with his family Anthony put his absolute all into everything he did. In all he did a perfectionist, in all he was a source of joy, Anthony will



be deeply missed by his wife Julia, by his children and grandchildren and by his many, many friends.

#### Burial of Ashes

The ashes of Frank William Raven (64) were interred in the churchyard on 17<sup>th</sup> August in the grave of his parents William and Hilda Raven. Frank was born in Ansley, but moved with his family to Rushden Northants some years ago. He will be deeply missed by his wife and all his family.

#### St. John's Church Hall

We have now received the long awaited replies from the various funding bodies and are pleased to say that we have reached a total of £142,000

This has been reached by a lot of hard work by many and we are very grateful to the following organisations for their contributions.

Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd (WREN)	50 000
Veolia Environmental Trust	45 000
Setatrust	25 000
Awards for All	10 000
All Churches Trust	1 000
Own Funds	<u>11 000</u>
Total	142 000

Part of the funding agreement for the first three funders as they are Environmental Bodies under the government scheme is that we have to find funding from 3<sup>rd</sup> party bodies. We have already had agreement from The Church and Community Fund £10 000 and Warwickshire County Council Community Development Fund £2 251.

The Hall Committee and the P.C.C. are pleased with this result, which means that we will now be able to renovate the existing hall, add an extension for a new toilet block and improved access especially for the disabled. The outside area will also be improved.

We are now awaiting the architect to revise the plans to bring them in line with the amount of funding we have obtained.

Let us all hope and pray that this time next year we will be celebrating the completion of this big project.

#### St John's Harvest

This year St. John's are having their Harvest Festival at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

September The vicar will be celebrating Holy Communion for this joyous occasion. It will be preceded by their Harvest Supper on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> do please book your tickets which will be £3.00. Any gifts of produce will be gratefully received and will be forwarded to Nursery Hill School after the celebrations.

#### Rummage Sale

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September the people of St. John's are holding a rummage sale in the hall from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The proceeds are in aid of the Hall improvements. Any rummage when you have a clear out before the winter will be gratefully received and do come and see if you can find any treasures.

### Village Church Hall

We are pleased to say that the old notice board that has been slowly falling to pieces for some considerable time has been replaced by a new one. This has been funded by the Sure Start as they use the hall regularly as a children's centre. There was also a £50 contribution from part of the funding we obtained from the Heart of England Bridge the Gap. We are grateful to both for this new notice board which has greatly improved the appearance of the hall.

### Krazy Kettle Kafé

The Krazy Kettle Kafé first opened at 10 a.m. on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2005 soon after the new kitchen was completed. It was to provide cake and a cuppa and a chat on Tuesday mornings. However little did the few ladies who started the venture think how much of an enterprise it was to become. The ladies completed their hygiene certificates and were opening at 9 a.m. to offer cooked breakfasts and by 2006 because of demand were opening on Thursdays as well.

This venture has proved so popular not only with many from the local community but also with the many workmen who have been working on the various building sites nearby. A wonderful community spirit has been achieved in such a short time, and the ladies have had much fun. However to achieve the standard of service others have come in to help particularly on a Thursday which for some reason is the busier day (on a few occasions as many as 50 breakfasts being cooked).

However the leading ladies are not getting any younger and have decided that on 18<sup>th</sup> September they will retire. Which will be three and half years of dedicated work for the good not only of the hall but also for other worthy causes which have been given donations in particular MacMillan Nurses, Acorn Children's Hospice, Northampton and Warwickshire Air Ambulance and The Mayors Appeal in 2007,

In the hall they have paid for its redecoration, a new front door the new safe and provided items for altar, and will be providing some of the 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding required for the improvements a total well over £4000 as well as having funds remaining towards the future of the hall.

Over the 3½ years they have built up a wonderful amount of goodwill in the community especially among those living close to the hall, with people of all ages visiting. It is quite noticeable during school holidays how many young people come with their parents and enjoy sitting at table and eating together.

This venture has proved a wonderful asset to all concerned and the Church Family say a big thank you to those who have worked so hard.

### 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 .....



September, 2008

As this very unusual Summer passes by, we have noticed the lack of Butterflies. We have seen many Cabbage Whites but very few others, and it seems we are not alone in this as David Attenborough is also worried that native Butterflies are almost non-existent. However, when the Buddleias were almost over we did see a couple of Peacocks and one small brown, but now we notice that the Nasturtiums are absolutely covered in small caterpillars, which we presume are Cabbage Whites, but despite the fact they are shredding the leaves we are leaving them in peace.

If you think eating lots of vegetables and fruit and drinking water is something invented by the present generation, think again. I was given a Pear's Shilling Cyclopaedia published in 1915 and it is amazing to read. Under the heading of 'Dictionary of the toilet' is a section on diet and it states that if you want a good complexion leave out greasy foods, cake and pastry, sweets and highly seasoned dishes. Advises eating plenty of fruit (fresh and stewed) and green vegetables, underdone beef and mutton, white fish and milk puddings and to abstain from strong tea and coffee. It also recommends plenty of pure cold water. This doesn't sound a lot different from modern dieticians' advice, so perhaps the old methods are not so modern after all and still relevant today. There is also a section on obesity which they advise should be guarded against especially as middle age approaches by careful diet and regular walking, so what's new today?

As I have seen friends and family heading off for summer holidays to the seaside at home and abroad, I couldn't help thinking of my very first holiday. I was 13 years old and partly because of the war years and also because we had a very large family, I had never seen the sea or in fact been away on holiday. My Dad had left coal mining and gone to work on the Railway, so he had free travel, so we went to Scotland. I will never forget waiting on Nuneaton Station at almost midnight (I'd never been up late at night before) to travel overnight (we slept on the seats) on the 'Coronation Scot'. Of course it wasn't a seaside holiday, but to me it was so wonderful and then I had to wait three more years to go to the seaside, but nothing could ever beat that very first holiday.

When this edition goes out the Flower Festival will be over for another year, but despite the torrential rain, our garden has been a delight this year and we have grown flowers we have never been able to grow before - Calla Lilies, Madonna Lilies and Dahlias the size of tea plates in such marvellous colours and last but not least Sweet Peas, after trying so many times.

It would seem that the temperamental weather is good for flowers.

A motto for September: Fair on September first, fair for the month.

Marie Cove.