

St. John's Parish Messenger

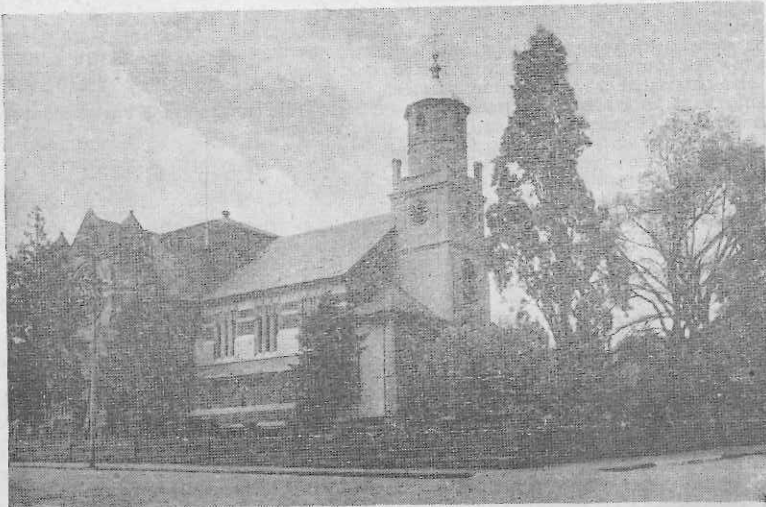
Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

No. 102

MARCH, 1959

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

8 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.

RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

We have been encouraged to notice that this year we have had almost twice the number of communicants that we had last year for Ash Wednesday and the first two Sundays in Lent, and almost a hundred more than we had for the same period in 1957. The congregations at the other services have also increased. I hope that this increase will continue. The Lenten season is not only a preparation for Good Friday and Easter, but also a time when our spiritual life is deepened and strengthened.

This month we are to have three visitors from overseas. Dr. Billy Graham will come with all his experience and fervour to preach again the simple Gospel message of Jesus Christ. We hope that many will be led to a point of permanent decision for God as a result of his message. However, it is well that we should remember that it is our duty and solemn responsibility to build upon this awakened interest in spiritual truths. With God's help, by our friendship and example, let us do everything we can to build into the family of God's Church all who come forward. Then a few days later Bishop Omari from Tanganyika will visit us. Few people will have seen an African Bishop before and he will show us by his simple faith and saintliness that Christ's Love and Truth embraces all mankind without distinction of race, language or colour. The same truth was emphasised by the visit of the Revd. Harry Daniel from South India who was in Launceston on the 22nd and 23rd February. Mr. Daniel spoke to us about the urgent need for the Church to be interested in world problems. Third visitor will be the Rev. Frank Byatt of Inter-Church Aid who will tell us of our obligation to help refugees who are suffering in many lands through post war conditions. These Christian leaders together present a united and living commentary on our Lord's words: "I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me."

At last month's meeting of the Vestry it was decided to undertake the renovation, completion and electrification of St. John's Church organ. The matter has been discussed and considered from every angle and it was decided that a complete re-build would in the long run be more economical and far more satisfactory in every way. For many years we have realised that the organ could be maintained in first class order only by undertaking costly repairs. We have decided to do the job properly. A magnificent instrument has been handed down to us from the past free of debt and it is our simple duty to pass it on to those who follow us in the same excellent condition that we received it. It is well known that the Paterson St. Methodist Church Organ and St. David's Cathedral Organ have been recently renovated. Now it is our turn. When the work is completed some time next year St. John's organ will be one of the finest organs in Australia.

Although the details have not yet been finalised (and "there is many a slip between the cup and the lip") Mrs. Sutton and I are making plans to visit England for our daughter's wedding which has been arranged for mid September. The only thing which makes our trip at all possible is the promise of an appointment as a chaplain on a migrant vessel leaving England in November. The vestry and the Bishop have approved of our plans and when they are settled I shall let them be known. It is more than thirty years since I visited England last for post graduate studies in 1927. I am sure that another visit will be most helpful and stimulating.

I have had several enquiries about the class to be formed for those who would like to do some serious study of the Bible, Prayer Book, Church History and Doctrine for the Th. A. diploma of the Australian College of Theology. I would be glad to hear from others interested. We shall start after Easter.

I was present at the service in St. David's Cathedral, Hobart, when the Very Revd. Eric Michael Webber B.D., A.K.C., was installed as the new Dean of Hobart. We extend to him, his wife and young family, our best wishes and welcome as he undertakes his responsible duties. Our congratulations go to our Rural Dean, Canon J. E. Atkins Th.L. who was also installed at the same service.

Praying that this month and season may be a time of spiritual enrichment for us all. With every good wish for a holy and happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Leonard N. Sutton.

MARCH CALENDAR

- Mar. 1. 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Matins and Holy Communion. 4.45 p.m. C.E.M.S. 7 p.m. Evensong.
3. Tuesday. 7.15 p.m. G.F.S. 8 p.m. "Know your Church" talk. C.M.S. House.
4. Wednesday. 7 and 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 2.45 p.m. M.M.A. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
5. Thursday. 8 p.m. St. Luke's Auxiliary.
7. Saturday. 3 p.m. Opening of St. Luke's Hospital New Wing. Kelso working bee.
8. 4th SUNDAY IN LENT 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. M.P. 5 p.m. Youth Tea. 7 p.m. Evensong.
10. Tuesday. C.E.C.W. at Deloraine. 6 p.m. M.S.L. 8 p.m. "Know your Church".
11. Wednesday. C.E.C.W. at Deloraine. 7 and 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Young Wives.
12. Thursday. 8 Women's Guild.
15. 5th SUNDAY IN LENT. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. Youth Communion Breakfast. 11 a.m. Matins and Holy Communion. Rev. F. Byatt. 7 p.m. Evensong.
17. Tuesday. 7.30 p.m. Visit of Dr. Billy Graham.
18. Wednesday. 7 and 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion.
20. Friday. 8 p.m. Missionary Rally, St. John's Hall. Speakers: Bishop Omari and Mr. F. Kivengere.
22. PALM SUNDAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. M.P. 5 p.m. Youth Tea. Bishop Omari. 7 E.P. Bishop Omari.
24. Tuesday. 7 a.m. Holy Communion.
25. Wednesday. 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 2.30 p.m. Lady Day M.U. Service at St. Aidan's.
26. Thursday. 8 p.m. Holy Communion.
27. GOOD FRIDAY. 8 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 7 p.m. 12 noon to 3 p.m. in Holy Trinity Church. 8 p.m. in Paterson St. Methodist Church.
29. EASTER DAY. 7. 8. and 10.45 a.m. Holy Communion. Bishop Barrett. 7 p.m. Festal Evensong.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER SPECIAL SERVICES

In Holy Week there will be celebrations of Holy Communion on Tuesday at 7 a.m., on Wednesday at 10.15 a.m. and on Thursday at 8 p.m. There will be a devotional service with address on Wednesday evening at 7.30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

8 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion.
10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer.
12 noon to 3 p.m. In the HOLY TRINITY Church, Cameron St., Launceston, Devotions

on the "Seven Words from the Cross", conducted by the Revd. D. J. Turner, the Rector of Beaconsfield and Exeter.

7 p.m. Evening Prayer.

8 p.m. Combined Service in Paterson St., Methodist Church.

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. Preacher: The Assistant Bishop of Tasmania.

7 p.m. Evensong. The Rector.

PRIVATE EASTER COMMUNIONS

The Rector would like to know as early as possible 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 morning, Easter Eve.

YOUTH NEWS

A Youth Tea will be held on Sunday, 8th March, beginning at 5 p.m.

Our monthly Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday 15th March, following Holy Communion at 8 a.m. Please let Miss Doreen Poole know if you will be present.

On Friday evening, 20th March at 8 p.m. there will be a combined Missionary Rally for young and old in St. John's Hall. Bishop Yohana Omari from Central Tanganyika, East Africa will be the speaker.

On Palm Sunday afternoon, 22nd March at 5 p.m. Bishop Omari will speak at a Combined Youth Tea in St. John's Hall.

All other Anglican Youth Fellowships are being invited. This will be in place of the usual Y.A.F. Tea.

Every Friday evening the Junior Youth Club meet in the Kindergarten Hall from 7.30 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. All young people 13 years to 16 years are welcome.

KELSO

There will be an important working bee at Kelso on Saturday 7th March. If you can help with transport or any other assistance, please contact Mr. Dicks. 22918.

DR. BILLY GRAHAM CRUSADE

Much preparation is being made in prayer, in training of Counsellors, enlisting of Ushers, Choir members and other helpers, so that the organisation for the great meeting at York Park on Tuesday, 17th March at 7.30 p.m. may be worthy of the occasion. Bishop Cranswick has written of Dr. Graham that "he is a sincere and humble man who says, 'I do not convert men but God has used our Crusade to do so'. He works through the Churches and makes this a condition of visiting a country". Separate leaflets give full information about all the arrangements.

LAUNCESTON MISSIONARY SERVICE LEAGUE.

We were pleased to welcome three new members at our last meeting at which Mr. Nancarrow spoke to us, and the visit of Bishop

Omari and the rally at St. John's Hall on March 20th were specially discussed. Since then Mrs. M. Parker ("Margo") has promised to arrange a broadcast interview with Mr. Nancarrow to help publicise the Bishop's visit and also to arrange for a talk to be given on the Children's Session on the need for love between Whites and Blacks," mentioning the Black Bishop's visit, likewise.

Our next meeting will be held in C.M.S. House on Tuesday, 10th March, commencing with a basket tea at 6 p.m. A discussion on "Christian Witness" led by a new member from overseas will follow. All interested parishioners are welcome.

BISHOP YOHANA OMARI

About 30 years ago a young Moslem boy attending a C.M.S. School stole a Bible from the school library, his parents had firmly forbidden him to read the Christians' book. The young man came to the words in St. John's Gospel: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me." This message brought him to the beginning of the great adventure for Christ. To use his own words "That verse pushed me out of the darkness of Islam into the light of Christ." In spite of opposition he dedicated himself to the service of the Lord. He chose the name Yohana (John) as it was that apostle's record through which he was converted. Two years later he was baptised and a year later he was confirmed.

Upon leaving school he spent seven years assisting in a Government dispensary. In a twice-repeated dream Yohana was called to be a pioneer missionary among the tribespeople of Uha, notorious for their fierceness and evil. Here he laboured faithfully for years and won converts. He was then chosen to be trained for the ministry but at first was reluctant to be ordained. After ordination he returned to the Uha country and later in 1946 was transferred to the Central Province. He was consecrated to be Assistant Bishop of Tanganyika on 15th May, 1955 by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

On his visit to Australia Bishop Omari is accompanied by Mr. Festo Kivengere, an African layman who is a master of the C.M.S. secondary school at Dodoma. He is a talented African scholar and has a good grip of the English language.

As announced in another paragraph Bishop Omari will speak at a Missionary Rally in St. John's Hall on Friday, 20th March at 8 p.m. and on the Sunday following will preach at St. John's at night and at a Youth Tea the same afternoon in St. John's Hall at 5 p.m.

NEWS IN BRIEF

C.E.M.S. A meeting of the C.E.M.S. will be held on Sunday, 1st March at 4.45 p.m. in the Kindergarten Room when the speaker will be the Rev. T. H. Dicks.

Mothers' Union. We are looking forward to a visit from Mrs. A. G. Powell, the Editor of M.I.A.N.Z., early in April, the exact date of which will be announced later.

"Lady Day" falls in Holy week this year: it will be observed on Wednesday, 25th March, when the combined Mothers' Union service will be held in St. Aidan's Church at 2.30 p.m.

Women's Guild: The Women's Guild will meet on Thursday, 12th March at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. D. Johnston, 7 Batman Ave., West Launceston. Members are reminded of the trading table.

St. Luke's Hospital: St. John's Auxiliary members will meet at the Rectory on Thursday, 5th March at 8 p.m. and at the home of Mrs. K. F. Brown, 73 Elphin Road, on Monday, 13th April at 2.45 p.m.

The OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW WING of St. Luke's Hospital will be held on Saturday, 7th March at 3 p.m. There will be stalls on the lawn and afternoon tea will

be served. Any donations of perishable goods will be gratefully received. They may be left at the Rectory by Saturday morning, or taken direct to St. John's Stall on the Saturday afternoon.

Young Wives' Group: The next meeting for Young Wives will begin with a short service in the Chapel on Wednesday, 11th March at 8 p.m. sharp. After the service members will meet at the Rectory. All members are urged to attend and new members will be welcomed.

The Church of England Council of Women: The C.E.C.W. meetings will be held at St. Mark's, Deloraine on the 10th and 11th March. Beginning with a Communion service at 9.30 a.m. and Intercessions conducted by the Assistant Bishop, the C.E.C.W. meeting will follow. On Wednesday, 11th March, the Mothers' Union Council meet following a Communion service which begins at 9.30 a.m. All council members are invited to attend. Buses will leave the Quadrant at 8.15 a.m. on both days.

G.F.S.: Girls Friendly Society will commence on Tuesday, 3rd March at 7.15 p.m. in the Kindergarten Hall. After the opening, members will attend the "Know Your Church" lecture in C.M.S. House at 8 o'clock. We will be pleased to see new members.

Missionary Boxes should be handed in this month for the quarterly opening.

M.M.A.: St. John's Medical Missionary Auxiliary will hold its first meeting this year in the Kindergarten Hall on Wednesday, 4th March at 2.45 p.m. New members will be welcome to assist in the work of the interested few who have carried on this practical missionary task for a great many years.

Visiting Preacher: On Sunday, 15th March, at 11 o'clock service, the preacher will be Rev. Frank F. Byatt, B.C.E., the National Secretary of the Inter-Church Aid Department of the World Council of Churches which looks after the "Christmas Bowl Appeal" and kindred matters.

Bible Study Group meets in the Clergy Vestry every Thursday evening from 7.15 p.m. to 7.50 p.m. New members very welcome.

"Know Your Church" Lenten series of addresses on the "Faith and Practice of the Church of England" are held on Tuesday evenings in C.M.S. House at 8 p.m. Details are given on separate leaflet.

St. John's Choir is practising in preparation for Easter and the Royal School of Church Music Festival which will be held at the end of June. The Boys' Choir meets for rehearsal on Saturday mornings from 9 to 9.30 a.m. when Mr. L. O'Neill would be glad to welcome new members. There are also vacancies in the adult choir. Can you join us? Practices are on Thursday evenings from 8 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

SIDESMEN'S ROSTER FOR MARCH

Mornings: Messrs. T. Brooks and F. J. Jones.

Evenings: Messrs. K. Jack and F. Radford.

HOLY BAPTISM

Shane Maxwell Fitch. Sandra Barbara Bowie. Craig Douglas Keygan, Ian Michael Stokes, Kerri Ann Budgeon, Lynette Turner, Rebecca Jane Longden, Dennis John Francis, Nadene Julie Ziegler, Christopher Kennington Nobes, Debra Lee Gossage, Diane Julie Hudson, Kim Imber.

MARRIAGES

Noel Henry Harding and Phyllis Isabelle Davis. Timothy John Girdwood Muller and Gloria Jeanne Crocker. John William Carvel and Dorothy Anne Foot. Eric Henry Dent and Dulcie Joy Leedham. Maurice George Blazely and Kay Deann McEwan. Ronald Alfred West and Betty Anne Smythe. Neville Richard Barr and Barbara Jane Cartledge.

AT REST

Emma Beatrice Edginton, Caleb Joshua Higgs, Alvie Thwaites, Joseph Jacob Stevens, Robert William McLeod.

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

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