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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania

No. 227

JULY, 1970

Rector:

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

Assistant Priest:

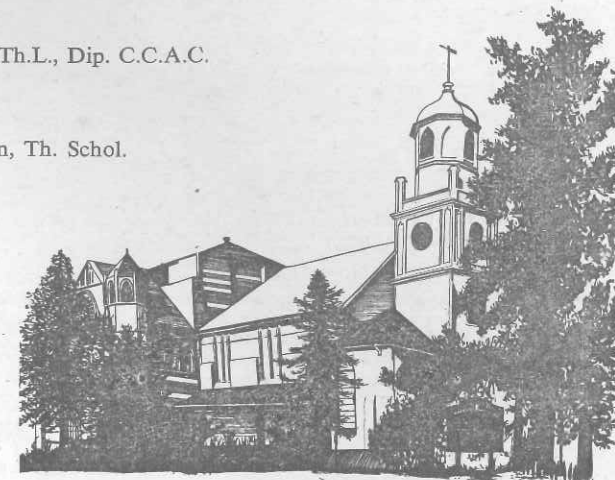
The Reverend Murray Johnson, Th. Schol.

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 Friends of St. John's,

Have you noticed that as we grow older we tend to revere the past, decry the present and fear the future? Further it would seem that the older we become, the more this feeling is accentuated.

"What was good enough for my father, is good enough for me!" is a thought felt but not necessarily expressed, and this seems to apply especially in religious matters. We proclaim an unchanging Gospel, but this does not mean that the Church through which it is proclaimed should not change. Customs, services, architecture, music, these do and must change from age to age.

For the past four hundred years these changes have been slight, but now the whole pattern of our life is rapidly changing. If we resist the consequent change in our Church we deny the very essence of God himself, for God is a living Person, and the Church, although retarded by petty jealousies and narrow-mindedness, is also a living organism. This means that those who resist change are denying the right of the Church to grow and adapt itself to modern needs.

Change is often bewildering and mistrusted, and some elderly people, quite naturally, find it hard to accept. I would suggest that change has to be accepted, not for change sake, but in order to keep in touch with the Holy Spirit at work in the world. I believe that the Holy Spirit is, at this present time, turning the Church inside out, whether we like it or not.

A changeless Church is a stagnant Church, but stagnation is equivalent to death. Christians believe the Church (the body and expression of Christ) to be the source of spiritual Life, therefore it must follow that a changeless Church is a Church no longer, but merely a historic relic.

I trust then that we will not live in the past, but live for the future in faith and trust, and let the Holy Spirit move us into a greater understanding of His will for us now and in the years to come.

Perhaps you would like to share your thoughts for the future. If so, the Annual Meeting is a good time and place to do so. It would certainly help the Vestry and myself if those who have thought and prayed over the future of this parish would, at any time, allow us, as the governing body, to have the benefit of their thinking. If all of us are forward looking, and if we all share our thoughts, then I am sure that we will be led through the difficult years of change that are ahead of us.

Yours in Christ's service,
HUGH GIRVAN.

CALENDAR FOR JULY

- 1 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
 4 Saturday, 7.30 p.m. Youth Club.
 5 **Trinity VI**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
 6 Order of St. Luke.
 8 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
 9 Thursday, 7.45 p.m. Guild entertain elderly parishioners.
 12 **Trinity VII**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Grammar Prep. Services. 7 p.m. Evensong.
 13 Monday, 2.45 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary Annual Meeting.
 14 Tuesday, 6 p.m. Men's Fellowship Tea. 8 p.m. First session in course "The History of the English Liturgy".
 15 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
 18 Saturday, 7.30 p.m. Youth Club.
 19 **Trinity VIII**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9 a.m. Communion Breakfast. 9.45 a.m. Family Service. 11 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
 20 Monday, 7.45 p.m. Order of St. Luke Admission Service.
 21 Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. Mothers' Union. 8 p.m. The History of the English Liturgy.
 22 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
 26 **Trinity IX**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m. Matins. 7 p.m. Evensong.
 27 Monday, 2 p.m. Australian Church Women—Fellowship Day.
 28 Tuesday, 8 p.m. The History of the English Liturgy.
 29 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.45 p.m. Parish Annual Meeting.

ST. JOHN'S EVENING MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the St. John's Evening Mothers' Union will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 21st July, 1970, in the Kindergarten Hall.

There will not be a service in Church preceding the Meeting for July or August. Our group will support the programme being conducted by the Revd. Murray Johnson on the History of the English Liturgy.

Members are urged to join in this programme and also asked to encourage others. A creche will be held for the 11 a.m. service on 5th July under supervision of Mrs. LeFevre.

Members are reminded of articles for Musical Market work stall.

Supper hostesses: Mesdames Watson, Waddington and Watson.

Parishioners and their Friends
are invited to the

ELEVENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

of the

Royal School of Church Music

St. John's, Saturday, 1st August
at 6.30 p.m.

A Choir of 120 voices.

In St. John's Church

8th August, at 8.15 p.m.

AN ORGAN RECITAL

by Philip Cooper

Organist, Holy Trinity Church

(Kensington, London)

Special Representative, R.S.C.M.

ST. JOHN'S AUXILIARY TO ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL

The Annual Meeting of St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital will be held in the Parish Hall on Monday, 13th July, 1970, commencing at 2.45 p.m.

Afternoon tea hostesses: Miss D. Lockwood, Mrs. Humphrey-Gardener and Mrs. E. Good.

Retiring Officers: President: Mrs. Holyman; Secretary: Mrs. Palliser; Treasurer: Mr. Jones; Committee: Mrs. Eas. her, Mrs. Good, Miss Bennett.

HONG KONG FAIR

The date has now been set for this year's Hong Kong Fair, arranged by our Sunday School to raise funds for their Mission Project: the support of three refugee children in Hong Kong. For as long as we continue to work for this cause, three children will receive education in our Church Schools in Hong Kong. We hope you will continue to help and encourage your children in collecting and making articles to stock our stalls. There will also be a number of competitions and a pets parade. Details and entry forms will be available at Sunday School.

Date: Saturday, 22nd August.

Place: St. John's Hall.

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SENIOR LADIES' TEA

Our Women's Guild will entertain the senior ladies of our congregation at afternoon tea on Thursday, 9th July, 1970. The tea will follow a Communion Service which will begin at 2.15 p.m.

would our senior ladies who desire to be present please ring Mrs. White (24130), or the Rector (23186). Transport will be provided if necessary.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

This year's classes will begin on Sunday, 5th July, at 10 a.m. Candidates will meet in the Chapel.

Adults who desire to be prepared for Confirmation should contact the Rector.

FLOWER ROSTER

| | Church Roster | Chapel Roster |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| July 5 | Mrs. Robinson | Mrs. Smith |
| July 12 | Mrs. Targett | Mrs. Grueber |
| July 19 | Mrs. Easther | Mrs. Thompson |
| July 26 | Mrs. Page | Mrs. Watson |
| August 2 | Mrs. White | Mrs. McMahon |
| August 9 | Mrs. Watson | Mrs. Crawford |
| August 16 | Mrs. Swinnerton | Mrs. Boyd |
| August 23 | Mrs. Robinson | Mrs. Smith |
| August 30 | Mrs. Targett | Mrs. Grueber |

AUSTRALIAN NURSE RETURNS TO NIGERIA

The civil war in Nigeria has ended, the blood-fighting is over—but a far wider war remains to be fought and won. Those who died of war injuries in the conflict are only a small proportion of those who have died and are still dying from starvation and the desperate hopelessness of the refugee, the people who have nothing left to their names but the rags they stand in. Worse still, there are thousands of children who have less than that—no clothes, some even too young to remember the name given them by parents who have disappeared in chaos.

A number of Australians have been working for refugee relief during the war—one of them, Alisoun Begbie, a Sydney nursing sister, came home for a short holiday with her parents at Wentworth Falls, just at the time Biafra surrendered. She found herself returning to Nigeria on the first available plane, after receiving an urgent cable telling her: "Return Nigeria soonest. It is all happening here. My request unofficial but you are really needed now."

A message saying little enough to the uninitiated, but revealing words of want and horror to those who have been there. So Alisoun Begbie, who really needed her holiday, spent the rest of her shortened stay in Sydney giving interviews to the Press, making radio broadcasts, talking to Austcare, trying desperately to make Australia aware of Nigeria's war.

Alisoun Begbie has worked in the war-torn country for a year as a member of one of the three medical teams supported by the Save the Children Fund, a member body of Austcare. She brought back with her terrible stories and pictures of the plight of the refugees, dying by the thousands, their empty stomachs distended, arms and legs stick-thin, faces gaunt and hollow, despairing.

Sister Begbie belongs to a family well known in the Anglican Church. All her uncles are Anglican clergy and her parents were missionaries in Africa.

"A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LITURGY"

What did Henry VIII have to do with our present Prayer Book?

Why is the Lord's Prayer said twice during Holy Communion? What connection has the Church of South India with the Communion Service of Australia '69?

What is meant by Liturgical Renewal? A more precise question would be—are you interested in the Church's worship?

If you are interested, you should register now for the series "A History of the English Liturgy, 1549-1969. This is a six-week course, beginning on 14th July at 8 p.m. in St. John's Kindergarten Hall. The changes in the service of Holy Communion will be demonstrated by the use of a different liturgy each week, followed by a short talk, showing the changes in patterns of worship that have emerged at various stages.

There is a registration fee of 50 cents. Please return the registration form on or before 12th July.

REGISTRATION FORM

Revd. Murray Johnson,
39 Elizabeth Street.

Please register me for the series "A History of the English Liturgy".

Name

Address

PARISH MESSENGER

Donations to the Parish Messenger help us to defray the cost of printing, postage and distribution together with the "Church News". Donations may be given to the clergy or Church Wardens.

The following donations have been received.
Miss Sutton \$2.00, Miss D. Lockwood \$1.00, Mrs. D. M. Johnston \$1.00.

BAPTISMS

Joanne Marie Henry, Conrad George Axton, Yvette Julie Geard, Fiona Lesley Prell.

MARRIAGES

Barry Conway and Diana Victoria Griffith, Brian Kenneth Mantach and Margaret Rose Hayes, Ian Edwin Chugg and Faye Diane Baxter, Roger Edwin Fidler and Christine Ann Shapter, Derek Athol Williams and Lynette Anne Brient, Peter Joseph Collinson and Annette Barbara Scott.

BURIALS

Gladys Jane Duffy, Margaret Winstanley Pencheon.

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

YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO A

PARISH TEA

IN ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL

ON WEDNESDAY, 29th JULY, AT 6 P.M.

Donation: 40c each or \$1.00 per family

The Parish Tea will be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
at 7.30 p.m.

WE WILL BE ABLE TO BE PRESENT AT THE PARISH TEA.

Number coming Signed

Address

R.S.V.P. BY MONDAY, 27th JULY,
THE RECTOR, ST. JOHN'S RECTORY.

This slip may be handed in at Church or left at the Rectory.