

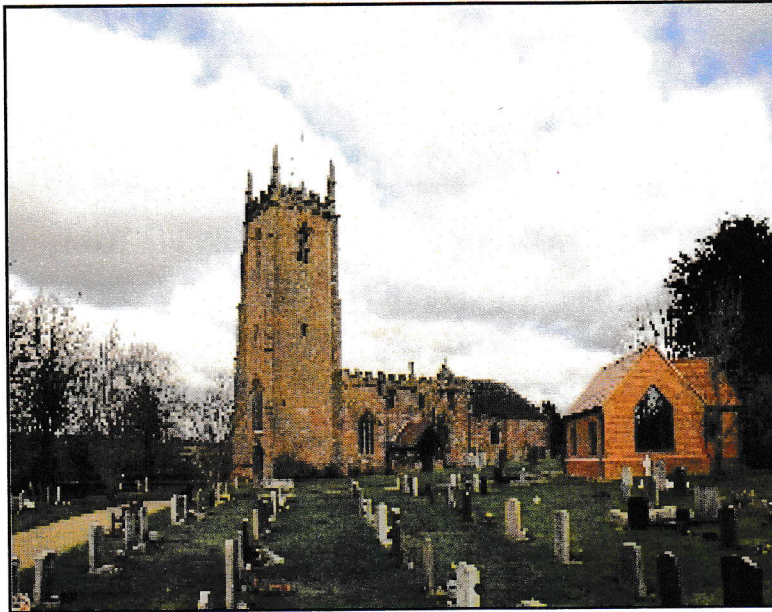
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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September

September is upon us and we can all breathe a sigh of relief – the Flower Festival is done and we can put our feet up – What!!! I expect, not for long, there will be something to do. September falls into the time for beginning to harvest fruit from the trees – some are already harvested. Jesus used such times to illustrate a point as he talked to his disciples or the many crowds that followed him around. One of those illustrations comes to mind. In John 15 'Jesus the real vine' we see God as the gardener, Jesus as the vine and we are the branches. Will we bear fruit? God breaks off the branches that do not bear fruit – He prunes the branches that do bear fruit, so that they will fruit well next year.

Jesus used this metaphor to point out that remaining united with Him is the only way. A branch cannot bear fruit if it stays by itself. It can only bear fruit if it remains in the vine. He goes on to say that those who remain in Him will bear much fruit and benefit from remaining with Him – those who don't will be thrown into the fire.

Remaining in Jesus means taking notice of His words – He said, "If my words remain in you then you will ask for anything you wish and you shall have it." I somehow don't think He means riches or treasure – but rather answers to our prayers for help. God's glory will shine through the people who bear fruit and give glory to God. So loving Jesus has many benefits.

God Bless

Gwyneth



Psalm 1 reiterates this point.

Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people,
Who do not follow the example of sinners
Or join those who have no use for God.
Instead they find joy in obeying the Law of the Lord,
And they study it day and night.
They are like trees that grow beside a stream
That bear fruit at the right time
And whose leaves do not dry up.
They succeed in everything they do.

But evil people are not like this at all;
They are like straw that the wind blows away.
Sinners will be condemned by God
And kept apart from God's own people.
The righteous are guided and protected by the Lord
But the evil are on the way to their doom.

September St Laurence's Church Services

Sunday 3 rd	Trinity 12	10.30 a.m.	Ordinary Time Screen
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th	Trinity 13	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 17 th	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 th	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 3 rd	Trinity 12	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 10 th	Harvest	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 17 th	Trinity 14	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 24 th	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Please Note

During the interregnum it may be necessary to change the pattern of services from time to time at fairly short notice. This would be to enable visiting clergy to hold a communion service.

From the Registers

Baptisms

Christopher Hearn celebrated his baptism on 30th July 2017, supported by his parents, Kirsty and Christopher, his godparents, family and friends. The Reverend Rick White officiated at this service.

Carter William Hawkins celebrated his baptism on 6th August 2017, supported by his parents, Gemma and Steven, his godparents, family and friends. This service was conducted by the Reverend Mervyn Roberts.

We offer Christopher and Carter our best wishes as they join the Christian family and begin their journey of faith.

Funeral

The funeral of Edna Toon took place at St Laurence's on Tuesday 1st August. Edna lived in the same house in Ansley Village for about 80 years. She lived to the ripe old age of ninety - two. She had five siblings, Sid, Alf, Bill, Else and Lionel. She was a well - loved Aunt to her nieces and nephews.

Edna worked at Hackney and Sons, keeping the sales and catalogues in order for all the cattle auctions right up until retirement age.

In her leisure time, Edna played Bingo in Coventry, played tennis in her younger days and liked to watch Wimbledon each year. She attended regularly at church, mainly the evening services and loved going to Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. She would help with the Flower Festival, offering flowers (especially African marigolds) and foliage from her immaculate garden.

Edna will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

St Laurence's Open Church Sundays

The final open church Sunday for this year will be on Sunday 1st October, between 12.00 and 6.00p.m. These have provided an opportunity for people to spend some quiet time in our peaceful building and to appreciate some of its history.

Ride and Stride

This annual fund – raising event to raise money for The Coventry and Warwickshire Historic Churches Trust will take place on Saturday 9th September. The church will be open to visiting cyclists to log their journeys and we would ask sponsors to contact Mr Philip Rees or a church member to sign a donation form. The money raised goes into a central fund to help to maintain historic churches, with a proportion being returned to participating parishes.

St John's Harvest

St John's will celebrate their Harvest Festival on Sunday 10th September with a service of Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m., led by the Reverend Mervyn Roberts.

You are warmly invited to St John's to share a Harvest Supper with dessert at 7.00 p.m. on Friday 8th September. Tickets cost £4.00 and need to be booked in advance. An enjoyable social evening can be anticipated.

Art Exhibition and Sale

Ansley Village Art Group's sixth Art Exhibition and Sale will be held in the Village Hall, Birmingham Road, CV10 9PS, on Saturday 23rd September from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Entry is free and light refreshments will be available. There will be a good number of pictures, some of which will be for sale. Visitors in previous years have commented very favourably on the high standard of the works on display. If you enjoy visiting this type of exhibition you may notice that there will be a Warwickshire Art Trail on during the same weekend. The group meets in the hall (see above) on Fridays from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. The cost per session is £2.00. Members mostly work on individual projects, but several times a year, a local artist is invited along to lead a session. This year members of the group, family and friends were also able to visit Liverpool Tate. If you would like to join the group, or visit to see if it would suit you, do come along. You will be made very welcome.

Advance Notice

St Laurence's will celebrate their Harvest Festival on Sunday 8th October. We hope for a good number of volunteers to help decorate the building on Saturday 7th October. Donations of produce etc. can be brought to the church during the Saturday, preferably in the morning. The Harvest Supper and Sale will be held in the Annexe on Monday 9th October. Further details will be in October's magazine.

Ansley Village Hall and St John's Hall, Ansley Common

The parish is fortunate to have two well maintained buildings for groups to hire for regular meetings or single occasions. Do phone the numbers on the hall notice boards if you would like to attend a session, or find out more. You may be interested in a different activity than the ones available at the moment. If so please get in touch and discuss your idea. Do also consider hiring a hall for a specific occasion. You will be welcome to arrange a visit to see if the facilities suit your event.

Regular activities at the halls.

Ansley Village Church Hall

Monday 8.00 to 9.00 p.m. Tai Kwondo
Tuesday 10.00 to 12.00 noon Ansley Senior Citizens
Wednesday 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. Line Dancing
Thursday 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. Morris Dancing
Friday 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. Art Group

St John's Hall

Thursday 9.30 to 11.00a.m. Painting
Thursday 6.00 to 8.00p.m. Girls' Brigade
Fourth Friday 9.30 to 11.30a.m. Barnado's
Bumps and Babies

Fifty Third Flower Festival

At the time of going to press, the festival had not begun, so the report will be in next month's magazine.

Donation of Furniture

The members of the PCC are very grateful to Triton of Nuneaton who offered us the use of some very good quality furniture that they no longer needed. We could not accommodate all of the items on offer, but we were able to approach other community based groups, who have welcomed the chance to make use of the other items. We are able to make use of some chairs, a few tables and the screens which were on offer.

A big THANK YOU to the Triton Company.

Church Fabric

The PCC agreed at the last meeting to make a start on the work identified in the quinquennial report. The architect has been asked to draw up a specification for the ground gutters to be repaired. These run around the building and will ensure that water does not seep into the walls. Also to be included are the quarry tiles in the church that are becoming detached from their base. Once the specification has been received quotations will be sought and a faculty will be applied for from the diocese. This faculty is required for any work that will affect the fabric of the church and will ensure that the work meets the requirements for an ancient building. It is important that we keep up with all these relatively small but important jobs to ensure that the building is kept in good order.

Update on the appointment of a new vicar

At the lengthy meeting held with the Archdeacon on 29th June, it was arranged that he would review the profile and come back to the PCCs for approval of any changes. It was proposed that the post should then be re-advertised in October. Please continue to pray that the process of appointing a new incumbent will be successful before too long.

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 a warden. Phone numbers are on the front page of this magazine. Please remember that a visit can be arranged to anyone who is sick, but the wardens do need to know, so again please ring.

Please pray for who is

As I have grown older I wonder how my parents who were born in 1900 and 1901 contended with all the changes in their lives and the world. They had seen the motor car become more abundant, lorries and vans replace canal boats to transport goods, the telephone in many more households, television, men had landed on the moon and many more wonders. Then I think of all the changes I have seen in my lifetime – a World War and many other wars beside, people having holidays abroad, mobile 'phones, computers and tablets making peoples' lives no longer private but there for all the world to see.

I am a real 'back seat driver' as they say and sometimes I surprise myself the silly remarks I make when I say "Watch that pedestrian he might step out", but now I have been surpassed as there is a car which is advertised as 'having a brain'. It tells you the hazards that could happen and what's in front etc. I think that could be just as irritating to the driver as I am.

Did you know Queen Victoria grew from a 7 stone bride to an 81 year old with a 50 inch waist? Despite having 9 children she maintained her weight but when her beloved Albert died Victoria started comfort eating. The Queen also bolted down her food, resulting in chronic indigestion. It is almost unbelievable how much she ate and in such large amounts. Even in her 70's Victoria was eating 6 course meals. In 1897 the Aga Khan wrote of an audience with the Queen when he said they sat down at a quarter past nine and it was a quarter to 11 before it was over.

Young David had been asking his mother for a baby brother for a long time and had always been told,

"Perhaps one day when we can afford one."

So it was in great excitement that he rushed home one day.

"Put your coat on quickly Mum," he said, "there's a Summer fete at the Church this afternoon and it says, 'Children Free'."

Marie Cove