

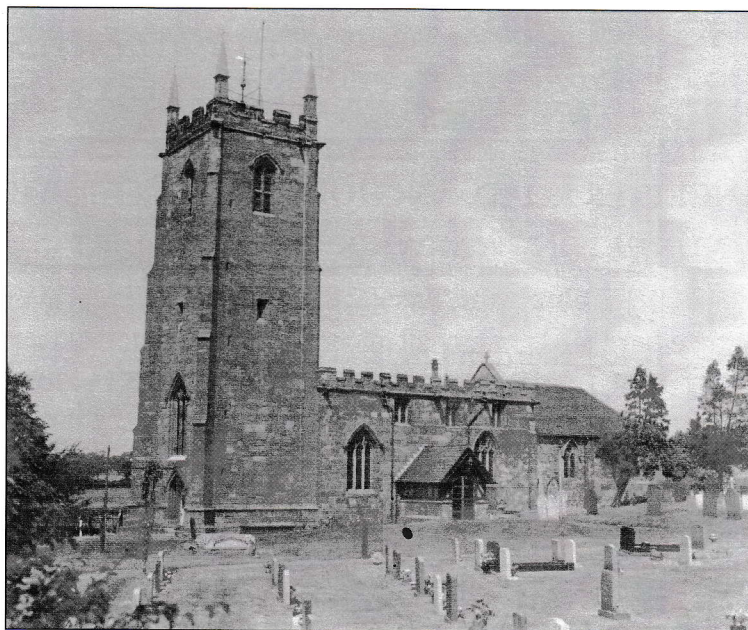
Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

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What is Messy Church

As we watched the Chilean miners brought to safety we delighted in their release from captivity and shared with them as they praised God with their families. What a wonderful thing it is to praise God in times of joy and to find help from Him in times of trouble!

But we know of many who do not have that enormous privilege - because we have not given them the chance to hear. Yes they can join us at church and we welcome them. But for some walking through that door and following a pattern that is quite strange is too daunting. How can we make it easier for people to celebrate God's love?

That's where Messy Church comes in. It's not a children's club. It's for all ages. It's not normally on Sunday but a Saturday or weekday evening. Its not every week but normally once a month. Its format is not fixed or formal but it always includes food - a light meal rather than just a cuppa and a biscuit, craft or artwork and a time of worship and celebration.

Messy Church, which is making a big impact nationally not least in Coventry diocese, is the brainchild of Lucy Moore who will be leading a Messy Church Day at Arley and St. Michael's Community Centre on January 15 from 9.45 to 3pm. (Lunch provided. Plate for donations.)

If you are interested in how you might help families and children discover God's love you would be most welcome. Please let me know so we can have numbers for lunch.

Coming won't commit you to doing anything but we would hope that from the day we might have a team at St. John's and St. Michael's who would consider running Messy Church at each Church. We are looking for people to provide food, music, craft work and to support in prayer. But if you just want to come because you're just curious that's absolutely fine!

Your friend and Vicar Peter

November St. Laurence's Church – Services

Sunday 7 th	3 rd before	10 30 a.m.	Morning Worship
	Advent	6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th	Remembrance	10.30 a.m.	Special service
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 21 st	Christ the King	10.30 a.m.	All Age Worship
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th	Advent 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 7 th	3 rd before advent	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
Sunday 14 th	Remembrance	10.30 a.m.	Special Service
Sunday 21 st	Christ the King	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		4.00 p.m.	4 O' Clock Club
Sunday 28 th	Advent 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Discussing the book "Fire in Coventry" Monday 1st 7.30 p.m. 46 Nuthurst Crescent
Fellowship group Tuesday 9th 7 p.m. in St. Johns Church Hall. Discussing the parables.

Confirmation Classes will continue on Mondays and Thursdays

Other regular activities

Full details on the notice boards.

From the Registers

Baptisms

At St. Laurence's on September 26 we celebrated at the baptism of Jack Aidan Prescott and Scarlett Grace Carey and on October 10 we celebrated at the baptism of Lilly Ann Bannister.

Wedding

Also on Sunday 10th was the wedding of Jason Moore & Donna Hewitt, they and their guests were able to enjoy the church decorated for Harvest. We wish them every happiness in their new life together.

Funerals

Many old friends, neighbours and ex colleagues gathered at Eric ('Jake') Jephcott's funeral on 24th September. He was well known for his sense of humour and will be sadly missed in the community at large. We send our condolences to his sister Muriel as she adjusts to her loss. The service at St. Laurence's was followed by committal at Heart of England Crematorium

It was with a mix of sadness and celebration that we remembered Bill Rowntree at his funeral at St. Laurence's Church. on September 29 -sadness at his passing, celebration of the life of a man of hard work with a love of the countryside, of travel and of many interests. Father to Beryl and Sonia, grandfather to Sian and devoted husband to Peggy, whom he greatly missed, he leaves with us many happy memories. The service at St. Laurence's was

followed by committal at Heart of England Crematorium and interment in St. Laurence's Churchyard.

Members of the Church wish to extend their sympathy to all affected by the sudden death of Kath Brownbridge the year five teacher at Nursery Hill School.

Remembrance Day

On November 14th we will, with many across the land, be remembering those who gave their life in the two World Wars and the conflicts in the years since especially again this year we will remember those in Afghanistan. There will be special services beginning at 10.30 a.m. at both St Laurence and St. John's with the observance of the two minutes silence at 11 a.m. The congregation at St Laurence will process to the Memorial War to lay the wreaths.

Confirmation

The Confirmation is on Saturday 20th November at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral everyone is welcome to attend and support the candidates. If you would like to share transport please have a word with the wardens. Please remember the candidates in your prayers.

Booking Church Hall

Please note that Mrs Janet Ryan has taken over as hall booking secretary for the Village Church Hall. If you wish to use the hall please contact Janet direct on 024 7839 3899. We thank Pauline Allan for looking after the hall for the last six years.

Fancy Dress Dance

On Friday 29th St. John's Committee have arranged a Halloween Fancy Dress dance from 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £2.00 to include 'Bangers and Mash'.

St John's Church Hall

The P.C.C. have successfully obtained £1000 from Warwickshire County Council Communities Development Fund with the support of Councillor Colin Hayfield. This is to help towards the provision of a hot water drinks heater, improved covering for the central heating pipes and a new notice board. The hall committee has also raised over £250 in the last few months towards this work.

Live and Local

Full report next month

Christmas Fayre

This is to take place at Ansley Village Church Hall on Friday 26th November at 7.30 p.m., £1 entrance to include door prize, mince pie and a drink. There will be a Christmas stall, bran tub, raffle, cake stall etc.

Spurgeon Child Care

On Wednesday 10th November Margaret Oliver will be holding her annual coffee evening at her home 33 Nuthurst Crescent in aid of Spurgeon Child Care. It is at this event the boxes will be opened and counted. The Bring and Buy will have various items and with Christmas approaching perhaps something for that elusive stocking! There will be home made cake,

coffee/tea and good company for a very enjoyable evening in aid of this charity which helps disadvantaged children in this country.

Prize Bingo

The next session will be on Monday 15th November when the proceeds will be for N.S.P.C.C.

Parent Toddler Group in Ansley Common

A group of parents have come together and are forming a parent toddler group to come to the hall each Wednesday during term time from 1.45 – 3.15 p.m. The cost will be £1 per family, which will go towards the cost of the hall etc.

This new group is open to any pre school children to come and play. Parent(s) carers will have time to meet new friends, chat and enjoy a drink etc. However it is important that parent(s)/carers are responsible for their own children at all times

Marie's Christmas event

Advanced notice of Marie & Dave's Christmas event - Tuesday 7th December 2-4 & 6-8p.m.

Christmas Tree Festival

Please make a note in your diary of the dates for this year which are different to previous years the church will be open on Saturday 18th Sunday 19th Wednesday 20th & Thursday 23rd from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If you wish to decorate a tree please ask for an application form (01827 874520)

Harvest Festival

Thank you to every one who contributed to the Harvest celebrations in any way. This happy, but busy time was enjoyed by all those who participated and those that helped decorate were entertained by a band of visiting ringers who rang a peal of Bob Minor in 2 hours 33 minutes. The supper was enjoyed by all those attending and the sale following added to the entertainment. A total of £192.75 was raised for church funds.

It was at the morning family service that the donations of £136.75 each were presented to the Acorn Children's Hospice and the Nuneaton League of Friends from the Flower Festival proceeds.

'From tiny acorns mighty oaks do grow'.

The total paid into our Fabric Fund in August was £22.70, bringing the total to £245 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

Guess what? Children's scooters are dangerous! Is anything not dangerous? Well, now children are having training sessions in school time on scooter safety. We have seen generations of children from when I was a small child, when a scooter for all the children in the family to share, was affordable in contrast to a bicycle, to the children scooting in our cul-de-sac and I admit there have been minor spills but this is the same in most games. My younger son broke his arm fielding at Cricket when he fell awkwardly. If we wanted to shield our children at play we would have to wrap them in cotton wool or make them stay indoors.

I was reading the Arley Newsletter and was very interested by a lady's article on what she remembered of Arley Church in years gone by. This reminded me of many memories of Ansley Church when as a Sunday School Teacher I would walk the children to the Church Hall on Sunday morning. Cyril Pickett (a real character) always sat on the walk outside his house as we walked by and it seemed as if seeing the children was the highlight of his day. He would give them apples off his tree, and he called me The Pied Piper. He only grew White Bells in his front garden and one day he appeared at our front door with some bulbs from these, which still flower some 30 years later and have multiplied.

As we turn on our taps for baths, showers, toilets, drinking, washing up and washing clothes, have you ever wondered where on earth all the water comes from. Well there was an amazing article in a Sunday newspaper about Thames Water. They stated how much water it takes to produce key goods – A4 sheet of paper – 10 litres; Tomato – 13 litres; Apple – 70 litres; Bag of potato crisps – 185 litres; Glass of milk – 200 litres; Hamburger – 2,400 litres; Leather shoes – 8,000 litres; Car – 400,000 litres. It is absolutely mind boggling when you think this does not take into consideration domestic use.

Can you imagine how much water it took to produce all the items of food and non-food in a single supermarket?

It is amazing (halfway through October) to look out at our garden and see flowers still blooming which should not be there until Spring. Even the Camelia has buds on it and the Poached Egg Plant along the path, which didn't appear in May, is now flowering. It seems as if the Flowers have mixed up the seasons and can't decide when to bloom. However, the birds have worked it out as they returned last week to feed.

Marie Cove.