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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

No. 60

MAY, 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. Easther 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—

This year the Services on Good Friday and Easter Day seem to have been even more inspiring than usual. Despite the absence of many parishioners at holiday homes our congregations were very encouraging, and I feel sure that all who attended were helped by their worship. We were especially glad to welcome to St. John's on Good Friday night, our brethren from other churches. Rev. R. H. Dean, of Scotch College, preached to a full church, and we are grateful to him for his inspiring message. We were also glad to have with us over the Easter Week-end a party of young people from the Victorian Church of England Fellowship, with whom our own young people had outings and meetings.

The broadcast of our Easter Hymns in the radio session "Community Hymn Singing" was well received. I have received many comments from those who listened-in and a number of former parishioners and friends from Sydney and Melbourne wrote in terms of appreciation. I am grateful to Mr. L. O'Neil and Mr. Ron Fowell for their help.

Last month I was elected the president of the Launceston branch of the Tasmanian Council of Churches which is the regional committee of the World Council of Churches. I feel that it is unfortunate that this organisation has such a long title but it simply indicates the channel accepted by practically all denominations for co-operative work and witness on local and world levels. I greatly value the privilege of taking part in such united services as Anzac Day Commemoration and Empire Youth Sunday Service.

On Thursday, 28th April, we were glad to welcome to St. John's members of the staffs of Launceston Banks. A short service held at 5 p.m. was attended by over 200. The service was arranged by The Bankers' Institute of Australasia. Similar services were held in all capital cities and provincial centres throughout the Commonwealth.

May I commend to your notice the paragraph on another page concerning the Weekly Free-will Offerings scheme. The vestry is very encouraged by the number who have already joined. Many have not yet been approached, and we hope that when the scheme is more widely launched the majority of parishioners will become members.

The Churchwardens would like to express their thanks for the generous response to the annual Easter Appeal.

Ascension Day falls on Thursday, 19th May. It is the day when we remember especially our Lord's last charge to his disciples that they should be witnesses to Him throughout the world. May we ask Him to make us more faithful witnesses both at home and in other lands. Only so will His Kingdom of Peace be spread abroad.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

LEONARD N. SUTTON.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

An African Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Central Tanganyika will be among four African priests consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury at St. Paul's Cathedral, Kampala, Uganda, on Sunday, 15th May. He is the Revd. Yohana Omari, who was ordained by Bishop Chambers in 1938. After serving in many parts of the diocese he was appointed to Dodoma Cathedral last year. He brings many gifts to his new work. Apart from a working knowledge of English, he is fluent in the seven African languages, which will enable him to minister to people in all parts of the diocese. He is an able evangelist, a good convention speaker and a faithful pastor. His years of faithful pioneer missionary work in difficult conditions have helped to fit him for leadership. This appointment is a further indication of the policy being practised by C.M.S. to increase African leadership and set forward the whole plan of the growing indigenous Church.

To mark the importance of the occasion an interchange of pulpits has been arranged. The Revd. Keith

Kay, Rural Dean, will preach at St. John's and the Rector will go to St. Aidan's for the evening service on Sunday, 15th May. As the following Thursday is Ascension Day a special Missionary Service will be held in St. John's that evening at 7.30, when intercessions will be made for the new Bishops and their dioceses. After the service Missionary films will be shown in the Hall and light supper served. A special appeal for the funds of C.M.S. is being made during May and June. Owing to the annual "Summer School" being held this year in mid-October instead of in the current financial year there is an urgent need to increase our funds in order to meet our missionary quota.

FREE-WILL OFFERING SCHEME

A good many people have accepted the invitation to join the Weekly Free-will Offering Scheme and its introduction has obviously been worthwhile. Already over £400 per year has been promised, mostly in quite small weekly amounts, for it is surprising how small amounts add up if given with regularity.

If you are among those who have received a letter but have not yet completed your promise slip, will you please do so NOW, as soon as you have read these notes. If you have not yet received particulars of the scheme, will you kindly give your name and address either to the Rector or to Mr. L. Denham, the Hon. Secretary of St. John's W.F.O. Scheme.

ST. JOHN'S ORGAN

During the past month two improvements have been made to St. John's Organ. In the first place it has been enlarged by the addition of a new stop consisting of 61 pipes called a Clarabel Flute. This stop is of beautiful tone and is a most useful addition. It has been made possible by donations made to a fund for a memorial to the late Arthur R. Gee, who was our Organist for twenty-two years. To this amount was added a legacy left to St. John's by the late Miss Lucy May Hunt. The new stop will be dedicated by the Rector at the 11 o'clock service on Sunday, 15th May.

The second improvement was the installation of a new and more powerful electric motor for driving the fan which supplies the organ with air for the bellows. The old motor had been in service for 30 or more years and was losing power. The cost of the new motor was met by the Choir Fund.

Our organ is one of the glories of St. John's Church. It is probably the finest pipe organ in Tasmania and will always be associated with the memory of G. F. Hopkins, Esq., who was Organist of St. John's and also an organ builder—he constructed the greater part of the instrument himself. However, the action of the organ is a piece of mechanism which in time will begin to show signs of wear. The vestry is at present considering a report that indicates that maintenance work and repairs are needed almost at once if our beautiful instrument is to be kept in first-class order.

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GUILD

The next gathering of the St. John's Women's Guild will be held on Thursday, 12th of May, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. C. Targett, 17 Gloucester Street.

At our last meeting it was decided to work to raise money to assist in the building and equipping of the new kitchen to be built in the Parish Hall.

New members will be very welcome.

W. Targett, Sec.

MOTHERS' UNION

The first meeting of our branch for this year was held last month, when there was a good attendance of members.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 26th May, at 2.45 p.m. This will be annual business meeting, when the annual report and financial statement will be presented and the election of office-bearers for the next twelve months will take place. We ask all members to endeavour to be present.

It has been decided to hold our annual Musical Market in support of the Diocesan Children's Homes on Wednesday, 8th June. All parishioners and their friends are warmly invited to come and help us in this worthy cause.

It has been proposed that our June meeting will take the form of a discussion under the leadership of Mrs. Sutton.

ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our numbers are growing and the children are more punctual, which we feel is an indication of their interest and the helpful co-operation of parents. We hope more parents will accept our invitation to attend the Young Peoples' Church held on the second Sunday of each month at 9.45 a.m. The service is conducted by the young people themselves and it is always an encouragement to them and the teachers to have parents attending. The children's gifts of fruit and vegetables made quite a considerable addition to our Harvest Festival offerings. We are most grateful to parents for their interest and support. This year our Lenten Offerings for Missions amounted to ????? which is the largest amount for some years.

NEWS IN BRIEF

"Parish Messenger" Donations: Mr. A. A. Castley, 5/-; Mrs. F. J. Jones, 2/-; Mrs. E. Cunningham, 3/-; Mrs. W. Crawford, 4/-; Mr. Hollingsworth, 5/-; Mrs. E. J. Burley, 5/-; Church Boxes £1; "J.R.," 10/-.

Youth Club: The Annual Meeting of St. John's Youth Club will be held on Saturday, May 14, at 7.30 p.m. in the Kindergarten Hall. All members are asked to make a special effort to attend and new members will be welcome.

Youth Fellowship: As usual the monthly breakfast will take place after 8 o'clock Communion on the second Sunday, May 8th; and the Youth Fellowship Tea will be at 5 p.m. on the third Sunday, May 15th. Young people from St. Peter's will be our guests at the Tea, and there will be a discussion regarding the possibility of forming a branch of the Church of England Fellowship, a delightful group of whose members paid us a visit over the Easter week-end.

C.E.M.S.: The next meeting will be held on Sunday, 5th June, at 4.45 p.m., when there will be a visiting speaker. All men welcome.

Harvest Festival: Our thanks to all who gave donations for our Harvest Festival. These were taken to the Launceston Girls, Home, St. Giles's Home and St. Luke's Hospital.

Who was St. Giles? St. Giles was a high-born Athenian of holy life who lived towards the close of the 7th century. His festival falls on September 1st. In the middle ages he was regarded as the special patron of lepers, beggars and cripples.

C.E.B.S.: Over the last month our activities have included games, tumbling, instructive talks and a C.E.B.S. examination, in which Royce Bell came first with 79 marks out of 80. Early in May it is hoped that members will be in uniform.

Missionary Service League: Last month our meeting was held in C.M.S. House, St. John St., and was well attended by St. John's Parishioners. It is our objective to draw our members from all the Launceston parishes and towards this end it has been arranged to hold our next meeting on Tuesday, 17th May, at 7.30 p.m. in St. Aidan's Church Hall, on the corner of Arthur and Berean Streets. All parishioners are very welcome. Supper will be served.

Adult Confirmation: A confirmation service for adults will be held in Launceston about 2nd June. The Rector will gladly give full information and arrange instruction.

Ascension Day: Thursday, 19th May, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 7 a.m. and a special Missionary service at 7.30 p.m., followed by films in the Kindergarten Hall.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

At the G.F.S. Annual Meeting all office-bearers were re-elected. A very satisfactory year was reported.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 7th June, with work for our Fair and Table Games. New members will be warmly welcomed.—E.K.

HOLY BAPTISM

Annette June Nielsen, Janet Mary Wade, Peter Neil Bourke, Wendy Louise Swain, Andrzej Michal Bochenek, Bruce Grant Ingles, Moira Deanne Scott, Angela Louise Rouse, Ruth Lenna Marie Rigby, Mark Hayden Fountain, James Grant Fountain, Kaye Yvonne Pinel, Robert Warwick Hoare, Dianne Joy Smith, Leslie Keith Dewis, Stephen Shane Zolyniak, Julie Elaine Scott, Lorraine Margaret Sparks.

MARRIAGES

Norman John Fessey and Dorothy June Duncan.
Robert Rex Burr and Patricia Lorraine Lowe.
Frederick Charles Haas and Maisie Eileen Ellis.
Barry Stephen Hawksley and Norma May Rattray.
Laurence Reginald Smith and Beverley Aileen Larsen.
Donald Graham Cox and Avis Ashworth Holmes.
John Novy and June Mary Myrtle Weeks.
Ronald Victor Constantine and Joan Anderson.
Brian Leslie Connolly and Molly Eileen Lewis.
Donald James Jordan and Carole Faye How.
Maxwell Dearing and Gwenneth Margaret Calder.
Emanuel Ziegler and Gloria Phyllis Marie Davis.
Herbert Leslie Emerson and Stella Marie McKay.
Keith Martin Gray and Dorothy May Griffiths.
Graham Keith Titmus and Frances Joy McEnnulty.
Clyde Keep Spencer and Daphne Hibbs.
Graham Hilton Gardiner and Kathleen Mary Roberts.
Alexander Oswald Tucker and Prudence Eanswythe Auchinachie.
Kalman Laszloffy and Maisie Lois Dale.

AT REST

Susan F. Hinman.
George William Henry Betts.
Horace William Carter.
Edward Eensalu.
Our sincere sympathy is extended to those who have been bereaved.