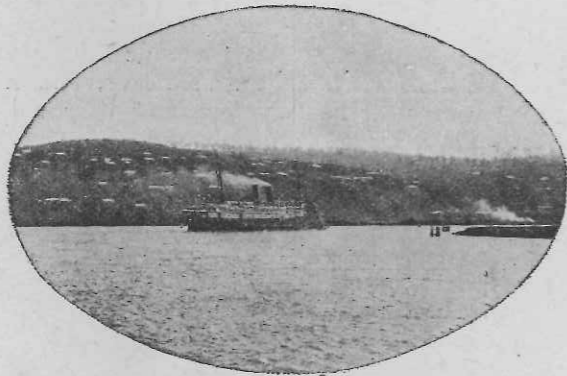


ST. JOHN'S MISSION HALL services each Sunday evening are being attended by increasing numbers, and further development is hoped for. New sign-board and list of meetings, etc., have been put up, and the fence and gates set in order, and other improvements made. Mrs. Justin Browne has very kindly paid for installing a hot water service at the Mission House, where the housekeeping has been taken over by the Girls' Friendly Society Committee. Miss Richardson still has her office there, as usual, and lives at the Mission House as before. One hundred pounds was distributed to deserving cases through St. John's Mission House charity account during last year.

ST. OSWALD'S, Trevallyn, is making steady progress. The committee promise further financial help for a second Curate. The Sunday School workers are organising a bazaar to be held at Easter time to provide funds for a kindergarten room for the little tots of the Sunday School.

AT ST. AIDAN'S there is a marked improvement in the attendance at the services, and now that the Rev. T. Smith is resident near the church still further progress should soon be recorded in this rapidly growing part of the parish, east of Lyttleton Street. The fine School Hall built last year is greatly admired.



"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)

VOL. I., No. 1.

FEBRUARY, 1920.

GRATIS

Clergy.

Rev. Cassian Crotty, B.D., The Rectory,
St. John Street.
Rev. Thomas Smith, B.A., Abbott 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, second 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 Vicar 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 Verger, 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.

A Letter from the Rector.

Dear Parishioners,—

May I take this opportunity of giving you this personal message, as it is impossible to meet you all and speak to you face to face. First of all, I want to thank you for the welcome that Mrs. Crotty and I have already received in the parish, and for the help that I have received from many church workers. I would particularly like to mention my debt to the Rev. C. G. Wilkinson, M.A., for his ever-ready courtesy, sympathy, advice, and practical help since I arrived here. Next I would like you to exercise patience with me in the many difficulties of this parish. The church, like other institutions, has suffered through the years of war, and soon after the war the influenza epidemic hindered and hampered church work and worship. The parish has not had an adequate clerical staff for nearly three years. No man can do three men's work, and the work of this parish can only be done by at least three hard-working, capable clergymen. It will take some considerable time to make up the arrears of pastoral work, so I ask your patience towards me and my colleague, the Rev. T. Smith, who has just commenced work here. Give us time and give us help, and we will do our best. We need more lay workers, too. It is not good that the work of a parish should be in the hands of a few. Work should be distributed and responsibility should be distributed among as many capable persons as possible. The Rector is responsible for the work of the whole parish, and is the ultimate authority in the parish for every department of church work, but delegates some of his responsibility and authority to certain chosen representatives in different departments of church work. I desire to make as few changes as possible. Any changes made will not be made for the sake of change, but in the interests of greater efficiency. If I think any persons or methods are wrong, I shall not hesitate to say so. I ask you to trust me and follow my lead. Our common work must have as its object the glory of God and the building up of the church, as His means for the edification of the people. We shall need to pray more and to work more. Prayer and work must go hand in hand.

The duty of public worship needs emphasizing. I have been disappointed at the congregations on Sunday mornings. It is evident that a great number of St. John's parishioners do not realise as they should the duty of public worship, the duty of public recognition of God on His Day, the duty of showing a good example to others, and the duty of educating their moral and spiritual nature by common worship in our Heavenly Father's House. Most earnestly and cordially I invite all parishioners to come regularly to the public worship of God on the Lord's Day.

Commending you to God's loving care.

Your friend and pastor,

F. E. C. CROTTY.

News and Notes.

THE REV. T. SMITH, B.A., has just commenced work as Assistant Curate in the parish. He is living in Abbott Street, and will have St. Aidan's under his particular care. He comes to us from the same English University, and with the same degree as the Bishop of this Diocese, and with a varied experience of church work in Manchester and other English parishes, and has been for a considerable time Acting Rector at Hagley. May his ministry among us be richly blessed, and may he and his wife and family be with us for a long time.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS was held on 28th January in St. John's Hall, and the attendance was greater than has been noted for several years past. Some of the ladies of the parish provided light refreshments at the conclusion of the business, and this helped to make the gathering more sociable. The three trusted wardens of last year are still in office, Mr. Lawrence Green being nominated by the Rector, and Messrs. E. A. Gee and F. Lester being elected by the parishioners. The meeting recommended that the construction of the church organ be proceeded with up to the four manual standard, and that the organist's console be placed on the floor of the chancel. This will mean an expenditure of about £1,000 more, but, as the Rector pointed out at the meeting, Mr.

Hopkins alone is giving more than that himself in his time and talent and labour in the work of building the organ. We are only paying for the actual materials used and whatever other out-of-pocket expenses Mr. Hopkins incurs.

A THANKSGIVING FOR PEACE AND VICTORY AND A MEMORIAL of those men of the parish who made the supreme sacrifice in the great war should be found in our church, and no sacrifice should be too great to make for such an object. The completed organ would be a worthy memorial. The Rector suggests that certain parts of the organ should be given in memory of those who have fallen by those of their friends or relations who may care to do so, and that a brass tablet should be placed on the wall of the church near the organ containing the names of all parishioners who have fallen in the war.

THE SOLEMN SEASON OF LENT is once more at hand, when we are reminded of our Lord's real humanity, His self-denying life, His fasting and temptation, His suffering of body, mind, and spirit, culminating in His sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary.

ASH WEDNESDAY, 18th February, is the first day of Lent, and we are invited by our church during Lent to draw near in heart and mind to our blessed Lord, in private prayer and public worship, in study of God's Word, in devout reception of the Sacrament, that we may learn from the Master how to live and how to die. All Lent leads up to GOOD FRIDAY, when we are brought face to face with the Cross of Christ, the symbol of the Love of God.

THE THREE HOURS' SERVICE will be conducted in St. John's on Good Friday from 12 till 3. Full particulars will be given in our next number.

STAINER'S "CRUCIFIXION" will be rendered on Good Friday evening at St. John's by our choir.

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR is still in need of more volunteers who are ready to take their part in the honourable work of leading the praises of the congregation.

ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL needs many more teachers to take the place of those who have left the parish, or who have dropped out of the work for various reasons. Mr. Robinson has kindly undertaken to carry on the work of Superintendent until a permanent appointment is made.

THE KINDERGARTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL is fully staffed and well conducted, and the Rector hopes that it will not be very long before the rest of our Sunday School is up to the same level of efficiency.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA (Sir Francis Newdegate) attended the morning service at St. John's on Sunday, 1st February. More of our churchmen should follow the good example of church-going set by the Governor, who himself is following the good example of the King.

THIS PAPER is meant as a monthly message from the Rector to the parishioners to keep in touch with them as to the work and worship of the church. He wishes it to be distributed to every Church of England family in the parish. No charge is made for the paper, but the cost of printing is heavy, and if each parishioner who appreciates it would give a shilling a year this would pay for the printing, and thus free the wardens of anxiety on this score. Donations will be acknowledged in our next number. Mr. Castley is Hon. Sec.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to distribute these papers monthly, to get complete lists of Church of England people in the parish, to report each month those who have moved to and from each street, those who are sick, etc. The Rector is anxious to get a complete record of the parishioners as soon as possible, and cannot get it without such help.

DURING LENT special courses of sermons will be preached by the clergy; those by the Rector will be a series of character studies on some of those persons whom the Gospels tell us were closely identified with our blessed Lord's Cross and Passion—St. Peter, Judas Iscariot, Pontius Pilate, and others.