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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

No. 100

DECEMBER, 1958

CLERGY

Ven. Archdeacon L. N. SUTTON, M.A. (Oxon.), The Rectory,
157 St. John Street, Launceston. Phone 2 3186.

Rev. T. H. Dicks, Th.L., 4 Elizabeth Street, Launceston. Phone 2 2918.



SUNDAY SERVICES

3 a.m.—Holy Communion.

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

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

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

Wednesday, 10.15 a.m., Holy Communion.

Saints' Day and Holy Days, as announced

Holy Baptism (by arrangement beforehand)—Sundays at 3 p.m.
Marriages and Burials by arrangement with the Clergy.

LAY OFFICERS

Churchwardens: Messrs. F. J. Jones, F. H. Cookman and M. M. Easter.

Vestry: Messrs. F. Ikin, L. Denham, A. G. Hart, R. J. Hoyle, R. H. Watson, T. P. White,
T. J. Wing, K. Findlay and R. D. Barr.

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

Sunday School Superintendent: Rev. T. H. Dicks and Miss E. J. E. Kiddle.

Organist and Choirmaster: Mr. Lindsay O'Neill, F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.

RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

Once more the Christmas season comes with its message of hope and good will. How much happier we would be if we always felt and acted as we do on Christmas Day! If the joy of Christ is in our hearts Christmas is always with us. That is the abiding message of Christmas and it is significant that there has been a special issue of postage stamps reminding us of the need to re-emphasise the spiritual meaning of the season. Here in Launceston as in other places we are not allowed to forget the commercial side of Christmas. "Santa" arrives in the city heralded by bands, elephants and dancing girls! St. Nicholas rides through the streets on a white horse! A visitor from another planet might well overlook the fact that Christmas centres round Christ. There is a great need today for all church people to set an example of reverence for the sanctity of Christmas so that those who have forgotten the deeper truths of God may be reminded that Jesus was born in Bethlehem as the Messiah. The angel said to the shepherds: "Fear not; for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

The annual singing of Carols by Candlelight is to take place this year in Princes Square on Sunday evening, 21st December, at 8.30 p.m. Arrangements are being made to relay music from St. John's organ to lead the singing of the carols. We are glad to have a part in this popular event and trust that all taking part will make it a reverent and devotional act of worship.

The unveiling of the foundation stone of the Kelso Anglican Youth Centre was a very encouraging gathering for all who have supported the project from its beginning many months ago. Much has been done by voluntary workers but the time has come when qualified tradesmen, carpenters, plumbers, bricklayers, electricians, are needed to finish the job. We would like offers of help in a voluntary capacity from men in these trades who would be willing to give us even one day on the building. Please let me or others know and we shall quickly avail ourselves of your offer of help. Donations or financial assistance are always needed and gratefully received.

You may have noticed that this is the 100th issue of the Parish Messenger published since I came to St. John's in October, 1949. While I think that this little paper is of interest to most parishioners as it gives the news of the parish, I sometimes wonder whether folk remember all the meetings and services which are noted. Organisations and groups within the parish are invited to send in paragraphs and reports but sometimes they forget to do so. It would be a great help if secretaries and leaders let me have notices for publication at the beginning of the last week in every month. I would welcome suggestions to improve the paper. The next issue will be in February.

Our warm congratulations are extended to the Rector of St. George's, Invermay on his appointment as a Canon of St. David's Cathedral, Hobart. This does not mean that he is going to leave his present parish and live in Hobart. Canons are members of the Cathedral Chapter but do not, in Tasmania, have many Cathedral duties. Their main function is to act as a council of advice whom the bishop may consult from time to time.

Last month the Dean of the Cathedral retired after sixteen years in office. My wife and I have known Dean and Mrs. Fewtrell for more than thirty years and shall miss them from Hobart. We extend our best wishes to them as they go to live in Melbourne.

I am very glad that the Revd. E. C. Rowland, formerly Chaplain of the Launceston Grammar School, and now at All Souls' School, Charters Towers, Queensland, is taking the services in St. John's on the first two Sundays in January. He has many friends in this parish.

I would like to thank all who helped to make our Parish Festival last month such a success. From the Garden Party in the Rectory Grounds on Saturday afternoon to the closing service on Sunday night we had a most happy and encouraging time. We are most grateful to the Dean of Melbourne for coming over and giving us his inspiring messages.

Our daughter, Patricia, who has been in England for two years, is due home again on 6th December. We are naturally excited at her return after a very interesting time away. Mrs. Sutton, Patricia and David and the Revd. and Mrs. Terence Dicks and John join me in wishing you all a very happy Christmas and every blessing in the New Year.

Yours sincerely, LEONARD N. SUTTON.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

Holy Communion will be celebrated at St. John's on Christmas Day at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and after Matins at 10.30 a.m., which will be a Family Service, when the preacher will be the Assistant Bishop of Tasmania.

There will be Evening Prayer at 7 p.m.

Christmas Carols will be sung at the Sunday evening service on December 21 at 7 p.m.

There will be a Watch Night Service on New Year's Eve at 11.15 p.m. in St. John's Church.

CHRISTMAS PRIVATE COMMUNIONS

The Rector is anxious to arrange private celebrations of Holy Communion for the aged and sick at Christmas time. We would be most grateful to know, as early as possible, of those who desire this ministry.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Gifts of flowers for the Christmas decorations of the church will be most welcome. They should reach the church on Wednesday morning, December 24. All members of the Flower Guild and other helpers are invited to assist.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE BOWL

Through the World Council of Churches an appeal is being made to all Christian families to place on the Christmas dinner table a "Bowl of Remembrance" for donations to continue and extend urgent welfare work in refugee shelters, hospitals and churches.

Contributions are used for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction in areas of distress abroad and are distributed without question of race, colour or creed.

Funds contributed provide food, clothing, medicine and other supplies in emergency situations; long-term health and nutrition programmes, social counselling, resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees, self-help projects and vocational training and other ministries to the homeless and destitute.

A separate leaflet with envelope will be distributed nearer Christmas. Donations may be placed in Church collections or left with the Rector or Church officers.

JOIN THE CHOIR FOR JANUARY!

During January we have a large number of visitors at our services, as it is a holiday month. For the same reason many choir members are away. Sometimes we find the choir stalls almost empty this month. To avoid this unfortunate and unsatisfactory situation we are asking for members of our congregation who are not going away in January to offer as temporary choir members. The Rector or Mr. O'Neill, our organist, will gladly give information. Will you help?

Choir Boys—The Organist and Choirmaster, Mr. Lindsay O'Neill, F.R.C.O., plans to re-form the boys section of St. John's choir. Six lads are already in training and we would like to increase

the number of boys. Parents are asked to contact Mr. O'Neill or the Rector. This is an opportunity to receive valuable musical training.

YOUTH NEWS

There will be a barbecue held at Beresford House on Friday evening, 12th December. Young people to meet at St. John's at 7.45 p.m. An excellent programme has been arranged. This will be in aid of Beresford House.

Our Christmas Youth Tea will be held on Sunday, December 14, at 5 p.m. and our Christmas Party on Saturday, 20th December, at 8 p.m. There will be a Christmas Tree. Bring a present for a child in the Children's Home.

Youth Corporate Communion and Breakfast has been arranged for Sunday, 21st December, at 8 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We would like to thank all who helped to make our Annual Picnic at Gravelly Beach such a happy time. The Kindergarten Christmas Tree evening was held on Wednesday, 3rd December. The Senior Sunday School Prize Giving will be held on Monday evening, 8th December, at 7.30 p.m. Sunday School will resume again after the holidays on Sunday, 1st February, 1959.

PATRONAGE OF THE PARISH

At a meeting of parishioners held after service on Sunday evening, 2nd November, it was decided that the patronage of St. John's for the next three years should vest in the Patronage Board, to whom the representatives elected from this parish are Messrs. F. H. Cookman, F. J. Jones and Rupert Hart, with substitute members Messrs. R. C. Sutton, T. P. White and J. S. McGowen.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Girls' Friendly Society—The annual G.F.S. Fair was a happy gathering, as a result of which some £53 was raised for our Carpet Fund. We would like to thank all who helped us. Our last meeting for the year will be an outing to Perth on Saturday afternoon, 13th December.

C.E.M.S. will meet on Sunday afternoon, 7th December, in the Kindergarten Hall at 4.45 p.m. A film and talk on "Lay Evangelism" will be given as recorded by Rev. J. Scott, Vicar of All Souls', Langham Place, London.

St. Luke's Hospital—The next meeting of St. John's Auxiliary will be a "bring a gift afternoon" which will be held on Monday, 8th December, at 2.45 p.m. at the home of Mrs. K. F. Broen, 73 Elphin Rd. This will be our last meeting until Thursday, 5th February, 1959, at 8 p.m.

Mothers' Union—At their last meeting for this year members entertained the blind, deaf and aged folk visited by the Welfare Officer, Sister Cohen, and the Evangelical District Nurse, Sister Molloy. A musical programme was given by Mesdames Forward and Whyman and Miss L. Holmes, with Mrs. J. Taylor at the piano. Christmas carols were sung. Afternoon tea was served and each visitor was given a posy of flowers. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 26th February, 1959.

Missionary Boxes should be handed in this month for the quarterly opening. It is specially asked that all B.C.A.

boxes be left at the Rectory or brought to Church not later than 14th December.

Young Wives Group will meet at the Rectory on Wednesday, 10th December, at 8 p.m. when a Film Evening has been arranged.

Broadcast Service—The morning service on Sunday, 11th January, 1959, at 11 a.m. will be broadcast over the national stations. The preacher will be the Revd. E. C. Rowland, F.R.H.Soc., Chaplain of All Souls' School, Charters Towers, Queensland. Mr. Rowland will preach at all the services at St. John's on 4th and 11th January.

Large Print Hymn Books with Prayer Books have been bought by the Vestry and these are available to members of the congregation on application to the Sidesmen on duty at the Church door.

Old Folks' Tea—This annual gathering will be held in St. John's Hall on Thursday, 11th December, at 5 p.m. As usual, the Launceston City Mission will be responsible for the arrangements. St. John's will provide a table. Donations will be gratefully received.

FLOWER GUILD ROSTER

December 7th—Mrs. J. A. Barranger.
December 14th—Misses E. & E. Scott.
December 21st—Miss V. Sadler.
December 25th—Flower Guild.
December 28th—Mrs C. A. Carlstrom.
January 4th—Mrs. L. N. Sutton.
January 11th—Mrs. C. H. Targett.
January 18th—Mrs. M. M. Easther.
January 25th—Miss D. Davis.
February 1st—Miss M. Bennett.

SIDESMEN'S ROSTER

December—MORNINGS: Messrs. A. Hollingsworth and J. Sanderson.
EVENINGS: Messrs. F. Cookman and F. Radford.
January—MORNINGS: Messrs. A. Hollingsworth and F. Carnie.
EVENINGS: Messrs. F. Jones and T. McClymont.

HOLY BAPTISM

Stephen Mark Whybrow, Dale John Coombes, Jeffrey Wayne Bell, Phillip Graeme Clayton, Lynette Jane Stone, Karen Anne Skeggs, Elizabeth Anne Tudor, Lynette Anne Davies, Jenny Elizabeth Fuller, Neil Charles Matchowitz, Kerrie Lee Penno, Jillian Debra Johnston, Joanne Drake.

MARRIAGES

Sergio Joseph Cole and Nellie Margaret Springer.
Brian John Marshall and Beverley Doris Broxham.
Kevin David Ogilvie and Agnes Ann Page.
Bryan Raymond Larsen and Fay Daphne Young.
Gerald Adrian Izard and Beverley Vera Reynolds.
Lyell John Knowles and Janet Anne Scott.
Robert John McGill and Norma Joyce Fry.
Lawrence Hooper Mosley and Leila Margaret Cowdery.
John Michael Hunt and Lesley Patricia Rubidge Tasker.

AT REST

Cyril Crossley James, Idessa Daphne Ballard, Rebecca Amelia Lange, Blanche Gibbons, Jennifer Denise Smart.

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