

Faith

"Now, faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."
—Epistle to the Hebrews.

Or, as Dr. Moffat translates it:

"Now, faith means we are confident of what we hope for, convinced of what we do not see."

THE FAITH OF A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR.

"O world, thou chooseth not the better part;
It is not wisdom to be only wise,
And on the inward vision close the eyes;
But it is wisdom to believe the heart.
Columbus found a world and had no chart,
Save one that faith deciphered in the skies;
To trust the soul's invincible surmise
Was all his science and his only art.

Our knowledge is a torch of smoky pine
That lights the pathway but one step ahead
Across the void of mystery and dread.
Bid, then, the tender light of Faith to shine,
By which alone the mortal heart is led
Into the thinking of the thought Divine."

—Professor Santoyana, of Harvard.

THE FAITH OF A BED-RIDDEN CRIPPLED GIRL.

"I see God's sun behind earth's clouds,
Heaven's blue beyond earth's grey,
The gleaming of the jasper walls
Across earth's dusty way;
I see my Father's smile of love
Light up earth's dreariest frowns;
Fair stars for Heaven's diadems
Shine round earth's thorniest crowns;
I see, like sunshine, everywhere,
God's goodness, mercy, grace,
And, for the rest, I trust His love
Until I see His face."

A Personal Message from the Rector

My Dear Friends,—

Please allow me this opportunity of expressing my sincere appreciation of the many expressions of sympathy I have received on the death of my mother.

She had been a devoted church worker from her girlhood in Ireland, Madagascar, England, New South Wales, and Victoria, and now, after a painful illness, patiently borne, God has called her to the rest and peace of Paradise.

It is a matter of regret to me that I was not able to get away to her funeral, although I was able to say good-bye to her a fortnight before she died.

"The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God."

There we are content to leave our faithful departed "till the day dawn and the shadows flee away."

"On that happy Easter morning
All the graves their dead restore,
Father, sister, child, and mother
Meet once more.
To that brightest of all meetings
Bring us, Jesus Christ, at last;
By Thy Cross, through death and judgment,
Holding fast."

With many thanks for your kind sympathy,

Believe me to be,

Your friend and pastor,

F. E. C. CROTTY.

DEATH.

"It is but crossing with a bated breath,
And with set face, a little strip of sea,
To meet the loved ones waiting on the shore,
More beautiful, more precious, than before."

(These lines were sent to the Rector by an esteemed friend in the parish.)

Mission House Acknowledgments

Miss Richardson desires to acknowledge with thanks the following kind help for her work:—£1, from Mr. F. Cleaver, for a special case; clothes, from Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Darcey, and Miss Johnston; 25 new garments, from the Mothers' Aid; 36 woollen scarves, from the Red Cross.

Illustrated magazines for the Boys' Club at St. John's Mission Hall would be much appreciated.

Donations for "Messenger."

Mr. Castley (hon. treasurer) acknowledges with thanks the following amounts:—Mr. Wilkinson, 1s.; Mr. Balderson, 1s.; Mrs. Day, 1s.; Mr. W. Jones, 1s.; Mr. L. Lakin, 5s.; Mr. Tevelein, 1s.; Mrs. Lyndon, 1s.; Mrs. Sheldrick, 1s.; Mrs. C. Ping, 1s.; Mrs. Gullidge, 1s.; Rev. T. Smith, 2s.; Mrs. Windeatt, 1s.; Mr. Tacey, 1s.; church box, 14s. 6d.; Mrs. Taylor, 2s.; Mrs. Mitchell, 2s. Total amount received since last issue, £1 16s. 6d. Cost of printing for month, £3 15s.



"Inscribed upon the Cross we see in shining letters—GOD IS LOVE."

St. John's Parish Messenger

(A Monthly Message from St. John's, the Mother Church of Launceston, opened 1825)

No. 6.

AUGUST, 1920.

GRATIS

Clergy.

Rev. Cassian Crotty, B.D., The Rectory,
St. John Street. Phone No. 525.

Rev. Thomas Smith, B.A., 106 Abbott Street.

Organist and Choirmaster

Mr. G. F. Hopkins, City Organist.
39 High Street.

Vergers.

Mr. Tacey, Vergers' Cottage, Elizabeth Street.

Parish Mission Worker.

Miss Richardson, Mission House, Canning St.

Services.

ST. JOHN'S—

Daily Services, 7.30 a.m., 7.30 p.m.
Service and Address, Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Matins and Evensong, each Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Holy Communion, 8 a.m. each Sunday, 10 a.m. second Sunday in month, 11 a.m. first and third Sunday in month; Saints' Days and Holy Days, 7.30 a.m.

ST. AIDAN'S, EAST LAUNCESTON—

Matins and Evensong, each Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Holy Communion, fourth Sunday, 11 a.m.

ST. OSWALD'S, TREVALLYN—

Evensong, each Sunday, 7 p.m.
Holy Communion, third Sunday, 11 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S MISSION HALL, CANNING STREET—

Mission Service, each Sunday Evening, 7 o'clock.

HOLY BAPTISM AND CHURCHING—

At the Parish Church, on Wednesdays, at 11 a.m. "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism." "You are to take care that this child be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed by him."

CONFIRMATION—"Then laid they their hands upon them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

The Rector will be glad to enrol candidates. Classes in preparation held early in each year. Adult candidates prepared separately.

(By Arrangement with the Rector).

MARRIAGES—"Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

FUNERALS—"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." Please advise the Rector at once in case of the death of a parishioner.

VISITATION OF THE SICK—"I was sick and ye visited me." "When any person is sick, notice shall be given to the Minister of the Parish."

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER OR FOR SICK VISITING may be left with the Clergy, the Vergers, or any of the Church Officers, or at the Rectory.

VISITORS OR NEW ARRIVALS in the parish are asked to make themselves known to the Clergy.

Meetings, Societies, etc.

MONDAYS.—Union Jack Athletic Club (Girls).

TUESDAYS.—Boys' Athletic Club.

WEDNESDAYS.—Ladies' Sewing Guild, 2.30; Girls' Friendly Society, 7.45; Teachers' Preparation Class, 8.15.

THURSDAYS.—Choir Practice, Union Jack Athletic Club (Men).

FOURTH THURSDAY IN EACH MONTH.—Mothers' Union, 3 o'clock.

News and Notes.

A MEMORIAL is to be placed in St. John's in grateful remembrance of those soldiers from this parish who laid down their lives in the great war as the price of Australia's safety. No place could be more fitting for such a memorial than the mother church of Launceston and the oldest parish church of Northern Tasmania, and no place in St. John's could be more fitting than the sanctuary, where we commemorate each Sunday the sacrifice of Calvary, when, in the breaking of the bread and partaking of the Sacrament, we do, as St. Paul says, "Show forth the Lord's death." Two meetings of parishioners have decided that the memorial should be in the sanctuary, and that the rough brickwork there should be decorated according to an approved plan, and should culminate in a reredos, and that a handsome brass plate be placed in a prominent position in the church, containing the names of all the soldiers to be commemorated. Messrs. Cleaver, Hopkins, and Taylor were appointed a committee to arrange details with the Rector and churchwardens. Full particulars will be given in our next number.

ST. AIDAN'S is now over 25 years old, and this healthy young daughter church is seriously thinking of setting up house for herself, free from the authority of her mother church of St. John's. This step cannot long be delayed, as the district around St. Aidan's is growing so rapidly. In the interest of our Church of England new parishes must constantly be cut off from the old ones, in order that we may do our work more efficiently. It is the experience of every diocese that when a new parish is created the new individuality and responsibility are made evident in renewed activity

and devotion among the church members. This will probably be one of the matters which the Bishop will look into as soon as possible after his return from England in November.

ST. AIDAN'S ANNUAL FAIR will be held in the School Hall on September 22 in aid of the debt on that building.

THE MEN'S SERVICES on Sundays, at 4 p.m., have now been going on for several months. The Rev. J. W. Bethune, M.A., gave the address one Sunday. The Rector has spoken on the subject of "Christ or Chaos," also on "Social Problems and Christian Principles." He will speak on Sunday afternoon, August 1, on "Property and Personality." All men are welcome at these short, simple services and straight talks on important social, moral, and religious subjects.

THE MOTHERS' UNION meets monthly on the fourth Thursday, at 3 o'clock, for intercessions in the Chapel, and afterwards for an address and social intercourse and refreshments in the School-room. All mothers in the parish are cordially invited to become members and help forward the aims and objects of this great society. Mrs. H. Reed gave the address at the last meeting, and Mrs. H. Weedon will give the next address, on August 26.

THE ORGAN at St. John's was out of action for one Sunday lately. Water was found in the pit where the motor and blower were located. The cause of the trouble was found to be sloppy methods of drainage, which have been rectified. No damage was done to the organ, as the trouble was remedied in time. It is hoped that it will not be long before the console is placed on the floor of the chancel, which will be a great improvement in many ways.

SHORT ORGAN RECITALS for 10 minutes before service have been promised by our organist (Mr. G. F. Hopkins), whom we were all glad to see taking so prominent a part in the arrangements for the Prince's visit.

A CONFIRMATION SERVICE will be held in St. John's early in November. Classes will begin in August, particulars of which will be announced in the various churches of the parish. Please let the clergy have the names of all candidates at once.

ST. JOHN'S FAIR this year was held on a very wet day, but it did not damp the ardour of all our people. There were many good workers and purchasers, and the financial result was satisfactory, amounting to a profit of £140 10s. Our thanks are due to Miss E. Murray (hon. secretary) and all other workers and supporters. Mr. Chester Edwards and his orchestra deserve special thanks, and were greatly appreciated. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Eccles, who kindly loaned an excellent gramophone and records, which contributed greatly to the success of the function.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY (C.M.S.) is the largest missionary society in the Church of England, although the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (S.P.G.) is the oldest. The Australian Board of Missions (A.B.M.) has under its wing our mission work in New Guinea and Melanesia, and also mission work among the Australian aborigines and other coloured races in Australia, and also supports mission work in China and Japan. If we are loyal subjects of the King of Kings, we must help missionary work all we can. St. John's Parish has important missionary obligations to the C.M.S. in maintaining our own missionary in India, Rev. C. P. Young, M.A. Mr. Young has recently sent a most interesting letter to the Rector, and he hopes to let us know quarterly how the work is getting on. He asks for our prayers as well as our alms.

MISS COOPER is working in China, and she also has lately written a most encouraging letter to the Rector, describing some of the great work for God that is going on in that ancient country. Our C.M.S. Depot in St. John Street shares with St. Peter's, Ballarat, and St. Augustine's, Moreland, the honour of supporting Miss Cooper. She also asks for the help of our prayers.

OUR C.M.S. TEA-ROOMS AND DEPOT in St. John Street are so much appreciated that our space is not sufficient for our many customers, and the committee have been trying for a long time to get larger premises, but have not yet succeeded in making satisfactory arrangements. Though several times it seemed as if everything had been arranged, yet at the last moment we were disappointed, and we shall have to wait a little longer for adequate accommodation. The Rector of St. John's has been appointed a member of the executive committee of the C.M.S. Council for Australia and Tasmania.

CANON WILMER has lately been ill, but we are glad to see him about again.

THE REV. C. G. WILKINSON, M.A., kindly officiated at St. Oswald's and at the Hornsey Military Hospital during the past month.

ANOTHER CURATE for the parish has not yet been obtained. Several times it seemed as if one was coming, and then circumstances made it impossible. It is probable that it will be possible to make an announcement next month.

THE REV. H. N. BAKER, M.A., and Mrs. Baker, of St. Thomas', North Sydney, have been ill. Their friends in this parish will be glad to know that they are getting better, though the doctor has ordered Mrs. Baker complete rest for at least a year.

THE REV. J. W. BETHUNE, M.A., has been able to help in the preaching at St. John's several times lately, for which the clergy and congregation are grateful.

THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON BERESFORD has the sincere sympathy of his many friends in the parish in the loss of his brother.

VISITORS to Launceston often find their way to St. John's, and parishioners should be always ready to show that hospitality to them which is as much an evidence of good breeding as it is of true religion. Occasionally one hears of visitors to the church getting a cold reception. We need something more than gas heaters to get the right atmosphere in a Christian place of worship. New arrivals in the parish are asked to let the clergy know their address.

S.C.M. stands for a great world-wide movement among students at the universities, and also at secondary schools. If we estimate it by its religious influence on persons of influence, it is one of the most important movements of modern times. The travelling secretary of the Students' Christian Movement (Mr. J. C. Woodhouse, M.A.) was recently staying at the Rectory, and he visited most of the secondary schools in this city, as he had done in Hobart, where he also addressed the University students. He was much impressed with St. John's Church and its services, and was kind enough to speak to the children of our Sunday School.