

which the Bishop presided, and promised his sympathetic support to the great work of this society. The Rector of St. John's was appointed Northern Secretary, in the place of the Rev. H. N. Baker, M.A. We want more members of the C.M.S. in Launceston, and in Tasmania generally. A list of members will be published in the next number of this paper. The Rev. S. Denehar, B.A., Secretary of the C.M.S. for Victoria, has promised to preach in this parish as soon as he possibly can.

FOR THE CHURCH DEBT we have received by means of the Lenten self-denial boxes the sum of £44 17s. 2d. to date of printing this paper, and more boxes are expected, the contents of which will be acknowledged in our next number.

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL CHURCH FAIR will be held in St. John's Parish Hall on Wednesday, 9th June. Further particulars will be found in our next issue.

THE MISSIONARY BOXES in connection with the Women's Auxiliary of the Australian Board of Missions brought in £6 12s. this Lent. Miss E. Murray is Hon. Secretary for this parish.

DONATIONS TO "PARISH MESSENGER."

Mr. Castley acknowledges with thanks the following amounts.—Mrs. Hepworth, 1s.; "Anon," 7s. 6d.; Mrs. Towns, 1s.; Mrs. Graylor, 1s.; Mrs. White, 1s.; Mrs. Clayton, 1s.; Mrs. Donnelly, 1s.; Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Cleaver, £1; Mrs. H. A. Johnson, 1s.; Mrs. Jaeger, 2s.; Mrs. Sheldrick, 1s.; per Mrs. Swift, 1s.; Mrs. Godfrey, 2s. Total received for month, £2 os. 6d.; cost of printing "Messenger" for month, £3 15s. The ladies distributing this paper will gladly receive donations towards cost of printing.

The Operetta

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD"

Will be produced at

ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL

On

TUESDAY, 11th MAY, AT 8 P.M.,

In aid of

ST. AIDAN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING FUND.

Admission, 1s. Children, 6d.

PRAYER.

I cannot tell why there should come to me
A thought of someone, miles and miles away,
To swift insistence on the memory,
Unless there be a need that I should pray.

He goes his way, I mine, we seldom meet
To talk of plans, or changes, day by day,
Of pain or pleasure, triumph, or defeat,
Or special reasons why 'tis time to pray.

We are too busy even to spare thought
For days together, of some friends away;
Perhaps God does it for us, and we ought
To read His signal as a call to pray.

Perhaps just then my friend has fiercest fight,
A more appalling weakness, or decay
Of courage—darkness—some less sense of right,
And so in case he needs my prayer, I pray.

Friend, do the same for me if I intrude
Unasked upon you on some busy day;
Give me a moment's prayer, as interlude,
Be very sure I need it, therefore pray.
—M. Farningham.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO-DAY?

We shall do much in the years to come,
But what have we built to-day?
We shall give our gold in a princely sum,
But what did we give to-day?
We shall lift the heart and dry the tear,
We shall plant a hope in the place of fear,
We shall speak the words of love and cheer,
But what did we speak to-day?

We shall reap such joys in the by-and-bye,
But what have we sown to-day?
We shall build us mansions in the sky,
But what have we built to-day?
But here and now, do we our task?
'Tis sweet in idle dreams to bask,
Yes, this is the thing our souls must ask,
What have we done to-day?



"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. 4.

MAY, 1920.

GRATIS

Clergy.

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

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

Organist and Choirmaster

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

Verger.

Mr. Tacey, Verger's 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 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.

News and Notes.

ASCENSION DAY, Thursday, 13th May, is one of the great festival days of our church. It has been called the Coronation Day of the King of Kings. There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at St. John's on Ascension Day at 7.30 a.m. and 10 a.m., and choral evensong and address at 7.30 p.m. Don't forget this Holy Day. Come to one of these services.

THE EARLY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION on Saints' Days and Holy Days are attended by very few. Perhaps people have not so much time as used to be the case; perhaps there is not so much devotion as formerly. But, although there are many who cannot attend services on week days, still there should be many more communicants at the early services on Sundays. The attendances at these services are not what they should be. Some who are unable to come to service at 11 o'clock could come to an early service. In the early church a Sunday without the Eucharist was unknown, and Christians did not feel that they had observed the Lord's Day properly unless they had been to the Lord's service to commemorate His meritorious Cross and Passion, His glorious Resurrection and Ascension, to thank God for His gifts, and to intercede with Him, as well as to receive the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation in the Holy Sacrament.

ALL YOUNG COMMUNICANTS should make a special effort to begin Sunday well by coming to the Table of the Lord and obey His command: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

THE BISHOP OF TASMANIA has left for England to attend the great conference of Bishops from all over the world, which will shortly meet at London. Matters of the greatest importance will be discussed by the Bishops, and it would be a great loss to our Bishop and to this diocese if he were absent. A collection was hurriedly made to provide for the Bishop's travelling expenses in connection with his visit to England, but very little has been received from this parish; a personal canvas has not been made, but the churchwardens or the Rector would gladly receive any donations that may be sent to them.

THE GENERAL CHURCH FUND COLLECTIONS on Sunday, 18th April, amounted to a total of £44 for the parish. At one time St. John's used to give a lot more than this.

AT ST. AIDAN'S the Sunday School children are preparing for a cantata, "Little Red Riding Hood," to be given at St. Aidan's Schoolroom on 28th and 29th April in aid of their Sunday School Building Fund, and is sure to be a great success. The cantata will also be rendered in St. John's Parish Hall on 11th May, when it is hoped there will be a good attendance.

ST. OSWALD'S Sunday School workers and congregation are to be heartily congratulated on the marked success of the fair held on Saturday, 17th April, to provide funds for a Sunday School kindergarten. The fair was opened by the Rector, who also called on the Rev. T. Smith and Mr. C. Rosevear to speak. The proceeds amounted to about £33. On a recent Sunday afternoon the Rector spoke to the children of St. Oswald's Sunday School; he also introduced the new Superintendent (Mr. C. Rosevear), and hoped that his work would be greatly blessed.

AT ST. JOHN'S MISSION HALL the Boys' Club is now in full swing every Tuesday evening under the direction of Mr. F. Cleaver, assisted by Mr. Potter. Visiting there recently, the Rector found 43 boys spending a pleasant evening at various kinds of amusements and exercises. On the same evening at St. John's Parish 26 members of our boys' Gymnastic Club were going through their exercises under the direction of Mr. Ricketts. Miss Richardson reports improved attendances at the Sunday evening mission services at the Mission Hall.

THE DIOCESAN SYNOD should have been held this year at Launceston, but, as it was the Bishop's first year as President of the Synod, place was given to Hobart. It is our turn next year, and we shall look forward to having Synod here. The Synod was not exciting, but some useful work was done, among which was the allocation of £4,000 received as compensation for St. David's Burial Ground; £2,000 of this was added to Archdeacon Beresford's fund to make the total £10,000, thus liberating some £550 a year interest to help those country clergy who are receiving very small stipends. Several speakers expressed appreciation at the Archdeacon's work in connection with this fund. Two thousand pounds was voted to a fund to provide adequate educational facilities for the training of candidates for Holy Orders. It is hoped to provide a residential college in connection with the University, so that the clergy may be better equipped for their increasingly difficult work.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE was one of the big subjects debated at the Synod. It is one of the biggest problems we have to face. We should know that the Christian Sunday is not the Jewish Sabbath, but the Lord's Day, the day on which our Lord rose from the dead, on the first Easter Day. We should know that it is not a day of gloom and sadness, but a day of joy and gladness. But we must keep it as a HOLY day, a solemn, sacred day, and not allow it to become a mere holiday. This is a real danger. Sunday is not merely a day of rest and recreation, but a day of worship, and every Christian should consider it his or her duty to be present at public worship in the Lord's House on the Lord's Day. The question of Sunday amusements must be decided by our conscience, enlightened by the teaching of the Bible and the church, with due regard for the feelings and needs of others. A person may see no harm in doing certain things on a Sunday, yet such action may cause offence or scandal to our neighbours, and good breeding as well as Christian charity should guide us in this matter, as in others.

WHITSUNDAY, 23rd MAY, is the Festival of the Holy Spirit, and is often spoken of as the birthday of the Holy Catholic Church, of which the historic Church of England is a part. This festival reminds us of the reality of the spiritual in life, of its supreme importance, and of the continual work of the Holy Spirit of God in the lives of people. The Holy Spirit is called in the Nicene Creed the Lord, and the Giver of Life. His great work is to strengthen our spiritual life, to teach us, to guide us into the way of truth and life. The Holy Spirit works in many ways; He works by means of Scripture and Sacraments. In Confirmation we receive the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit of God to strengthen us in our daily life, to help us to be better Christians.

A CONFIRMATION SERVICE will be held at St. John's early in November, and due notice of the preparation classes will be given. As no parish Confirmation was held at St. John's last year, there should be a large number of candidates.

TRINITY SUNDAY, 30th May, is the day on which we specially think of that great mystery of our faith, the Trinity in Unity—

"Three Persons praise we evermore,
One only God our hearts adore;
In Thy sure mercy ever kind
May we our true protection find."

AN ALMS BAG for offerings from St. John's Choir has been made and presented by Miss W. Bryers, and for her kind gift we are grateful.

ST. JOHN'S ORGAN is steadily growing, thanks to Mr. Hopkins and the subscribers to the Organ Fund. Every week sees some addition to the marvellous mechanism, thereby increasing the efficiency of the instrument. A condition attached to Mr. Richard Green's generous gift of £100 to the Organ Fund last month was that the churchwardens should give Mr. Hopkins an honorarium of £50 as some recognition of his valued services in giving us his time and talent in this great work, and charging us only for the cost of materials and other out-of-pocket expenses. This cheque has been paid, and parishioners will be glad to know of this appreciation of Mr. Hopkins' devoted labours.

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS contribute greatly to the beauty of our churches, and we are deeply grateful to those who provide flowers for our churches, and to those who arrange them so tastefully.

THE ANZAC COMMEMORATION SERVICES on Sunday, 25th April (St. Mark's Day), were very well attended, and the collections for the day at St. John's amounted to £17. The Rev. J. W. Bethune preached at 11, Rev. T. Smith at 3, and the Rector at 7. In the course of his sermon the Rector said that he had looked in vain for a memorial of our brave soldiers in St. John's, and wondered how long it would be before a worthy memorial were placed there. Anzac Day, he said, should be a sacred day, on account of the sacrifice of our best, and on account of those who would never return, and of those who were bereaved of their loved ones. To celebrate the day by means of a holiday, with races and sports and dances was like dancing over a grave.

THE MOTHERS' UNION will meet on 27th May, when the Rev. E. G. Muschamp, M.A., Rector of Longford, lately Chaplain to the Forces, will give an address on "Work in a Casualty Station in France." At the last meeting Mrs. Crotty gave an address on "The Power of Womanhood," when about 60 members were present.

SOME MORE NEW TEACHERS in the Sunday School are the Misses Isabel Lewis, Thelma Rowell, and Jean West. Mr. Potter is now Hon. Secretary. We need some men teachers for boys' classes. Who will volunteer? On a recent Sunday afternoon there were 110 children in the Kindergarten Room. Some of these could be moved on if there were more teachers in the next division. "Feed My Lambs."

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY held a meeting during Synod week at Hobart, at