

Church of St. Laurence Magazine

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

No: 1065

NOVEMBER 2014

Price 30p



Vicar:

REV. PETER ALLAN

Tel: 024 7639 9070

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

Print Centre 024 7638 6017

NOvember

Somehow it seems somehow appropriate that the bleak, dull days of late autumn are in a month that begin with the two letters N-O.

I know someone will tell me that this is pure coincidence for the Novem in November comes from the Latin word for ninth. It isn't really anything to do with the word NO at all. But it is rather appropriate don't you think that November begins with NO?

NO to the last bit of sunshine,
NO to the autumn leaves,
NO to getting up in the light,
NO to light evenings,

All rather depressing!

But saying NO does not have to be a negative event.

Think of the Baptism service when parents and godparents say NO to evil,
Think of the Wedding service where bride and groom promise to forsake others (say NO) for the sake of the one they love,
Think of Halloween which came into being to frighten away and say NO to evil spirits so that everyone would be prepared for the brightness and glory of All Saints Day that starts the month of November,
Think of Remembrance Day when we celebrate those who said NO to their own personal needs and made such sacrifices for our freedom
Think of what you need to put aside to have more time to pray, to read the Bible, to reflect on what God is saying to you,

November comes before the glorious celebration that is Christmas.
What will you need to say NO to in order to be ready for that wonderful season?

Don't let November get you down.

It's a wonderful time of preparation!

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

November St. Laurence's Church Services

Sunday 2 nd	All Saints	10.30 a.m.	Morning Service
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 9 th	Remembrance	10.30 a.m.	Special Joint Service
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 16 th	2 nd before Advent	10.30 a.m.	Morning Service
		6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd	Christ the King	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong
Sunday 30 th	Advent 1	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		6.30 p.m.	Evensong

St John's Church Hall Ansley Common Services

Sunday 2 nd	All Saints	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 9 th	Remembrance	10.30 a.m.	Joint at St L.
Sunday 16 th	2 nd before Advent	10.30 a.m.	Family Service
Sunday 23 rd	Christ the King	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 th	Advent 1	10.30 a.m.	Morning Service

From the Registers

The funeral of George Ellis took place at the Heart of England Crematorium on Wednesday 1st October. A man of fun, humour and laughter, George was a deeply loving man with loads of time for all his family and always there when they needed him. Having had a variety of jobs which caused him to move many times, George and his late wife Marlene's move to Ansley Common was a homecoming to the place they loved. George will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Girls' Brigade

There will be a parade by the Girls' Brigade on Sunday 30th November at St John's morning service. The congregation look forward to welcoming these young people to their services.

Spurgeon Childcare Coffee Evening and Bring and Buy

I shall be holding my annual coffee evening and bring and buy on Wednesday 19th November at 7.30 p.m. at 33, Nuthurst Crescent. Please come along and enjoy a chat and a piece of cake at the same time giving much needed help to children in our own country who are in need of support. Any boxes you may have, that have been collecting change over the last twelve months, will be opened and counted. Thank you to you all for your continued support.

Margaret Oliver

St John's Christmas Event

This will be held in St John's Hall on Saturday 22nd November from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Do come along to enjoy a chat over a cuppa. There will be a raffle and also stalls, including bric-a-brac, Christmas items, crafts and pickles. This change of venue and timing was by hall committee who asked if they could hold the St. John's Christmas event in the hall rather than use the home of Dave & Marie Cove and thus enable more people to "Do

the work." It will also enable the people of Ansley Common to walk to the hall. However the support from those from the Village and elsewhere will continue to be much appreciated.

St Laurence's Christmas Fayre

We welcome everyone to Ansley Village Church Hall on Friday 28th November at 7.30 p.m. for our Christmas Fayre. There will be a door prize, raffle, bingo, mince pies, tombola, a cake stall, games and carols.

St John's Hall Bingo

You are warmly invited to an evening of bingo and chat on Monday 1st December at 7.00 p.m. There will be lots of Christmas prizes to be won!

St Laurence's Ninth Christmas Tree Festival

This event is approaching rapidly! Please ask a churchwarden or Margaret Kimberley for an application form if you would like to buy and decorate a tree. The trees will arrive on Monday 1st December and help to place them in pots and move them into position would be very much appreciated. Decorating will be on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th December from 2.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Visitors will be welcome during the three weekends before Christmas, from 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on the Saturdays 6th, 13th and 20th December and from 11.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on the Sundays 7th, 14th and 21st December. There is an entry charge of £2.00 per person. Accompanied children under 12 have free entry. Proceeds are in aid of church funds and a donation of 12.5% will be divided between Three Spires Tots, Cherish Dementia Holiday Trust and Kate's Ski Tracks, which are three well deserving local charities.

The 'Memory Tree' will be there giving the opportunity to place a star bearing the name of a loved one(s) for £1.00. This money will go towards the cost of cutting the grass which at present is £260 each cut. There is also the opportunity to light a candle, as well as a 'Prayer Tree' where you will be able to peg your own prayer to the tree. Each one will be brought before God either at one of our Christmas services or at a prayer meeting.

On Friday 12th December at 8 p.m. Richard and Jess Arrowsmith will be giving a concert of Christmas and traditional English music among the trees; tickets are £8 available from Pat Arrowsmith 024 7639 2555 refreshments included.

If an organisation/group would like to arrange a visit on a week day please contact 01827 874520.

Throughout the weekends there will be tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mince pies available in the annexe and also a raffle for a Christmas cake.

The report of last year's festival with a few photographs can be found at <http://www.ansleychurch.org/articles/articles.php?id=463> but as with many photographs they do not give the full atmosphere and beauty of the event.

If anyone can help by making mince pies or by either stewarding or serving refreshments for two hours please do add your name to the lists in church or contact Margaret Antill, any help will be much appreciated particularly at this busy time of the year. Please do publicise this event and if you can distribute any fliers please do so there are plenty in church or please ask for some.

Why not make a visit part of your Christmas Celebrations?

Harvest at St Laurence's

It was lovely to see the church beautifully decorated for harvest and to be able to give thanks for God's generosity to us. The supper and sale was an enjoyable social occasion and in total raised £159 for church funds. Thank you to everyone who gave their produce and to those who organised this event.

St John's Halloween Pie and Sweet Social
Report next month.

Visit by Mishael Andy

It was very interesting to meet Mishael and to hear something of his experiences in Nigeria and to share lunch with him. We also had the pleasure of hearing him preach at our evening service on 28th September. His enthusiasm and commitment were evident. One thing he mentioned was his sadness at the small number of younger people in our church, a thought we share and need to pray about.

Lost and Found

A ring, which could be of great sentimental value, has been found in St Laurence's church car park. If you have, or if anyone you know has, lost a ring which could have been in the car park please contact one of the church wardens.

Ride and Stride

The final total raised by Mr Phil Rees on his cycle ride around local churches is £187. Half of this will be used by Warwickshire Historic Churches Trust and half will be sent to St Laurence's fabric fund. Thank you again to Phil for his efforts and to all who supported him.

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 forwho is

November 2014

I love the Autumn with all the different colours as the leaves change, but one thing I don't like are the cobwebs and numerous spiders. Also, as I have said before, at any time of the year the road from Purley Chase through to Mancetter is a picture which portrays nature from the very first Snowdrops to the Holly, but now 'fly tipping' has started in a few places and this I cannot comprehend, and find disgusting.

We received a letter from Tesco containing 12 coupons for 'money off' and when we looked at them they were all for items which we purchase regularly – it was unbelievable how much even Supermarkets know about you. Still it was very useful and we saved nearly £4 when we used them.

Twice in one week someone said to me 'We are the last generation who will cook proper meals such as Beef, Veg, Potatoes and Yorkshire Pudding with Apple Pie and Custard to follow. Then I was informed that many years ago in our area there were 7 Mobile Butchers, 2 Bakers, 3 Coal Merchants, a Fishmonger and a Greengrocer. These services were needed and used as few people had a car and certainly not two cars per family.

Chances are your favourite perfume contains one of the following ingredients – Lime, Bergamot, Sandalwood, but the latest luxury fragrance contains Rose de Mai absolute as an oil that requires 170 flower heads to make just one drop. It is priced at £143,000 for a 30ml bottle, although much of that is because the bottle is gold and diamond encrusted. It is called No. 1 and created by Clive Christian. However, in less extravagant packaging the perfume is normally priced between £450 and £2,700, and Christian created the bottle to mark the launch of a perfume hall in Harrods. I wonder how many of the diamond encrusted bottles of perfume they sell?

Just for a laugh: At a drinks party at a wealthy Golf Club the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. 'Of course, we trace our family back to the coming over of William the Conqueror,' observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman who was new to the club, and asked, 'What about you dear? Can you go back very far?' 'Not very far,' came the reply. 'You see, all the early family records were lost in the Flood.'

Marie Cove.