

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

---

No: 1075

SEPTEMBER 2015

Price 30p

---



Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

Email: [peter@ansleychurch.org](mailto:peter@ansleychurch.org)

Wardens:

MARGARET ANTILL  
MOREEN FREESTONE

Tel: 01827 874520

Tel: 024 7638 1833

St. Johns Leaders

MARIE COVE  
JOHN COX

Tel: 024 7639 4114

Tel: 024 7639 4802

Lay Reader:

MANDY WATTS  
GWYNETH HICKMAN

Tel: 024 7639 7654

Tel: 024 7639 8901

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

---

**Print Centre 024 7638 6017**

## The Highlight of the Church's Year.

What for you is the highlight of the Church's Year?

Christmas?

Easter?

The Flower Festival?

The Christmas Tree Festival?

Harvest?

Holy Week?

All these occasions are wonderful. Each in its own way is a time of great blessing. But there is also one that I have omitted. It is truly memorable and for me reaffirms - perhaps more than any other event - why I came into ministry in the first place. It is the annual confirmation service. Over the past few years candidates have been prepared in the Spring for the confirmation in the early hours of Easter morning at Coventry Cathedral. This year was no exception.

What is different is that not long after the service this Easter, I was already being asked about confirmation. So this year we shall have an Autumn course leading to a service at the cathedral at the end of November. The course will consist of eight weekly meetings before and two meetings after the confirmation service. It will begin in late September and conclude early in December with a break for half term.

Who is welcome to join the course? •

People preparing for confirmation.

People who were confirmed some time ago and would appreciate a refresher.

People who are interested in finding out about the Christian faith but are not ready to consider the possibility of commitment,

Those who are "just looking,"

People who would like to help with the preparation either formally as an assistant leader or just by being there.

In short all are welcome. It would be helpful (but not essential) to know in advance if you intend to come so that we can plan the time and venue(s) to suit the most people.

Over the years confirmation courses have been deeply exciting and fulfilling. Don't miss out. And remember it is all entirely without obligation. If you start coming and it doesn't suit, that's fine. Nobody will hassle you to keep coming. On the other hand if you don't come at all you may miss out on something really special.

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

### September St. Laurence's Church Services

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Ordinary Time [Screen]
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

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

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

Lucy May and George Edward Fryer was baptised at St. Laurence's on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

George Dexter Frame was baptised at St. Laurence's on 9<sup>th</sup> August.

We welcome them both into the church family.

#### Marriages

Graham Sutton and Kerry Hubbard were married at St. Laurence's on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Graham Laverick and Laura Wilson were married at St. Laurence's on 8<sup>th</sup> August.

James Boggild and Fay Hilton were married at St. Laurence's on 8<sup>th</sup> August.

We wish these three couples many years of happiness.

#### Funerals

The funeral of Tony Allton of Birchley Heath took place at St Laurence's Church on Friday July 10th followed by committal at The Heart of England Crematorium. The large congregation mourned the passing of a family man who blended a wide range of exceptional practical skills with sense of quiet contentment with life. Working alongside his wife Joyce who brought contrasting abilities to the work, he used his many abilities to establish two successful tool hire businesses in Atherstone and Hinckley. He is greatly missed by Joyce, sons Damien and Matthew, by all his family and his many friends.

The funeral of Jim McIntyre of Birchley Heath took place at St Laurence's Church on Monday July 27th followed by committal at The Heart of England Crematorium. Born in Girvan Scotland, Jim moved to Coventry at the age of 19 to work at Midland County Milk where he met Maureen. Most of his working life was in the milk delivery business where he built up and sold on milk rounds in Leicester, Coventry and Northamptonshire. Retiring they moved to Birchley Heath where he enjoyed life on the farm. His wife Maureen, son Lawrence, his family and friends mourn his passing.



The funeral of Gary Smith took place at St. Laurence's Church on Friday July 31st followed by committal at the Heart of England Crematorium. At the funeral we celebrated his love for his wife, Debbie, his son Daniel, and all his family, his service with the R.A.F., his quiet and confident organisational skills, the intrinsic kindness that he showed to all, his remarkable sense of humour and the way he always felt content and confident within himself. As we gave thanks we mourned his premature passing and shared together in grief and sadness at our loss.

The funeral of Douglas Bates took place at The Heart of England Crematorium on Tuesday August 4th. Doug spent most of his working life at Arley, Birch Coppice and other pits. Married to Sheila at St. Laurence's Church, they had two children, David and Catherine, and three grandchildren. His great joys and exceptional abilities were in wine making and wine tasting, country and western and sport. He faced the problems of his final years with exceptional courage and good humour. He is greatly missed by family and friends many of whom have been privileged to enjoy that friendship most of their lives.

#### Prayer day

There will be a day of prayer in St Laurence's Church from 10.00 a.m. to 7.30p.m. on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. The theme will be "A Door to Faith". The prayers from the flower festival jar will be brought before God during the day.

#### St John's Harvest Supper

The supper of "Pie and mash" will be on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September in St John's Hall at 7.00 p.m. Tickets cost £4.00 and will need to be pre-booked.

#### Sponsored Cycle Ride

Mr Phil Rees will be taking part in this sponsored cycle ride to raise funds for the Warwickshire Historic Churches Trust on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. We hope his ride goes smoothly and that he has generous sponsors! If you wish to join him please have a word. The church will be open for the day.

#### St John's Harvest Festival

St. John's will be celebrating their Harvest Festival on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> with a service of Holy Communion. At the time of writing the harvest was progressing slowly and the fields starting to turn from gold to brown. We pray that the farmers will have an abundant harvest for us all to share. The harvest gifts brought to the service will be donated as in previous years to The Salvation Army.

#### Bell ringing

We shall be pleased to welcome the Coventry Guild of Bell ringers to our practice night at St Laurence's on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 7.30p.m. to 9.00p.m.

#### Installation of Window

The specially designed window in memory of Jennifer Woolliscroft has now been installed.

We do hope you will agree that it looks wonderful and such an improvement in what was there previously. The dedication will be arranged with the family in due course. We hope everyone who visits the church will appreciate it.

#### St. John's Bingo

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September St John's will be holding their next prize bingo sessions at 7 p.m. These are great fun and there are always plenty of good prizes.

#### Repair of roadside wall

Wall work started as planned and only just in time because 6ft of wall collapsed while the iron work was being inserted. This had been expected. It could have happened at any time since the wall was hit by the two cars in 2011 and 2012. We can confirm that when the wall collapsed the ironwork was sufficiently in place to ensure that there was **NO** disturbance to any graves. Our architect Peter Sheen RIBA was present when the section fell.

Overall he was impressed with the workmanship and expertise of the workforce (Ivor King Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd). He also commented on the sensitive way they treated the churchyard while the work was being carried out.

The part that fell had been built in the early 1960s as a sandstone face with concrete behind it but no reinforcement. It replaced a hedge that was removed to improve visibility. This was a weak point and when the wall moved following the impact two by cars the problem arose.

The stone wall will be reconstructed by a stone mason in due course. This will take a lot longer than the day and a half that the work on the actual piling took. The new grass seed will when established ensure that once the work is finished the churchyard will look as good as ever. The work is being mostly funded by our insurers as it was car accidents that caused the problem and we were able to give them the name of one of the drivers. Please rest assured the work was carried out from the road side and the church yard and, most importantly, graves were not affected.

#### Flower Festival 2015

The planning stages is coming an end and the time to start to put these plans into action at the time of writing. Every year is different with different hurdles to cross to bring the event to fruition. As always we are certain that God puts his hand on them message portrayed.

Report next month.

#### Prayer Requests

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



September, 2015

We all have names for different things e.g. I have known and cared for many babies but not one of them actually called their dummy by that name. Our little great granddaughter calls hers 'deedee', whereas one of my sons for some strange reason called his 'addy', and talking of names, I have heard it said that parents give their children two Christian names and then when they need to tell them off they use both names to show they mean what they are saying.

We in our family have always called the T.V. controller the bodger, but actually a bodger used to make spindles and legs for chairs. They said that if you only did half the job you 'bodged' it, so we think of bodgers as those who do a bad job.

There was an article in a gardening magazine about someone who had a row of Willow trees and ponies in the adjacent field had nibbled them to the ground. According to the ponies' owner, horses and ponies are drawn to Willow because Aspirin is a derivative of Willow and it relieves the pain of aching teeth and sore bones, just like in humans.

Anyone who has been stung by nettles sees the Dock leaf as a soothing friend, but now a gardening expert says that the Dock just makes you feel better, and in fact the Dock is among the worst of weeds. He also says that the old adage 'one year's seed means 7 years weed' doesn't go nearly far enough for the Dock whose seed can lie dormant for up to 80 years waiting for the right time to sprout into life. It doesn't put me off the Dock as if the children or I get stung I still turn to the Dock leaf.

'You're feeling rather frazzled, but the world won't go away. You're worried by a workload that grows and grows each day. Then make a little "Me-Time"; Take moments in your life to find a calm oasis from problems, gloom and strife. For though it may seem funny you'll find it's very true – You'll have more time for others if you make time for you.' Margaret Ingall.

Marie Cove.