

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 952

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Autumn Days

There are few more beautiful seasons than Autumn with the golds, browns and yellows of the leaves; the fruit from the trees and the harvest of the soil. It is the fulfillment of hard work and investment of time, money and energy. We share in the joy of the harvest but also in the sorrow and frustration of farmers for whom this has been a time of disappointment, frustration and anxiety.

In the lives of our churches this has been a time of sowing rather than reaping. We all need to sow the seed of faith, so I commend to you the Alpha course that meets every Tuesday night at St. Michael's, New Arley at 7.30 p.m.. This is suitable for all who want to think and talk about the Christian faith in an easy-going atmosphere.

Also I am pleased to report steady progress with the development of activities at Ansley Village Hall. The first Parents and Toddlers meeting is on Wednesday September 29 at 1.30 p.m. and I hope it will meet weekly. To start off the Bingo, a prize Bingo session will be held on Wednesday 20 October at 7.30 p.m. We are also planning a Community Cafe and Line Dancing in the Village Hall and Ballroom Dancing at St. John's Hall (pending a new floor in the Village Hall) as soon as these can be arranged. With your help a Whist Drive, an Advice Centre and other activities can follow later. If you can help with any of these and have not already volunteered, please let me know. At the same time may I wish Ansley Social Club every success as they too expand their already extensive provision with the provision of adult education classes.

At St. John's, Ansley Common, it is wonderful to see the weekly Sunday services so well attended both with adults and with children at the Sunday School. If you live on the Common or indeed anywhere in the parish or beyond, you are most welcome on Sundays at 10.30 a.m. and on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

We are circulating every house on the Common with a questionnaire asking you what you would like to see happening in the Hall and how you would like to see it improved. Please return your replies in the stamped-addressed envelopes provided.

After consultation we have decided to continue to provide Home Words as an insert in the magazine which will continue to be sold and produced monthly. We hope to complement this with a shorter publication to be delivered free to all homes in the parish for Easter, Summer, Harvest and Christmas.

There is much to celebrate and much to look forward to. May everything that we do be a sign of hope in our troubled world, pointing in word and deed to God who is both our Helper in our struggles and the fulfillment of our dreams.

Your Friend and Vicar,

Peter

St John's Hall Ansley Common.

Sunday 3 rd	10.30 a.m	Trinity 17	Family Worship & Sunday School
Wednesday 6 th	9.00 a.m		Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th	10.30 a.m	Harvest	Holy Communion & Sunday School
Sunday 17 th	10.30 a.m	Trinity 19	Family Service
Wednesday 20 th	9.00 a.m		Morning Prayer
Sunday 24 th	10.30 a.m	Bible Sun.	Holy Communion & Sunday School
Sunday 31 st	10.30 a.m		Songs of Praise

St. Laurence's Church Sunday services

Oct 3 rd	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m. All Age Worship	
		6.30 p.m. B.C.P .Holy Communion	
Oct 10 th	Harvest	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion	
		10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	
		6.30 p.m. Evensong	
Oct 17 th	Trinity 19	10.30 a.m. All Age Worship	
		6.30 p.m. Holy Communion	
Oct 24 th	Bible Sunday	10.30 a.m. Baptism	
		6.30 p.m. Evensong	
Oct. 31 st	3 rd before Advent	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	
		6.30 p.m. Evensong	
Monday 4 th & 18 th	7.00 p.m.	Links Youth Club	
Monday 11 th	9.30 a.m.	Nursery Hill School Service	
Monday 11 th	7.30 p.m.	Harvest Sale Village Church hall	
Tuesday 5 th & 19 th	2.00 p.m.	Prayer Group meet 10 Nuthurst Crescent.	
Tuesday 19 th	10.00 a.m.	Senior citizens Harvest service	
Wednesday 13 th	7.30 p.m.	Harvest Supper Village Church Hall	
Wednesday 20 th	7.30 p.m.	Launch of the Bingo Club	
Wednesday 27 th	7.30 p.m.	Wednesday Fellowship meet 10 Nuthurst Cres.	
Thursday 14 th & 28 th	7.30 p.m.	Ansley Common Fellowship.	
Thursday 21 st	7.30 p.m.	P.C.C. Meeting Village Church Hall	
Saturday 10 th	1.00- 4.00 p.m.	Church Open	

From the Registers**Funerals**

Baby Higginson was born July 27th and lived for just 5 days. His funeral was on 26th August. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, especially his parents Jackie and Paul.

Thank You's

Over this summer there has been a lot of voluntary work carried out in the Church Yard and Car Park.

Those benches that needed it have been repaired and they have all received coats of preservative. We are grateful to Ron Morewood, for the repairs, and to Norman Gill who has done the painting in memory of the Bazeley family.

Geoff Mellor has repaired the gates onto the main road, by the tower and removed two loads of silt which had accumulated from the road every time it floods.

Also thanks to the many people who came and worked in the grounds between the showers prior to the Flower Festival which made the whole area so much appreciated by the many visitors.

The Allton family have given a linen altar cloth that was specially made in memory of their mother. This was used on the altar during the flower festival as the words embroidered on the cloth "in remembrance of me" were so appropriate for the occasion.

To every one who, worked, gave, came and supported our 40th Flower Festival in any way "Thank you". The whole event flowed, and as was mentioned in the radio interview the atmosphere at the festival is one of everyone working together to make the whole event so happy and profoundly united.

The financial result was £1885. This is again up on previous years and a wonderful reward for all the effort of so many.

The money will be divided 25% each to the Acorn Children's Hospice and the Nuneaton Hospital League of Friends and the remainder to the Building Fund. The presentation of the cheques to the charities will take place during our Harvest Festival services.

Harvest Festival

Our harvest thanksgiving will as usual be on the second Sunday in October which this year is the 10th. Decorating will commence on Friday afternoon from 2 p.m. and continue on Saturday from 9.30 a.m. with the hope that it will be all completed by 1 p.m. The Church will be open Saturday afternoon for visitors to come and have a look at the beauty of the Church and God's provisions to us, also for a quiet time of prayer in God's house, and light refreshments will be served in the annexe. All gifts of flowers or produce will be most welcome.

The Sunday Services at St Laurence will be as usual and will all be conducted by the vicar.

8.00 a.m. B.C.P. Holy Communion.

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. With the presentation of gifts at the altar.

6.30 p.m. Festival Evensong

At St John's there will be a service of Holy Communion conducted by Dave & Marie at 10.30 a.m. Please bring your gifts with you to that service.

On Monday morning at 9.30 the children of Nursery Hill School will come to church and have their harvest service parents will be most welcome as will anyone wishing to attend.

Once the children have left all the produce will be taken to the Church Hall ready for the auction in the evening and the Church cleaned and tidied. Please help if you have time from 10.30 a.m.

In the evening at 7.30 Norman will auction all the produce and there will be light refreshments half way. Do come and enjoy the fun of the bidding and an enjoyable social occasion.

On Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. there will be a Morning service of harvest thanksgiving in the Village Church hall. This will be followed by the Senior Citizens but everyone is welcome.

Our harvest celebrations will draw to a close on Wednesday evening at 7.30 when we will have our Harvest Supper in the Village Church Hall. Tickets will be available.

Bingo Club

Following the questionnaires that were circulated in the village there will be a Prize Bingo session with a meeting to launch the new club on Wednesday 20th in the Village Church Hall at 7.30.

2005 Calendars

These are now available. They depict pictures from various flower festivals of the past 40 and are £4 each.

October, 2004.

While watching the Olympic Games at the end of August, I was fascinated with the shoes worn by the competitors. Many years ago you could only get running shoes with spikes or black or white plimsolls, but now they wear these very fancy trainers of every colour imaginable - including gold and silver. Many are personalised with the wearer's name and some are even one colour one side and one the other, and it is the same with football boots. Then the other day I was looking in a shoe shop and much to my surprise it seems the shoes of the 50's and 60's are now in fashion, not only stiletto heels but also flatties, as we used to call them, in every colour you could ask for. So, whereas the sports shoes have gone 'space age', women's shoes have gone back in time.

Having always loved Chanel No. 5 perfume, but unable to afford it, I was interested to know that this is made using May Rose petals grown in France, and local women pick thousands of these, trying to avoid the thorns in the process. This made me recall when my sisters and I and later my daughter and granddaughters would collect Rose petals, put them in a jar with some water and attempt to make perfume - it was awful!

My son gave me a piece from a newspaper about ink for printer cartridges for computers. This can cost more per ml. than Chanel No. 5 or Don Perignon Champagne, and it cost fifty times more than Rocket Fuel. Of course they point out that non-branded cartridges are a lot cheaper, but I have yet to find them, or for that matter know which are compatible.

A lady in Ansley Village gave me the following which is sung to 'We plough the fields and scatter'

We grab the metal trolley and charge along the aisles,
Twixt bread and cheese and tins of beans it seems we trek for miles.
No season just for gathering continually we seek for fresh and canned and frozen but
we'll be back next week.
All these goods around us so temptingly displayed but still we moan and still we
groan and tempers they are frayed.

When you get to the checkout just ponder on this rhyme,
Think back to where food comes from you'll find there's ample time.
Those peas now canned or frozen once grew within a pod and labels made by
Sainsbury should read 'Made by God'
All these goods

Marie Cove.