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Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

No. 120.

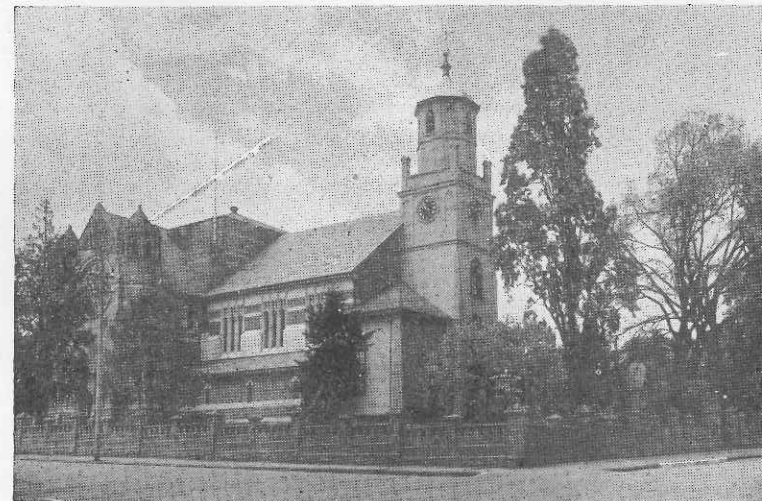
OCTOBER, 1960

CLERGY

VEN. ARCHDEACON L. N. SUTTON, M.A. (Oxon), Rector.

The Rectory, 157 St. John Street, Launceston. Phone 2 3186.

Rev. J. L. Goldsworthy, 8 Spencer Street, Launceston. Phone 2 3980.

**LAY OFFICERS:**

CHURCHWARDENS: Messrs. F. J. Jones, F. H. Cookman and M. M. Easther.

VESTRY: Messrs. V. H. Good, T. P. White, R. W. J. Hart, V. J. Sheldrick, L. Denham
R. D. Barr, F. Ikin, R. J. Hoyle and R. J. Roberts.

HON. LAY READER: Mr. A. G. Hart.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS: Mr. H. Vernon and Miss E. J. E. Kiddle.

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER: Mr. Lindsay O'Neill, F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.

DIVINE 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. Junior Church, 9.45 a.m.

Wednesday, 10.30 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,

On Sunday morning, 16th October, at 11 o'clock, some fifty young people will be confirmed in St. John's by the Bishop of Tasmania. For some three months and longer they have been receiving instruction in preparation for this great day in their lives when they promise, with God's help, to renounce what is evil, believe what is true, and do what is right. Someone might say that all Christians have these three standards of life and that it is not necessary to be 'confirmed' to accept them. While this may be true in one sense we must not overlook the real meaning of the word 'confirm' which is: TO STRENGTHEN, TO MAKE STRONG, BY GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT. It is when we try to live the Christian life in our own strength that trouble arises. God gives us His help or GRACE through Prayer, the Scriptures, the Sacraments, Worship and Membership of His Church, as well as in other ways. Those who have been confirmed are able to come to Holy Communion because they have been instructed in the meaning of the service and have openly confessed their faith in Jesus Christ. It is in this sacrament that most Christians are really aware of the closeness of God's Holy Spirit. How vitally important it is for us to pray for those who are to be confirmed and help them by our example and encouragement.

We must never forget that the Church exists for the sole purpose of preserving the Holy Spirit in the world and shedding abroad his influence in the lives of men. It is by the Spirit of God that we are made conscious of our need of a Saviour. It is by the same Spirit that we are led to Christ. The same Spirit guides us into all Truth.

Two men were talking recently concerning their meeting with a great religious leader in Europe. They were impressed with his sincerity and spiritual influence which, they felt, grew out of his lifetime of prayer and meditation. How greatly we to-day need that quietness and confidence in the rush and excitement of the modern world. It can only come by being conscious of the comfort and guidance of the Holy Spirit of God.

The diocesan Synod and Women's meeting have passed leaving happy memories of fellowship with friends from other parts of Tasmania. The business debates revealed a very serious financial need in the diocese and it was decided to ask the Diocesan Council to arrange for some form of "Diocesan Canvass" to relieve the urgent situation.

