

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

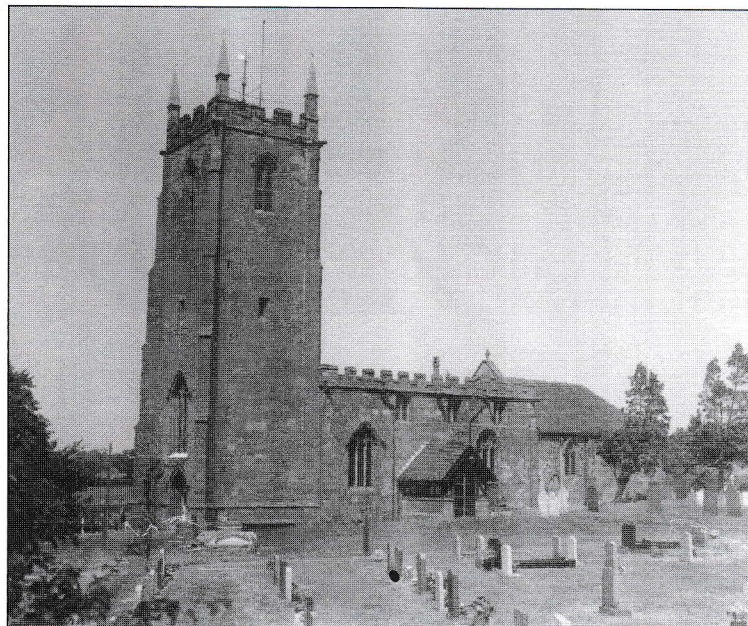
---

No: 1027

OCTOBER 2011

Price 25p

---



Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

Wardens:

MARGARET ANTILL

Tel: 01827 874520

MOREEN FREESTONE

Tel: 024 7638 1833

St. Johns Leaders

MARIE COVE

Tel: 024 7639 4114

JOHN COX

Tel: 024 7639 4802

Lay Reader:

MANDY WATTS

Tel: 024 7639 7654

GWYNETH HICKMAN

Tel: 024 7639 8901

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

---

**Print Centre 0800 389 4089**

## The Golds of Autumn

Isn't autumn a beautiful season? The leaves drop in a most colourful way in eventual preparations for the new beginnings of Spring. It's the beginning of a time of refreshing. Yes I know there is winter but that will pass and new life will come.

New life is very much part of our thinking as over these months we meet Archdeacon Morris and Rt. Revd. John Stroyan, Bishop of Warwick. It was good to meet Bishop John on September 7th with members of our churches and then at an open PCC to meet the Archdeacon. We had had our Day of Prayer the Tuesday before the PCC and those two events really fitted together.

As a result of our PCC meeting we were given a lot to think about. We celebrated our support for each other but we also voiced the concern that we are not developing new leaders to maintain our work and develop new work. I hope that God will guide us all over the next few months.

Bishop John is coming back. Having come to listen and to learn he will now be coming to share and to give. He will be preaching and presiding at a benefice Holy Communion service at 10.30am at St. Wilfrid's, Arley on Sunday November 6th. We do not often have the opportunity of a bishop visiting so please note the date and come if you possibly can. There will be no service at St. Laurence's or St. John's that morning.

As the leaves fall may you feel the stirrings of the new life God gives,

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

### October St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
		10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bible Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 .pm.	Evensong
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	All Saints	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

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

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trinity 15	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 16	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 17	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bible Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	All Saints	10.30 a.m.	Songs of Praise

### Discussion Groups

Discussing the parables – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7 p.m. in St. John's Church Hall.

'The year through the Bible' Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 p.m. 128 Birmingham Road.

### Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards.

### From the Registers

#### WE JOINED IN MARRIAGE

20<sup>th</sup> August Stephen Armes and Kirstie Willis also Christopher Knight and Sophie McCarron

2<sup>nd</sup> September Paul Lyon and Lorna Saunders

10<sup>th</sup> September Ryan Elliott and Kayleigh Earle.

### Harvest

As is our custom at St Laurence we will be celebrating our Lord's goodness to us with our Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Preparations will begin on Friday afternoon from 2 p.m. with the decorating of the church and continuing on Saturday morning from 9 a.m. Gifts of produce and flowers will be much appreciated.

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. the church will be open for visitors to come and see the church and have a quiet time for prayer or have a chat in the annexe where light refreshments will be available. Services are 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10.30 Holy Communion and 6.30 Evensong. It will be at the 10.30 service that people can present their gifts at the altar.

From 9 a.m. on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> the produce will be taken to the annexe ready for the supper and sale which will commence at 7.30 p.m.

The supper will be a choice of chicken & chips or fish & chips with apple pie or trifle With a vegetarian option. Please book your tickets with D. Kealey the cost will be £5.50

If you do not wish to join in the meal but would like to bid for the produce, just come along. The auction will commence shortly after 8 p.m. – there will be no need to book.



### **Bishop John's visit**

On 7<sup>th</sup> September Bishop John visited the Village Church Hall and had lunch with church representatives. This informal chat enabled him to gain a feeling of the many difficulties the church is facing at the present time. As can be appreciated each parish is different and no one solution fits all. He will be coming to speak at the joint service at St. Wilfrid's on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 a.m. and we hope and pray he will be able to help regenerate and refocus our work in the parishes.

### **Flower Festival**

The whole event and the atmosphere created by it was wonderful throughout the whole weekend. The displays portrayed the various texts meaningfully, and were a joy to behold. The number of visitors and proceeds overall were down on last year nevertheless all the appreciative comments were very complementary. Written comments include – excellent – inspirational – thought provoking – uplifting – marvellous. The Morris Dancers added another dimension to the event. Over the weekend visitors wrote 38 prayer requests, and placed 65 stones to portray their burdens, and 62 flowers in thankfulness.

A total of £2433 was raised over the weekend and we wish to express our grateful thanks for the many, many people who help with this big event, without the help of everyone it would not have been the wonderful weekend it was.

### **Magazine**

It has become apparent that the magazine is now no longer paying its way, partly due to increased costs over the years and the reduction in the number now being sold. The church finances are not in a position to carry the loss on the magazine of some £200 in 2010 The P.C.C. have had to take the decision to increase the cost of each issue by 5p which will be 60p per annum. This will be introduced from the beginning of 2012 and will bring the annual subscription to £3.60.

The cost of postage has increased considerably in the last few years and therefore it will be necessary to increase the annual subscription for posted magazines to £8 (£3.60 to cover the cost of the magazine and £4.40 towards the postage).

The PCC appreciate that costs are increasing for us all but hope that everyone will understand the need for the church not to incur losses. If you know of anyone who does not receive a magazine but would like to do so please have a word with Marie Cove and she will organise one to be delivered to your home in the parish or for one to be posted if outside.

### **Lay Readers**

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> our two Lay Readers Mandy & Gwyneth were re-licensed at a lovely service held at St Christopher's, Allesley Park to serve our parish for a further four years. We are very grateful to Mandy & Gwyneth for all the work they do, especially in helping with our regular Sunday services.

### **St. John's Events**

The Harvest Supper on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September was a very happy event enjoyed by all who came. However it was a lot of hard work for those preparing for the event. Thank you to all who did the work and supported the evening which raised £150 for hall funds. With the increasing popularity of the meals at St John's, if anyone could help on the day, please do have a word, as the saying goes "many hands make light work".

The Prize Bingo session on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> was again great fun and £142 was raised for hall funds. We continue to be grateful to those who do all the organising for these sessions from buying the lovely prizes to getting the hall set up each time.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September the friends of St. John's held their tea and cake afternoon in the hall. There was a superb array of cakes to both eat and buy, plenty of tea and coffee as well as the 'bring and buy' stall. This was a very happy occasion and a total of £205.50 was raised for hall funds. Thank you to all who supported these events in any way.

After a busy September October will not be such a hectic month at St. John's. The Halloween supper of jacket potatoes and a sweet, and entertainment, including one of Marie's quizzes will be on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Tickets will be £3 please book your place as these events are becoming increasingly popular.

### Quiz night

Advanced notice - We will be holding a quiz night in the Village Church Hall on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7 30 p.m. details next month

### In Search of Medieval Ansley.

This has proved very interesting and popular, a third is being planned for the Spring Dr John Hunt has made further investigations regarding the carved capital set in our Norman chancel arch and whilst he is no further forward in finding the true identity of the story depicted he is however certain the central figure is a saint as it has a halo, but it is not St Laurence as his life and death are associated with the gridiron. His investigations are continuing, both in this country and in France.

During discussions with Dr. Hunt, he has mentioned that he has hurried through quite a bit of Ansley's social and lordship history, that he has enough information to make a series of presentations of probably four sessions. If anyone is interested in extending their knowledge of Ansley's Medieval history please contact Margaret Antill on 01827 874520 and hopefully if there is enough interest a course can be arranged, possibly in the Spring.

### Acknowledgement

The PCC acknowledge the bequest of £500 received for the Church Yard Fund from the estate of the late Robert Ward.

### 'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'.

It has been decided to continue with this small change collection and anyone who would like a collecting tin please ask and one can be organised. The total paid into our Fabric Fund in July was £20 bringing the total to £157 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 for .....who is .....



Autumn is a lovely time of the year with berries on the trees, flowers in golden colour and leaves starting to turn into golden, yellow and brown, but there is one part of Autumn I don't like. This is the emergence of numerous spiders – they are everywhere. The worst thing is their webs as I get them in my hair as I fetch in the milk or peg out the washing. It is amazing just how strong these webs are. In fact I read that from Roman times for many, many years spiders' webs were used as a fabric or mesh along which healing blood cells can travel to the middle of a wound. Moss was also used with cobwebs to keep the wound moist. Well, it seems that spiders are just not sent to frighten us.

When we were young all 9 of us – Dad, Mam and 7 children lived in a 2 up 2 down terraced house. However we never felt overcrowded, even though we only had the front room fire lit and the room used on Christmas Day. Space wasn't an issue as we had very few clothes or other possessions. However, the part of the house I hated was the stairs. They were very steep and very dark, as there was no light. Also if you happened to fall down them, which I did twice, you hurtled straight into the pantry door. What I love about our house now is the stairs – they are light, not steep, carpeted and when we have our Boxing Day party the younger generation from 3 years to 25 years, book their places to sit on the stairs. Now our stairs is the choice spot to sit at parties – no fear of the dark or falling, and we even have a stair lift for the less agile.

Have you ever wondered what B & Q stands for. Well B & Q was founded in 1969 by Richard Block and David Quayle. The store name is the initials of the surnames of the founders.

I laughed when I saw a picture of Marlon Brando as Caesar – it was his sandals as many women and girls today wear the same sort of sandals. This late star invented a fitness sandal to help him lose weight and a Hong Kong firm plans to market it. We never think of Marlon Brando as an inventor but he left other inventions to his estate, including a mobile home that sinks into the ground to avoid tornadoes and a pram that rocks a baby to sleep. He also devised 'See you, see me', as an early form of internet so fans could pay to talk to him online. If I had read this on April 1<sup>st</sup>, I would have thought it was an April Fool, but it wasn't so it must be true.

A few weeks ago I saw the loveliest, longest and most complete Rainbow I have ever seen – it stretched the length of the street opposite our house. What a lovely sight!

The Rainbow Promise: I'll put my rainbow in the sky, so seedtime and harvest will never die.  
When you see the bow all hearts will leap, to know God His promise will always keep.

Marie Cove.