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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania

No. 224

APRIL, 1970

Rector :

Rev. Hugh Girvan, S.B. St.J., Th.L., Dip. C.C.A.C.
Phone 2 3186

Assistant Priest :

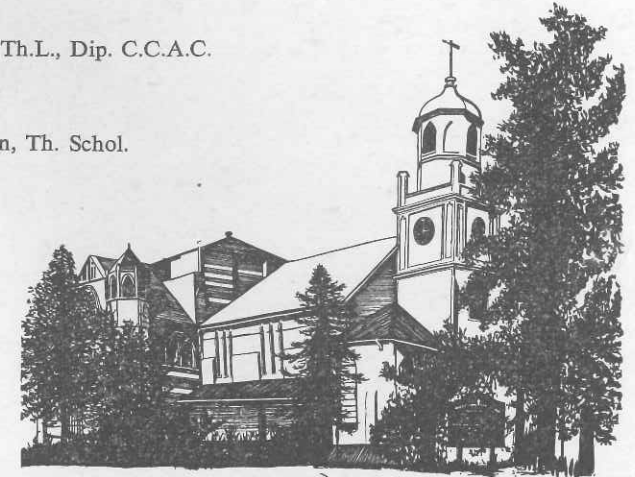
The Reverend Murray Johnson, Th. Schol.

Parish Sister :

Miss Jenny Shaw, Th.A.

Organist :

Mr. Lindsay O'Neill,
F.R.C.O. (Ch.M.), A.R.C.M.
Phone 31 2998



THE RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear People of St. John's,

A CROSS — AN EMPTY TOMB — A BAND OF MEN AND WOMEN — these are the central objects of Easter-tide, and within this frame-work God worked the greatest events which history has known, events which were to shake the earth and bring to men Salvation, Hope and New Life.

A CROSS — The First great fact of Easter-tide is a Cross. Living in Australia, a land in which the symbol of the Cross is commonplace, it is only too easy for us to think lightly of the Cross of Christ. But for every Christian the Cross ought to be the central fact of life for the Cross of Christ speaks of salvation from the penalty of sin and deliverance from the power of sin. No wonder that we place it in and upon our churches.

AN EMPTY TOMB — The Second great fact of Easter-tide is an empty tomb. Man sought to bind the Son of God in a sealed tomb, but all of man's might paled into insignificance with the message of the Angel, "He is risen! Look, here is the place where they laid Him."

Jesus broke the bands of death, and through Him the Christian rejoices that death has no sting, and the grave no victory.

A BAND OF MEN AND WOMEN — The Third great fact of Easter-tide is a band of men and women. Those who loved Jesus and who were witnesses of those breathtaking events. Their experience was such that they could not keep silent. St. Mark says, "The disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them."

The Cross and an Empty Tomb are the yearly reminder of our belief as Christians, that in Christ alone is the solution to the problems of men and nations. We in our homes and offices are a cross section of the world. Technical skill and mechanical aids abound, but we still have to learn how to live with each other. Christ needs a band of men and women who through experience know that He has the answer. If you and I belong to that band then our duty is clear, we too will not be able to keep silent.

May Our Lord give us the strength to live out our convictions.

Yours in Christ's service,

HUGH GIRVAN.

"AUSTRALIA 69"

The Vestry has agreed to trial services with the Liturgy approved by the General Synod of our Church. Already a few of our interested folk have begun to study it, and will use it at a service at 8 p.m. on Sunday, 26th April. You too will be welcome, and your opinion valued.

EASTER CAROL SERVICE

Do come to the Easter Carol Service which will take the place of Evensong on Sunday, 26th April. We enjoy Christmas Carols, this is your opportunity to sing the carols of the greater festival.

CALENDAR FOR APRIL

- 1 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 5 **Easter I.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 7 Tuesday, 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union "Lady Day" Communion at Invermay. 7.45 p.m. G.F.S. at Mrs. Vermesy's home, St. John Street.
- 8 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 9 Thursday, 11.30 a.m. Broadland House Junior School Harvest Festival. 7.45 p.m. Women's Guild at Mrs. Holyman's home, 8 Riverdale Grove.
- 11 Saturday. Youth Leader Training Course. 7.45 p.m. Dr. Bob Rayner: "Vietnam as a Surgeon Sees it." An open meeting in St. John's Hall.
- 12 **Easter II.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Morning Prayer. 2.30 p.m. Launceston Council of Churches (at St. Paul's). 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 13 Monday, 2.45 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary.
- 14 Tuesday, 6 p.m. Men's Fellowship Tea.
- 15 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 16 Thursday, 8 p.m. Meeting for Sunday School Teachers and parents of Sunday School pupils.
- 19 **Easter III.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong (attended by Esk Masonic Lodge).
- 21 Tuesday, 8 p.m. Evening Mothers' Union.
- 22 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 25 Saturday. **St. Mark and Anzac Day.** 9 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 26 **Easter IV.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion followed by Communion Breakfast. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Easter Carol Service. 8 p.m. "Australia 69".
- 29 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

CONFIRMATION 1970

If there are any young people, or adults, who desire to be prepared for Confirmation they should forward their names and address to the Rector. Godparents should remember the promises they made at the time of their Godchild's baptism, one of which is that they will bring their Godchild to be confirmed by the Bishop, "so that, strengthened with the gift of the Holy Spirit, he may come with due preparation to receive the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ."

WOMEN'S GUILD

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. H. Holyman, 8 Riverdale Grove, on Thursday, 9th April, at 7.45 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Miss S. Bell. Supper hostesses — Mesdames Holyman and Ford.

All ladies welcome.

ST. JOHN'S EVENING MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the Evening Mothers' Union will be held on Tuesday, 21st April, commencing with a service in the Chapel at 8 p.m., and afterwards in the Kindergarten Hall. A creche will be held on 5th April for the 11 a.m. service with Mrs. Le Fevre in charge.

A meeting in the Sunday School Hall will be held on 16th April with regard to Christian Education of young people. All parents of Sunday School children are urged to attend.

Lady Day will be held on 7th April, a service of Holy Communion will be held at St. George's, Invermay, at 2.30 p.m. Our Rector will be the preacher. Supper hostesses for next meeting—Mesdames Roberts, Le Fevre and Ayres.

MAJOR GERBEN STELSTRA

"The most dynamic Bible Society Speaker I have ever heard," says the Reverend Leo Buckman, State Secretary, Tasmania.

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You must hear Major Stelstra.

PUBLIC MEETING

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, LAUNCESTON
WEDNESDAY, 15th APRIL, 1970 AT 8 p.m.

A LEGACY — BUT MORE NEEDED

The Vestry has received a Legacy of \$200 from the estate of the late E. C. Grubb, and have decided that it should be used to help pay for an extra microphone, and its installation.

Many folk, including parishioners, have the mistaken belief that St. John's is a wealthy church. If we were we would not have a leaking roof, an unfinished church, inadequate Sunday School equipment, a hall without a committee room, etc., etc. The list is endless.

One Christian organisation in Launceston recently received a legacy of \$10,000. If each parishioner, according to their means, remembered their church in their will, we would be assured of being able to do some of the extras that have been on the waiting list for so long. Do give this your serious consideration.

BAPTISMS

Robert Boyce Youl, Stephen John Rattray, Lisa Maree Baker, Ashley Alexander Ross Bourne, Jacqueline Maree Simmons, Trudy Kathleen Turner, Jan Elizabeth Wiltshire, Angela Fay Chugg, Leigh Andrew Stone, Rebecca Anne Cullen.

MARRIAGES

Gordon George Whittle and Geraldine Mary Hawkins, Simon Phillip Hughes and Janette Chandler Keogh, Barry Roy Bushby and Sandra Mary Baker, Malcolm John Melrose and Margaret Janet Fletcher, Denis Arthur Reid and Anne Warmisham, John David Wallace and Jillian Anne Turner, Stephen John Broad and Suzanne Margaret Doran, Adrian William Lockhart and Sheryl Denise Doddy, Kevin John Barker and Suzanne Fay Cabalzar, John Billan Stone and Janine Mary Hendley,

Nicholas Charles Lade and Kathleen Joan Frankcombe, John Archibald Brett and Helen Betty Jessen, John Anthony Pitt and Toinette Kaye Keeling, Rodney Harvey and Lynette Lesley Willis, Stephen Victor Quon and Gayle Maria Bishop, Allan Ernest Kettle and Vicki Joy Crooks, Malcolm Neil Pollard and Jennifer May Wise, Neil Maxwell Walker and Maureen Elizabeth Garwood.

BURIALS

Kenneth James Ford, Edgar Alexander North, Paul Henry Pennicott.

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

WHICH WAY IN?

The Vestry have decided to try a suggestion that at the 8 a.m. service we use the North Transept door. From the street there are less steps, and they are not as high as those at the tower door. In addition the winter sun will greet us as we leave. So let's try it. **As from 12th April**, the North Transept door at the 8 a.m. service.

BISHOP OF HONG KONG

On April 23, we will have the opportunity to hear the Bishop of Hong Kong (the Right Rev'd Gilbert Baker) speak on Christian witness in that part of Asia.

The Bishop will be showing slides and films of the work of the Church, especially amongst the refugees and orphans.

Make a note of this meeting now. Thursday, April 23, at 8 p.m., in St. John's Hall.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Rogation Sunday we always have special prayers for those who work on the land. In a city parish this is also an appropriate day on which to thank God for our daily food, therefore this year our Harvest Festival will be observed on **Sunday, May 3.**

This will also be the date of our next **Family Service.** Because of the special events of Lent and Easter we had three Family Services during March. April we will devote to Sunday School.

Adults and children are reminded that their gifts on Harvest Festival not only help to mark the services that day, but also help those in greater need than ourselves.