

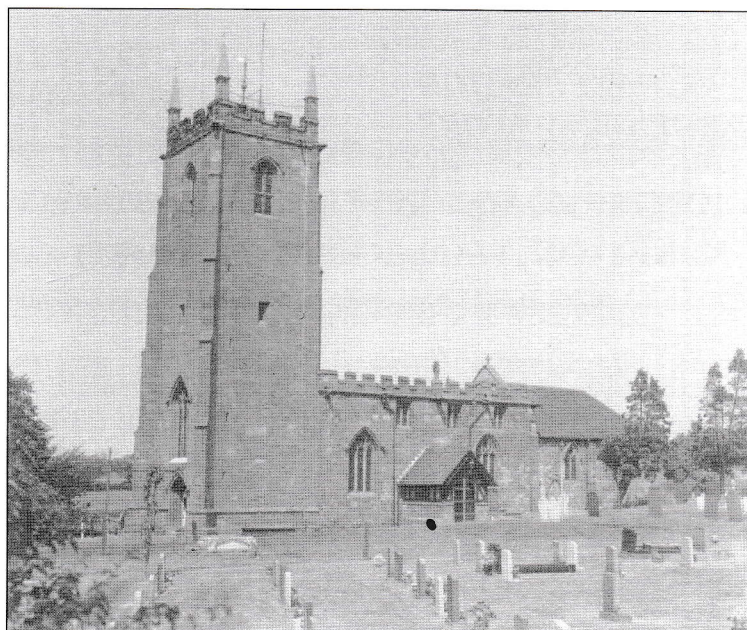
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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When Jonah (J.) was splashed up on dry land he was interviewed on breakfast radio.

(If you listen to Radio 5Live you may be able to identify the interviewer but that is not the point of this article. I'll simply call them I.)

I. Now Mr. J. I hear you spent 3 days inside a whale

J. A big fish,

I. A big fish. Now I have never stayed the night in a big fish but I imagine it was very dark.

J. It was dark and...

I. (interrupting) And I am sure it was very frightening

J. It was to start with but I prayed..

I. And after three days it all ended

J. Yes what happened was...

I. (interrupting) And what are you going to do now?

J. I am going to preach God's message.

I. Well Mr. Jonah I am afraid we have run out of time but I would like to thank you for your wonderful description of life inside a whale.

J. Big (Microphone switches off)

Sometimes it can be hard getting God's message across but we must never stop trying.

Your Friend and Vicar, Peter

September, St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 5 th	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 19 th	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 5 th	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
Sunday 12 th	Harvest	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	4 O' Clock Club
Sunday 26 th	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Discussing the parables Monday 6th - 7.30 p.m. 46 Nuthurst Crescent
Fellowship group Tuesday 14th 7 p.m. in St. Johns Church Hall

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards.

From the Registers

Baptisms

On Sunday August 22nd we celebrated as Daicie, Dolcie and Felicia Temple joined the Christian family in baptism. It was good to share in the joy of the two families in the life and love of their three delightful little girls and to remember the serious nature of the call to follow Jesus to which their parents have committed them.

Weddings

On Saturday July 24th we rejoiced in the marriage of Aden Jay Poultney and Kerry Ann Simms. We share with them in the prayer we used at their wedding service that "their marriage may be life giving and lifelong enriched by God's Spirit and strengthened by His grace

St. John's Harvest

This year St John's congregation will be celebrating their Harvest Festival on Sunday September 12th at their 10.30 service. At the time of writing the corn harvest has proved difficult with the dry spring and early summer and now the rain all resulting in small crops and difficulties getting them dry. However, the vegetables in the allotments have provided a plentiful harvest. Please bring your gifts to the service as you offer thanks to God for his goodness to us.

St. John's Fellowship

Starting on the 14th September there will be a fellowship meeting in the hall commencing at 7 p.m. and every 2nd Tuesday of each month thereafter. These groups will have a time for reading from the bible, discussion and prayer. Do feel free to come along, everyone will be most welcome.

This group has resulted from the discussions held during Lent when we sought the way forward for our church into the future and will be one way of deepening our prayer life as outlined in the vicar's editorial in the July magazine.

Confirmation

The Vicar will be running Confirmation classes this autumn and if anyone is considering or would like to discuss their faith with the vicar please contact him and once the names are known a suitable time for the classes will be arranged.

Prize Bingo

On Monday 6th September St. John's Church Hall Committee will be holding the next of the popular prize bingo sessions, "Eyes Down" will be 7 p.m. This event will follow the usual format with a break for a drink after the first four games. Proceeds will be for the hall funds. The prizes are always good and great fun is had by all. Do come and join in, you will be most welcome.

Churchyard and cremation garden.

As can be seen the present part of the churchyard being used is filling up and the PCC estimate there is about 10-15 years space in that part. At their July meeting it was decided that once that part of the churchyard was full the part near the main road below the bottom entrance gate will then be used.

The present row in the cremation garden has at the time of writing just one plot left and the PCC agreed to create a new row between the existing row and the previous one. As is apparent the PCC does have to use the space efficiently.

The PCC wishes everyone to be aware that it is possible to use existing family graves where there is space for the interment of ashes. It is this option that is open to people who do not qualify for a new plot. An alternative is to make use of the Garden of Peace where ashes are interred and an entry is made in the Book of Remembrance. However there can be no flowers or stones placed in this part of the churchyard.

As everyone can imagine this is a difficult issue and we hope by bringing this to your attention you will be able to consider options open to you or a loved one. Thus ensuring that when the time comes it will not have to be a difficult one for those left behind.

Church Window

Work has commenced on the much needed repair to the panel of glass in the large south chancel window. The PCC are very grateful for the anonymous donation to cover this cost which has been given in memory of the Rev. Percy Morris who was honorary curate in Ansley in the 1970's.

Thank you

The PCC wish to thank the family and friends of Margaret Silver for the £543.08 given in her memory for church funds.

Also the family and friends of Alec Richardson for the total of £601.50 given in his memory, of which £200 as requested was given to the Air Ambulance, the remainder for church funds.

Live & Local in Ansley Village Church Hall

There will be a production of Hoagy, Hornpipes, Handel and Hoedown by Hilary James with her mandobass and Simon Mayor on guitar on Saturday 30th October. This will be suitable entertainment for adults and children over 8. Tickets £7.50 and £5.50 for 8 to 16 years. are available from 02476 395089. Refreshments and raffle proceeds to Ansley Village Church Hall funds.

Joy's Tea & Cake afternoon

On Saturday 17th July Joy Pethick held her second tea and cake afternoon at her home, with a lovely selection of cakes. The weather on the preceding few days had been showery but on the Saturday it was lovely and everyone was able to sit outside and enjoy the garden and the sunshine.

The proceeds of 200 were divided equally between St. John's Church Hall and the local Air Ambulance.

The hall committee and PCC thank Joy and her helpers for a very enjoyable day.

Games Evening

Everyone who attended the games evening at St. John's on Friday 20th had great fun, they played games such as Beetle, Snakes & Ladders, and Dominoes, and £26 was raised for hall funds.

Message from Warwickshire County Council

Free Electric Blanket Safety Tests from Warwickshire County Council

Warwickshire Trading Standards Service will provide electric blanket tests **FREE OF CHARGE**, for people aged 50 or over, between Monday 4th October and Friday October 8th 2010.

Testing, by appointment only, will take place at the following venues around Warwickshire: Nuneaton Fire Station, Monday 4th October

Don't miss this opportunity. Old or damaged electric blankets cause a number of fires each year, which can result in injury or death. These can be avoided by simply getting your electric blanket checked.

To book an appointment, call the Trading standards Service on:

01926 736477 (Monday to Friday, 9 am - 5 pm)

or email ebtesting@warwickshire.gov.uk

'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'.

The total paid into our Fabric Fund in May was £18.00, bringing the total to £204.00 so far this year all from the small change collection. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

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.

Please pray forwho is

September 2010

As I write this we are looking forward to another Flower Festival (the 46th). This is the time when we meet people who we only see once a year. It is a wonderful experience and every year the flowers seem to get better and better, thanks to the hard work of many, many people, and the wish is that it will last and last for future generations.

What a glorious summer we have had. The sun has shone making it pleasantly warm, and the young people have spent many hours outdoors enjoying themselves. The gardens have been a picture with so many Ladybirds, almost too numerous to count. Now that the Autumn is approaching the Blackberries appear, and there are so many of them, but also alongside them come the Wasps and I never fail being stung, even though I don't antagonise them – Wasps are certainly very spiteful.

You have heard the question 'What's in a name'. Over the years parents have given their children Christian names for many different reasons. In days gone by the eldest son was named after his father. Then there were years when children were named after Royalty or celebrities. When we had our daughter my brother said 'You can't call her Jane. When her name is called half the class will stand up'. However, there were five 'Karens in her year but only the one Jane.

However, some children have the misfortune to be given some very strange names. An author has gone through official records to find the world's most comical names including Anna Sassin, Pete Sake and Etta Lott. Some bizarre ones he found were Rosetta Stone, Sandy Beach, Rusty Pipes, Rhoda Broom, Joy Rider and Justin Case but one of his favourites was Chris. P. Bacon. He also liked the ones where the surname is already funny – Jonah Whalebelly, Lettice Pray, and of course Mary Christmas. Why do parents do this?

'Farewell to Summer, but Autumn soon here. A glorious, golden time of year.

A time when the conkers are ready to pick. A time when the leaves fall many and thick.

A time when the sun still continues to shine, and Grapes in plenty are on the vine.

A time when the world seems quiet and still as curtains are drawn but we are cosy still.'

Marie Cove.