

C.E.M.S.

Our branch is making very encouraging headway, regular meetings being held with splendid attendances. The members were responsible for the supper arrangements at the recent after-Church gathering in the Kindergarten Hall, both setting out and serving being done in quite professional manner.

Our men are providing a long-felt want in building a kitchen adjoining the Kindergarten, and so obviate the inconvenience of climbing the steps to the old kitchen. An electric urn is being provided and many of our parochial societies will feel the benefit of this forward move.

G.F.S.

The members of our St. John's branch are busy working for their annual fair in October. The chief object of this effort is to build up their carpet fund so as to continue further portions of the present excellent carpet in the aisles of the church.

Young People's Fellowship

This is a gathering of the young people of St. John's for tea on the third Sunday in the month, at 5 p.m. Its chief object is to foster friendship between our young folks under the Church's banner. A committee arranges the tea, charging only sixpence to those present. Numbers are steadily growing and a warm welcome awaits any young man or young woman who cares to come.

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Those whom God hath joined together."

Nigel Ralph Stazey and Betty Valentine Likeman.
Gordon Barnard Smith and Delma Joan Fellows.
Donald Gordon Evans and Margaret Jean Breen.
Keith Angus Campbell and Shirley Margaret Stone.
Jack Russell and Norma Joan Blockley.

HOLY BAPTISMS

"Suffer little children to come unto Me."

Royden Lake Edwards
Graham Charles Slater
Michael Wilmot Pearl
Neil Maxwell Walker
Rex Robinson
Gregory Craig Pollard
Dennis John Daniel

Sally Elizabeth Parkinson
Gary William Thwaites
John Martin Gray
John Edwin Tole
Jennifer Ann Morrison
Robert James Haas

The Rector would be glad to receive subscriptions towards the cost of the publication of this paper.

Thanks to Mrs. Alexander, 2/-; Mr. W. J. Young, 2/-; Mrs. P. O. Fysh, 2/-; Maunday Thursday Holy Communion, £1/10/3; Mrs. Alexander, 2/-; Mrs. Alexander, 2/-; Mrs. Alexander, 2/-; Church boxes, £2.

St. John's Parish Messenger

JULY and AUGUST, 1947.

A Message from the Mother Church of Launceston

St. John's Church was opened 1825, but our records go back to 1811.



Rector:
Rev. Canon
W. GREENWOOD.
Rectorcy: 157 St. John St.,
Launceston. Phone 525

Mission Worker:
Miss I. OATES,
103 Canning St.

Organist:
Mr. A. R. GEE, F.I.G.C.M.,
6 Elizabeth St. Phone 1670

Vergier:
Mr. E. J. LEHNER,
Church Cottage,
39 Elizabeth Street.

Foreign Missionaries:
St. John's—
Groote Eylandt,
Gulf of Carpentaria.
Depot—
Miss F. GARRARD, C.M.S.,
Kako, via Masaka, Uganda.

Hon. Lay Readers:
Messrs. A. THOLLAR, H
F. PRIESTLY, A. R.
PROWSE, C. VINEY and
J. RADFORD.

St. John's Hostel:
Matron:
Miss MALLINSON
For middle-aged and
elderly people.
Tariff: £2 per week up

Churchwardens:
Rector's Warden:
Mr. A. A. CASTLEY.

People's Wardens:
Messrs. H. BROWNRIFF
and F. JONES.

Hon. Treasurer:
Mr. F. CARNIE.

Vestry:
Messrs. F. CARNIE, L.
CATO, A. HOLLINGS-
WORTH, A. THOLLAR,
L. LAKIN and F. COOK-
MAN, with the Church-
wardens.

APPOINTMENTS

SUNDAY SERVICES, 8, 11 and 7—Sunday School, 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Holy Communion, 8 a.m. (every Sunday), 10 a.m. (second Sunday), 11 a.m. (first and third Sunday), also Saints' Days at 10.15 a.m. and Wednesdays, 10.15 a.m., also 5th Sunday at 8.15 p.m.

TUESDAYS—G.F.S., 6 p.m. (first). M.S.L., 7.30 p.m. (third).

WEDNESDAYS—M.M.A. (first), 2.45 p.m. Baptisms every Wednesday, 11 a.m.

THURSDAYS—Intercession, 7.30 p.m. Choir Practice, 8 p.m. Missionary Band, 4.15 p.m. Fourth Thursday, Mothers' Union, 2.45 p.m.

SCOUTS, CUBS, GUIDES and BROWNIES meet weekly.

ST. OSWALD'S, TREVALLYN—Holy Communion, 1st Sunday, 9.30 a.m. Evening Prayer, other Sundays, at 7 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S MISSION, CANNING STREET—Service every Sunday, 7 p.m. M.U., Thurs., 2.45 p.m.

CORMISTON—First Sunday in each Month, 3 p.m.

A CORDIAL INVITATION is hereby given to ALL to Attend our Services. YOU will be Welcomed, Shown to a Seat, and, if necessary, provided with Books.

Rector's Notes

Dear Friends,

Let me first of all say how glad I am to be amongst you all once more after my sick-leave. I want to also express my sincere appreciation of the many tokens of your goodwill that I received. Ours is a parish with a happy and loyal spirit and I have always felt it a privilege to minister in it.

I was very glad that my locum-tenens, the Rev. K. Kay, was able to share in that wonderful gathering in the School Hall after the Sunday night service. It was a cheering welcome to me and a fine tribute to Mr. Kay's good work.

Above all, I appreciated the many prayers offered for me and in St. Paul's words, say, "Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ."

We have had many distinguished men preaching in our magnificent church, and amongst these will be reckoned Bishop Song, of West Szechwan, China. He was a delightful personality and I wish space was available to tell you of the interesting conversations we had whilst he was a guest at the Rectory. But one little incident I shall always remember him by: when leaving the Rectory for Evensong I asked him not to forget his robes. He said he had them with him and pointed to a coloured handkerchief in which were the usual robes of office tied up within. Bishops are important people and, rightly, dress accordingly, but my democratic heart rejoiced to meet one who slipped into St. John's Church carrying his episcopal robes in this humble fashion.

I was glad to read in the press that another of our St. John's lads had been decorated. Jack French was awarded the Air Force Cross for devoted service. Congratulations to both Jack and his family.

Our St. John's branch of the C.M.S. Missionary Service League celebrates this year its twenty-fifth anniversary. Its members hope to commemorate this by a special missionary demonstration on Saturday, August 30, at 2.45 p.m.

Speaking of missionary matters reminds me that the annual meeting of the Tasmanian branch of the Church Missionary Society is to be held in St. John's Kindergarten Hall at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 13th August. It is hoped to screen a sound-film on C.M.S. work during the evening. This annual meeting alternates between Hobart and Launceston. This year it is our turn to act as hosts.

The annual Musical Market, organised by our St. John's branch of the Mothers' Union held on 28th May was most successful, about £40 being taken. This yearly effort by our Mothers'

Union members is largely in aid of the upkeep of the St. John's cot at the Babies' Home, Hobart, an institution run by the Church of England and one deserving of all support.

It is not often that a Rector is able to join in worship in other than his own Church, but my recent sick-leave enabled me to visit churches in other parts of the diocese. This experience taught me something of the difficulties and apathy that many of our clergy have to face. Some in desperation are tempted to use unconventional methods to attract congregations. Personally, I do not think such will achieve permanent results. The Gospel is still the "Power of God unto Salvation" and the only message that can save men and women. The Church's greatest need is "Personal Evangelism." That is, contacting the sinner with the Saviour. Social life in a parish is important and necessary, but must come secondarily to our spiritual needs.

Whilst we have much to be grateful for in the numbers that attend St. John's, we have need to touch many more. We must seek with unflagging zeal and persistence those who seem untouched by the Church's ministrations. We have much to aid us in this task—a magnificent church, a large and devoted choir, an organ unequalled in the Island, and a great tradition. But it is the personal witness and effort that can achieve best results. This is a task that the laity must share with the clergy.

There are two things that I want to emphasise in this connection. The first is our 8 o'clock Communion. It is a great temptation these dark and cold mornings to miss this service, but I hope our young people especially will make an effort to share in our worship at that hour. The other is that I would greatly appreciate if our people would sit in the pews at the front of the church rather than the back ones. It is largely a habit and if some would make a practice of sitting more forward, others would soon follow suit. Ours is an exceptionally large church and purposely built, not for the seating of an ordinary congregation, but to hold great crowds on national and other such occasions. I am sure that these matters have only to be mentioned to have your loyal support.

Our annual meeting will be held towards the end of July; the exact date has not yet been fixed, but will be announced in due course. This gathering with its financial statements and reports of parochial organisations always serves to remind us of the wonderful efforts that our people are making in the Master's Cause. We have much to encourage us, and much yet to achieve. But the battle is the Lord's and our cause must prevail. God bless you all for your loyalty and co-operation.

W. GREENWOOD, Rector.