

St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania.

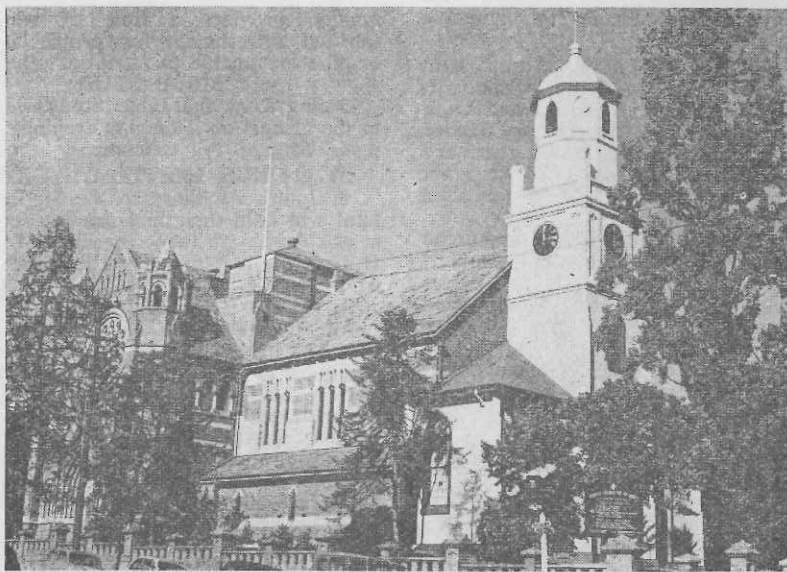
No. 146

MARCH, 1963

CLERGY

Rector: The Rev. H. A. Jerrim, Th.L., C.F. Phone 2 3186.

Assistant Curate: Rev. T. G. Cowell, Th.L.



THE RECTOR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

Last June, Christian Family Year, was launched in Australia, as part of a world-wide movement sponsored by the Mothers' Union. In recent years, many of our leaders in Church and State have been concerned about the deterioration in family life in many places. This move is an endeavour to bring to the notice of many people, both within and outside the Church, the right standards for Christian family life. Although the Mothers' Union has initiated this campaign for the twelve months of 1962-63, it is not merely the concern of the officers and members of the Mothers' Union, but the concern of the whole Church. Therefore, it is our concern.

Our aim in this particular year, may be expressed simply in the words 'Promoting Family Life'. Elsewhere in this Parish Messenger is a reprint of the report of an address given in London by the Bishop of Bedford on this very subject. I would commend it to you. The Bishop draws our attention to many aspects of promoting family life of which we must take note. Life within the family is a preparation for life in the greater family of the community and of the Church. Life is a matter of relationships with other people and if we can train the members of our families to live in a spirit of happy relationship with one another, this will help them to continue in good relationship with other people in the outside world, in the community and in business.

What are you doing about Christian Family Year? This is the question which you should answer now that almost 9 months of C.F.Y. is past. I feel that the contribution which we ought to be making is one of personal and individual effort. The real work of C.F.Y., is not in great corporate activities, but in the manifestation of a true spirit neighbourliness on the part of those who belong to the Church. This spirit is to be directed in the terms of the parable of the Good Samaritan, not merely to our friends, but to those whom we do not know as friends, anyone who comes within that sphere in which we can help.

The Season of Lent has now commenced and this is a time of self-examination. May I suggest in the first place that we examine our relationships within the home. Are we contributing towards the peace and happiness of the home? Is our home one in which members of the family are accepting Christian standards of living? The example of our own lives can be of help to other people. On the first four Sunday evenings in Lent we are having a special course of sermons by visiting preachers on "The Christian Family", details are to be found in this Parish Messenger.

All this will help in preparing for a worthy commemoration of Mothering Sunday when the thought of Mother and the Home is uppermost in our thinking.

May God Bless Your Homes,

HENRY A. JERRIM.

CALENDAR FOR MARCH

March—

- 3 **1st SUNDAY IN LENT.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: The Rev. K. C. Nancarrow.
- 4 Monday, Working Bee at Kelso Youth Centre.
- 5 Tuesday, Farewell to the Bishop and Mrs. Cranswick in the Parish Hall. Preceded by Evensong.
- 6 Wednesday, 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 2.45 p.m. M.M.A.
- 7 Thursday, 1.10 p.m. Holy Communion. 7.15 p.m. Bible Study.
- 9 Saturday, G.F.S. Picnic to Symmons Plains.
- 10 **2nd SUNDAY IN LENT.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Matins. 7 p.m. Evensong and Launceston General Hospital Centenary Service.
- 11 Monday, 2.45 p.m. St. Luke's Auxiliary.
- 12 Tuesday, 6 p.m. Men's Fellowship and Tea at "The Embassy". 7.30 p.m. S.S. Teachers' Meeting.
- 13 Wednesday, 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Mothers' Union). 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 14 Thursday, 1.10 p.m. Holy Communion. 7.15 p.m. Bible Study. 8 p.m. Women's Guild.
- 15 Friday, 8 p.m. Quarterly General Meeting of Kelso Centre in St. John's.
- 17 **3rd SUNDAY IN LENT.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion and Communion Breakfast. 9.45 a.m. Family Service. Address given by Deaconess D. Crawford. 11 a.m. Matins and Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: The Rev. J. R. Brown.
- 20 Wednesday, 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. Mothers' Union Quiet Day at St. George's, Invermay.
- 21 Thursday, 1.10 p.m. Holy Communion. 7.15 p.m. Bible Study.
- 24 **MOTHERING SUNDAY.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 1 a.m. Matins. 7 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service. Preacher: The Rev. Canon J. E. Atkins. Social Hour and Cutting of Simnel Cake to follow service in Parish Hall.
- 27 Wednesday, 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Young Wives' Group.
- 28 Thursday, 1.10 p.m. Holy Communion. 2.45 p.m. Mothers' Union. 7.15 p.m. Bible Study.
- 31 **5th SUNDAY IN LENT.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Matins. 7 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: The Rev. A. McDonald.

LENT 1963

Sunday Evensong at 7 p.m.

Special Course of Sermons.

"THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY"

Sunday, March 3, Lent I. Preacher: The Rev. K. C. Nancarrow. Subject: "In the World".

Sunday, March 10, Lent II. Preacher: The Rev. A. McDonald. Subject: Hospital Centenary.

Sunday, March 17, Lent III. Preacher: The Rev. J. R. Brown. Subject: "In the Church".

Sunday, March 24, Lent IV. Preacher: Canon J. E. Atkins. Subject: "In the Home". A Mothering Sunday Social Hour will be held in the Hall after the service.

Sunday, March 31, Lent V. Preacher: The Rev. A. McDonald. Subject: "In the Community".

April 7, Palm Sunday. Preacher: The Rector. Subject: "The Lord of the Family".

GOOD FRIDAY

8 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion. 10.30 a.m. Matins and Litany. 7.00 p.m. Devotional Service. 12 Noon-3 p.m. The Three Hours' Service at Holy Trinity Church.

DAILY SERVICES

During the Season of Lent the Daily Offices of the Church will be said in the Chapel each day.

8.15 a.m. Matins. 5.15 p.m. Evensong.

You are invited to join us for a few minutes in one of these daily acts of prayer.

On week days Holy Communion will be celebrated at the following times.

Wednesday, 7.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

Thursday, 1.10 p.m.

This lunch-hour celebration of Holy Communion provides a time of worship and spiritual refreshment for people at business or who are unable to attend at other times.

BIBLE STUDY

During Lent the Bible Study will be held in the Chapel on Thursday evenings from 7.15 p.m.-7.55 p.m. All welcome.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

St. John's Auxiliary to the St. Luke's Hospital will hold their first meeting for the year at the home of their President, Mrs. V. E. Holyman, on Monday, 11th March, at 2.45 p.m.

At the recent Button Day held for the combined Hospitals' Appeal, our Auxiliary raised over £85 by the sale of buttons and a Stall, a creditable effort by our small band of workers.

Now that we have completed our project for new mattresses, a decision must be made for a further project for this year. Suggestions for raising money will be discussed at our first meeting.

We are pleased to report that Miss Vera Andrews is making good progress after her accident.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. Easter, 13 Wyett St., on Thursday, 14th March, at 8 p.m. The Speaker will be Mrs. B. Walsh.

At the last meeting the Guild donated £15 to the Kelso Youth Centre.

YOUNG WIVES

The Annual Meeting of St. John's Young Wives will take place on Wednesday 27th, March at 8 p.m. This will commence with a Chapel Service and then members will adjourn to the Rectory.

All members are urged to attend for the election of new office-bearers.

We also look forward to welcoming any new members this year.

YOUNG PEOPLES ACTIVITIES

The work amongst the younger members of our congregation has really begun on a good note. On Saturday the 9th, a very enjoyable Social evening was arranged. About 38 people were present and these functions seem like blossoming into bigger and better things. The following day a Youth Tea was held. On this occasion about 22 people heard of plans for the year. These were well received and are obviously going to be popular. Guest speakers are being arranged and at our first tea on the 24th February Miss Judith Eddie of Launceston Player's fame agreed to give a talk about her experience at the Empire Games. Slides provided visual interest.

Almost a capacity house attended the Dance held on Saturday the 16th. Music was provided by the 'Chequers', food by several expert cooks amongst the ladies of the Parish, and fun was provided by all. A very popular evening! This type of function will be expanded after Easter too. With highlights such as Bill Leatham and Val Murgatroyd with their dancing exhibition there should be plenty for all. Future highlights will include popular singers, pianists, magicians, Folk and Highland Dancers and other items.

Most of you will have received the Youth Flash for Lent. This is the first of such publications for this year and future ones will perhaps be enlarged and varied, with all types of items. I hope this proves popular.

Quiet descends on the youth work now for a while. The Youth Teas will continue to be held and also the breakfasts. The first Communion Breakfast was a great success. About 76 people present, and a good feast it was too. Even better attendance at our next Communion if we can as that is a Lenten one and Communion attendance then is important. Best wishes to all young folk. I hope to meet many of you at our Church Services.

T. G. Cowell, (Assistant Curate)

NEW CARPET

St. John's G.F.S. has for some years been working to provide new carpet for the Church. In recent years difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the carpet as the English manufacturer ceased producing the particular pattern required. Late last year an Australian carpet firm undertook to make the type of carpet we required. It was decided that we should finish carpeting the Church. The new carpet was laid in time for the Special Synod and some of the old carpet was re-laid in the side aisles and chapel. Very favourable comments have been passed and Miss Kiddle and her G.F.S. helpers are to be congratulated on their work.

This has cost more than was anticipated, and if our parishioners would like to make a donation towards the cost of the carpet, this may be done by giving a donation through Miss Kiddle to the G.F.S. Carpet Fund.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The important work of the Sunday School is under way again. We have lost Mrs. Whitmore, Mrs. Gould and Miss Hick from our teaching staff. To them we express our thanks for valued service and further thank Mrs. Gould for continuing as treasurer.

A picnic will not be held this year but instead a party will be given in the Parish Hall for all Sunday School children. This will be about the end of April.

The Harvest Festival this year will be the chance for parents and scholars to help support a refugee in Hong Kong. Offerings from the Sunday School will be sold to raise money for this purpose. Further donations toward the £57 to be found this year will be welcomed. There will be more about this in the next issue.

Any offers of Sunday School teachers will be welcomed.

PROMOTING FAMILY LIFE

By the Bishop of Bedford

We promote a thing chiefly in two ways: (a) by the things we say about it, which spring from the way we think about it; (b) by what we do about it, of which the most important is the way in which we ourselves behave towards it.

How then are we to think and what are we to say about family life? What is its purpose? Obviously it has many purposes, biological, emotional, economic, social, cultural. The family is the unit in which men learn things which are vital to their true and proper development. The purpose of every family is to be the microcosm of the family of God. Members of a family learn naturally and almost subconsciously, from their membership of the family, truths about God and about their relationship with Him and with other people, on which their salvation depends. We are to call God Father and other people brethren. We are to learn to understand, because of our experience within the family, the meaning of the Gospel.

Above all we are to learn the basic fact of our acceptance. This is the bedrock of family life—that I am accepted not for what I do but for what I am. In marriage one is accepted "for better for worse", and therein lies the

joy and security of marriage. During the engagement one is only on trial. The real horror of divorce is the denial of acceptance and the consequent destruction of security.

Acceptance also lies at the heart of the Gospel. The Gospel is not good advice but is a matter of accepting what God has done for us.

Within the family, therefore, we learn the whole business of relationship. We are brethren, not merely friends. We learn to respect other people's rights and to understand their dignity. These are the products of family life and not only of Christian family life. The difference between the two is that in a Christian family these truths are consciously accepted as part of the larger truth about life.

When we look at our Lord's parables and illustrations we find that He took what was common experience and built on that. Human family life is a school in which we are prepared for something much more wonderful which is to come.

Our first concern, then, is with the natural virtues proper to family life: love, forgiveness, acceptance, providence. You do not have to be a Christian to love or to forgive. We must be careful, therefore, what we deplore, but rather we should rejoice in what is good in family life.

Of course, because we are Christians we know that family life—like all human institutions—cannot remain on its proper level in man's unaided strength. We need grace. We also know that the purpose of family life is beyond the family. The Mothers' Union prayer asks God to "teach us to train our children for heaven". Therein lies the whole theology of the family. In the marriage service the bride and bridegroom walk side by side to the altar; so in marriage two people walk side by side to God.

This is the reason for evangelising families. How are we to do it?

Churchgoing is the key. Each member of the family should know himself to be subordinate to the same God. In this matter, as in all others, we should expect the same standards from the parents as we do from the children. (The Bishop was most emphatic in declaring that if you drive children to Sunday School, while staying away from Church yourself, you are killing religion in them.)

The witness of the Mothers' Union in this matter is most valuable. But it is vital to win the young mothers while their children are young.

The best service for the purpose of evangelising the family is the Parish Eucharist, or Parish Communion. If we understand the Christian religion and if we really desire families to be brought to accept salvation, we shall do our utmost to attend this service.

Sidesmen's Roster

March—

Morning—Messrs. T. Brooks and F. J. Jones.

Evening—Messrs. E. R. Duncan and D. Sheldrick.

HOLY BAPTISM

Gaylene Anne McBain, Michael Robert Thompson, Linda Maree Hill, Anthony Craig Taylor, Wayne Earl Squires, Stephen Ross Grubb, Linda Susan Bradford, Peter Francis Rorke, Scott Lee Rorke, Dean Michael Bradford, Steven Richard Crooks, Jeffrey Cyril Bennett.

MARRIAGES

Desmond Harold Hodgman and Pamela Ann Long, Gary Charles Wilson and Wendy Pauline Phegan, Keverell Arthur Thompson and Janice Christine Waldron, Ivan Louis Iles and Aileen Edith Whately, Aubrey Allen Stevenson and Janet Mabel Allen, Robert William Barratt and Elizabeth Anne Ward, Darrell Frederick Henry Anderson and Gloria Louise East, Raymond George Sellars and Helen Rosemary Hodgetts.

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