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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

No. 59.

APRIL, 1955

Rector: Ven. Archdeacon L. N. SUTTON, M.A. (Oxon), The Rectory,

157 St. John St., Launceston. Phone 525.

Assistant Priest: Rev. A. Maddick, B.A., Dip.Ed.
102a High Street, Launceston.**SUNDAY SERVICES**

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11 a.m.—Morning Prayer, with Holy Communion on First and Third Sundays

7 p.m.—Evening Prayer, with Holy Communion on Fifth Sunday.

St. John's Sunday School, 9.45 a.m.

Wednesday, 10.15 a.m., Holy Communion.

Saints' Days and Holy Days, as announced.

Holy Baptism (by arrangement before hand).—Sundays at 3 p.m. (except
first Sunday in month).

Marriages and Burials by arrangement with the Clergy.

LAY OFFICERSChurchwardens: Messrs. H. B. Brownrigg, F. J. Jones, and F. H. Cookman
(Hon. Secretary).Vestry: Messrs Frank Ikin (Hon. Treasurer), M. L. Cox, F. R.
Dowse, M.B.E., L. Denham, M. M. Fasther and R. W. J. Hart.

Hon. Lay Reader: Mr. A. G. Hart.

Sunday School Superintendents: Miss E. Kingsmill and Miss E. J. E. Kiddle.
Organist and Choirmaster: Mr. Lindsay O'Neill, 143 Elphin Road, E. L'ton.**RECTOR'S LETTER**

My Dear Friends,

The Lenten season this year will be remembered by many of us as the time of the "Mission to Launceston" led by the Revd. Alan Walker. His addresses gave us the challenge of our Christian faith in these mid-years of the twentieth century. For Church members there was little that was new in his presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but his illustrations and vivid narration will, I hope, send us back to our Bible and Prayer Book to read what has always been there, with new understanding. The very encouraging attendances at the meetings and services held in connection with the Mission will make us realise that there is a much greater interest in religion than is generally acknowledged in this materialistic age.

Two of the great problems which have perplexed men and women in every age are those of Sin and Death. Our Christian Faith faces these facts of human experience, and so on Good Friday and Easter Day teaches us God's answers to them. In addition to the wide-spread suffering which it brings with it, Sin separates us from God. By His death on the cross Jesus Christ made reconciliation possible for us. That which we could not gain by our own efforts and merits He freely gave to us. By faith in Him we appropriate to ourselves the Salvation which the Cross stands for. By His Resurrection on Easter morning our Lord taught us that the inevitable experience of death which awaits each of us, is but a passing from this world to another. Of the conditions of life in that future world Jesus told us little. I don't think we would be able to understand things so far outside our own limited human experience. It is for us to trust Him, learning by our faith that the spiritual experiences which enrich our lives here are but the shadows of Eternal Realities which await us when we enter into the Nearer Presence of God. May we by our devotions and worship during this Passiontide and Easter, deepen our spiritual understanding and reconsecrate our lives to God's service.

At the last annual meeting of the parish it was decided to recommend to the Vestry the introduction of Weekly Free-Will Offering envelope system of Church finance. After careful consideration of the scheme it has been decided to begin it from the beginning of April. Those whose names are on the Parish Roll will have already received a letter giving full details of how it works and asking them to join it. It has been most successful, in many parishes, and we hope it will be well supported at St. John's. Church officers will be glad to give full particulars.

With all good wishes,
Yours Sincerely,

LEONARD N. SUTTON.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER Special Services

Holy communion will be celebrated on Wednesday at 7 a.m. and 10.15 a.m. and on Thursday at 8 p.m. On Tuesday evening at 7.30 p.m. there will be a Devotional Service with an address by the Rev. A. V. Maddick.

GOOD FRIDAY

8 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion.
10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer.
12 noon to 3 p.m. At HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, Cameron Street. Devotions on "Seven Words from the Cross." Rev. E. C. Rowland.
7.30 p.m. At St. Johns. UNITED SERVICE. Address: Rev. R. H. Dean, Headmaster of Scotch College.

EASTER DAY

7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.45 a.m. Junior Church Service.
10.45 a.m. Matins and Holy Communion.
7 p.m. Evensong.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Launceston branch of the World Council of Churches will hold the annual meeting on Monday, 4th April at 8 p.m. in the Paterson St., Methodist School Room. The Annual Report and Financial Statement will be presented and officers elected for the coming twelve months. All members and friends invited.

ST. JOHN'S BADMINTON CLUB

The annual meeting was held on Tuesday, 29th March. Officers elected were: President, Archdeacon Sutton; Secretary: Miss D. Shott; Treasurer: Mr. A. Duncan; Captain: Mr. J. Wilshire; Vice Captain: G. Anderson. Intending members should contact one of the above officers.

Opening night will be Wednesday, 13th April in St. John's Hall. Members of our church, especially young people, are cordially invited to join. Associate membership is open to members of other churches. The club meets every Wednesday night for play.

MISSIONARY SERVICE LEAGUE

The next meeting of the Missionary Service League will be held in the C.M.S. Meeting Room, upstairs at 92 St. John St. above the C.M.S. Tea Rooms, on Tuesday, 19th April, at 7.30 p.m. When the M.S.L. began some thirty years ago it always had its meetings at the C.M.S. Depot. Now that we have such a fine new building it has been suggested that we should follow the old custom and hold our meetings in a central place where M.S.L. members from all Launceston parishes can gather in fellowship, prayer and service. We hope that this change of plan will

result in many new members joining.

ST. JOHN'S LADIES' GUILD

At the meeting held last month for the purpose it was decided to form a Women's Guild in the parish.

The first regular meeting of the newly formed "St. John's Ladies' Guild" will be held at the home of Mrs. R. H. Watson, 11 Gloucester St., at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday, 14th April, and thereafter on the SECOND THURSDAY each month. Ladies of the parish are invited to support this new organisation and their attendance at these meetings will be appreciated.

W. Targett, Secretary
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Now that we have become used to secular education let us take stock of the source from whence these privileges arose and look back to the first printing press, and the first book to be printed, the Bible. Surely it is of little use to train the young to read and write and then to deny the training in the Scriptures. To neglect the worship of God, no matter how high a grade secular education has reached is surely poor education. It is always a joy as on Sunday last to see a wise parent bringing his little child to Sunday School and waiting to take him home afterwards.

E. Kingsmill

NEWS IN BRIEF

"Parish Messenger" Donations: Mrs. G. M. Galloway, 10/-; "Senex," 5/-; Miss B. Weymouth, 4/-; Mrs. C. Higgs, 2/-; Mrs. Leach, 2/-; Miss F. Stebbing, 8/-; Mr. L. O'Neill, £1.

Missionary Boxes: As a result of the opening of missionary boxes last month £34/9/6 was received for the Church Missionary Society.

Synod Representatives for this parish nominated last month were Mr. F. R. Dowse and Mr. W. H. Verrall. They will hold office for three years and in the event of a vacancy in the parish they will be members of the Council of Patronage called to elect a rector.

Private Easter Communion: The Rector would like to know early of sick and aged parishioners desiring celebrations of Holy Communion in their homes.

Easter Decorations: Gifts of flowers will be gratefully received at the church on Saturday, Easter Eve.

Broadcast Service: On Sunday 24th April, at 11 a.m. the service from St. John's Church will be broadcast by the A.B.C. in Tasmania.

Listen-in! The "Community Hymn Singing" on Easter Day at 6.30 p.m. will be from St. John's Church. This weekly broadcast over the National network by the A.B.C. will be heard in many parts of Australia. Plans are being made to link up this broadcast with the amplifying system in our church so that it can be heard by our own congregation before the 7 o'clock service begins. The recording was made on Sunday evening 13th March with most satisfactory results. Don't forget to listen-in on Easter Day from 6.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Mother's Union: The first meeting for St. John's M.U. will be held on Thursday 28th April at 2.45 p.m. There will be a service in the church followed by the usual meeting in the Kindergarten Hall.

Harvest Festival: Our annual Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, 1st May. Donations of fruit, vegetables produce and groceries will be received at the church on Saturday morning. There will be a special children's service at 10 a.m. when each child of the Sunday school will bring a piece of fruit or vegetable.

HOLY BAPTISM

Michael Wayne Worker, Dianne Ellen Brown, Heather Maree Ferrall, Glenda Mary Smith, William George Fraser, Gaylene Jean Morrison, Sandra Louise Gray, Christian Robin Williams, Robert Charles McLeod, Ricky Albert Sutor, Vicki Lorraine Johnston, Peter Kim Johnston, Rodney Mervyn Johnston, Elizabeth Ann West, Geoffrey Clement Charles West

MARRIAGES

Trevor William Lynch and Margaret Lois Jack. Keith Alwyn Dale and Jill Dorothy Medcraft. Garry Keith Brazendale and Janice Pearce Cecil Maxwell Griffiths and Elizabeth Florence Marguerite McGovern. Arthur Ronald Rushby and Shirley Dawn Kearnes. Harry Kevan Waters and Beverley June Hardman. Malcolm Thomas Poole and Harlene Jean Hampton.

AT REST

Jeffrey Rex Atkins, Joshua Colgrave, Frank William Needham, John Webb, Charles James Searl, Dorothy Jean Rowbottom, Geoffrey Orr Fern Sealy, Thomas William Cunningham.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to those who have been bereaved.