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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania

No. 231

NOVEMBER, 1970

Rector:

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

Assistant Priest:

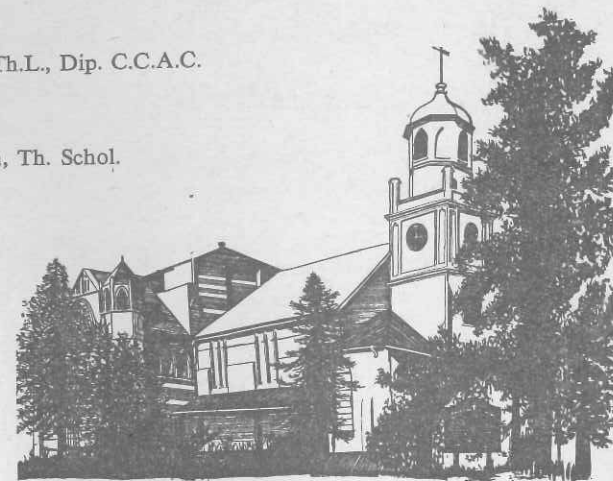
The Reverend Murray Johnson, Th. Schol.

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,

We live in an age when anything new is greeted with acclaim. The inference is that it must be right, simply because it is the latest. On the other hand what we have, what we have done in the past, is suspect simply because it is not new. Change is the thing and the claim by many, is that if we do not change we have become fossilized.

I cannot agree that all things new are of necessity, better, or that all things that we have should be changed. However, I do agree that from time to time we should look at what we are doing, and examine our ways to see if we are right, if we are fulfilling the original purpose of whatever it is that we are engaged in.

This month I ask you to look objectively at a typical Anglican parish. What is it to most members? The Reverend John Heuss, Rector of Trinity Parish, New York City, has this to say as he looks at his, and perhaps our, parish.

"To many people, the Church is pleasant community activity where one's children attend Sunday School, where adults go occasionally, and where one goes during the week to meet other nice people and raise some money so that the Church can stay open.

On Sundays, the parish is a religious institution. During the week it is a series of promotional, organisational and semi-commercial activities. The Gospel proclaimed on Sunday finds little translation into the relationship of the week-day.

In eight or nine months out of the year, substantial numbers of Anglicans are working away in guilds, and associations of one kind or another, as part of this week-day programme. To a great number, their real church life, as they look at it, is this activity.

If the parish is well run and successful, it is a pleasure for everyone. It contributes to neighbourliness. It gives many a sense of doing something worthwhile. It certainly contributes to the Parish's prosperity.

You do not have to be a changed person to participate in it. No inner spiritual demand upon your values or your motives need be made. You will not be asked to look out from this fellowship of "busyness" upon the world around you with a critical eye. In fact, there will be little to criticise in the world outside the parish fellowship, because it is practically identical with the fellowship itself.

This does not mean that the world has been made Christian. It means that the parish fellowship has been successfully invaded by the world. We have gone wrong in our leadership by over-emphasising the promotional aspect of the parish's life to the point where nearly every Anglican Church fits neatly into the culture of the middle-class community life.

The true nature of the Church can no longer be easily grasped because the conventional pattern of the local parish's life constantly gets in the way. Modern parish life places many obstacles in the way of Jesus Christ. It lays heavy burdens on conscientious leaders. This does not mean that would should find these obstacles too great to be removed, or the burden too heavy to be born.

Perhaps our contribution in these days is not so much the evangelising of the world as it is the Christianisation of the Church itself."

These observations make sense to me, and I hope they will help all of us to be sure of our direction in planning the future life of this parish.

Yours sincerely,

HUGH GIRVAN.

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

- 1 **Trinity 23**, 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, Sunday School, 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
- 4 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 5 Thursday, Mothers' Union—Mini-Market, 10 a.m.-12 noon.
- 8 **Trinity 24**, 8.00 a.m., Holy Communion, 10 a.m., Mattins, Sunday School. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
- 9 Monday, 2.45 p.m. St. Luke's Hospital Auxiliary, 8 Riverdale Grove.
- 10 Tuesday, 6.00 p.m. Men's Tea.
- 11 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 12 Thursday, 7.45 p.m. Guild, 30 Wyett St.
- 15 **Trinity 25**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, Sunday School. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
- 16 Monday, 7.30 Order of St. Luke.
- 17 Tuesday, 8 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- 18 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 19 Thursday, 8 p.m. Rural Deanery Conference.
- 22 **Trinity 26**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Family Service. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
- 24 Tuesday, 7.45 p.m. G.F.S., Townsend Members.
- 25 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 29 **Advent**, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Mattins, Sunday School, 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.
- 30 Monday, St. Andrew, 8 a.m. Holy Communion.

SUNDAY SERVICES

The present pattern of services is as follows —

- 8.00 a.m. :
Holy Communion each Sunday.
- 10.00 a.m. :
Choral Communion 1st Sunday.
Mattins 2nd Sunday.
Holy Communion 3rd Sunday.
Family Service, 4th Sunday.
- 7.30 p.m. :
Evensong, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th
Choral Communion, 5th Sunday.

CONFIRMED 11th OCTOBER, 1970

Jack Aust	Wendy Dobson
John Aust	Suzanne De Jersey
Peter Aust	Joanne Drake
Craig Andrews	Carmel Harris
Stuart Alcock	Elizabeth Jack
Simon Carter	Zandra Klye
Terence Deavin	Debra Kerrisk
David Hughes	Fiona McNeill
Kim Imber	Meryl Mathers
Michael Roberts	Lynette Meyer
David Tilley	Annette Nolan
Norman Tilley	Georgina Sadler
Martin Tilley	Prudence Senior
Herbert Williams	Roslyn Stokes
Vicki Allanby	Christine Viney
Carolyn Atkins	Judy Williams
Lesley Bennell	Elvie Williams
Elizabeth Cole	Claire Wivell
Wendy Cooper	

Please remember them in your prayers

CHURCH FLOWER ROSTER

- 1st November—Mrs. Page
8th November—Mrs. White
15th November—Mrs. Watson
22nd November—Mrs. Swinnerton
29th November—Mrs. Cornish
6th December—Mrs. Robinson
13th December—Mrs. Targett
20th December—Mrs. Easther
24 December—
For Christmas Day all members
Flower Guild
27th December—Mrs. Page

CHAPEL

- 1st November—Mrs. Watson (Jnr.)
8th November—Mrs. Higgins
15th November—Mrs. Crawford
22nd November—Mrs. Boyd
29th November—Mrs. Smith
6th December—Mrs. Grueber
13th December—Mrs. Thompson
20th December—Mrs. Watson (Jnr.)
27th December—Mrs. Higgins

Would members please keep this list for reference.

ST. JOHN'S ON AIR

On Sunday, 22nd November, the popular "Community Hymn Singing" programme will be broadcast on the A.B.C. 1st and 3rd networks at 6.30 p.m.

This programme will be pre-recorded in St. John's at 8.30 p.m. on Sunday, 8th November. Let your friends know about this programme and do come and help in the recording on Sunday, 8th November.

POP STAR WITH A DIFFERENCE

The testimony of Cliff Richard, England's pop singing sensation.

"First and foremost I am a Christian," says Cliff, "which seems to shock people around the world because pop singers aren't supposed to be. I have no idea why."

This refreshingly open image in an unlikely environment has been criticised by the dubious as "publicity grabbing", and at the best by some hard-nosed veterans of show business as a suicidal stroke to an otherwise brilliant career. Cliff's brief comments from the stage about his own convictions send some critics into writing spasms, but the fans appear to enjoy it, or at least, they are prone to give him the right of opinion.

"Any actor or personality in public life has an extra responsibility," claims Cliff. "People who are interested in my career have read what I have said. The only claim I can make is that it makes them think. I can speak only for myself, but Christianity works for me."

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be held at the home of the President, Mrs. Holyman, 8 Riverdale Grove, on Monday, 9th November, at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon Tea hostesses: Mesdames Roake, Shepherd and Heyes.

We would like to tender our very sincere thanks to members and friends, who assisted and attended our Card Afternoon—the takings were \$80. Also our Morning Tea and Stall, approximately \$260 was raised at this function.

On St. Luke's Day members of the Auxiliaries made and presented posies to patients in St. Luke's. Early in the New Year we are hoping to hold a Film Evening in the Parish Hall—slides shown by Miss Mack will include the "Passion Play".

On behalf of the members I would like to thank Mr. Holyman for inviting us all to a Picnic Lunch at the conclusion of the Morning Tea, this was thoroughly enjoyed and was indeed a fitting climax to a very successful morning.

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GUILD

The October meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Easther, and 19 members were in attendance. Mrs. Williams was welcomed as a new member.

Miss Harris from Coats Patons demonstrated and spoke on wools and knitting.

A very successful fund raising Morning Tea was held at the Rectory. Thank you to all those who participated.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Harris, 30 Wyett St., Mrs. Watson will show slides.

Bishop Frank Hulme Moir

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN C.E.M.S.

will address a Men's Tea in St. John's Hall at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 7th Nov.

All men in the parish are invited.

R.S.V.P. to the Rector. Donation: \$1

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of Mothers' Union will be held in the Kindergarten Hall on 17th November after a service commencing in the Chapel at 8 p.m. Mrs. LeFevre will conduct the Creche on 1st November for the 10 a.m. service.

Mrs. Audrey Dobson will be our guest speaker for the November meeting as circumstances prevented her speaking at our October meeting as arranged. Members are reminded of the Mini-Market on 5th November, and are asked to bring produce, cakes and articles for the market. They are also requested to bring their friends to this function to ensure its success.

Supper hostesses for next meeting are Mesdames Ayres, Boon and Bonney.

The following letter was received by the Rector this week, it was written in Launceston on 22nd October—

My dear Rector,

Now that I am back in Launceston and on the

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS
TO THE

MINI-MARKET

ST. JOHN'S HALL,

THURSDAY, 5th NOVEMBER

10 A.M. - 12 NOON

STALLS, CAKES, MORNING TEA.

Proceeds: Clarendon Children's Home.

point of leaving hospital I wonder whether you could kindly insert a note from me in the next Parish Messenger to express my gratitude for all that St. John's has done for me in the last six weeks.

My unexpected illness in New South Wales quickly became so critical that, even with skilful surgery, my condition was extremely serious. But then my recovery speeded up, and everyone who saw me, including the doctors, remarked upon my excellent progress. I had no hesitation in saying that this was the work of the Holy Spirit as the result of the prayers of all my friends. To be in this position and really feel the power coming through was a wonderful experience; without I could never have come back to normal life.

And so I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those wonderful friends at St. John's who brought me back to life by their fervent prayers. To you yourself for making known my needs and leading the prayers; to the prayer groups for having me in continual remembrance; to that amazing number of people who attended the special service, and especially to the large number of fellow Christians who kept me in their daily prayers. When I rejoin you, all will see proof that prayer really works, and miracles still happen.

With warmest greetings to all,

Yours in Christ's service,

Signed: Laurence Denham.

MOVE FOR MURRAY JOHNSON

The Reverend Murray Johnson, who came to St. John's after his ordination in 1968, will later this month take up duties in the Parish of Buckland.

There are seven centres in the parish, including the holiday resort of Orford, and the new woodchip centre of Triabunna.

I am sure that the parish will present a challenge to both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and we wish them God's blessing in their first parish.

Sunday, 15th November, will be Mr. Johnson's last Sunday at St. John's, and he will be the preacher at all services. He does not desire a formal farewell, but you will have opportunity at all services on the 15th to convey your personal farewell.

HOLY BAPTISM

"Thine own by adoption"

Fiona Maree Nobes, Leanne Joy Richardson, Marcus Graeme Hardy, Toni Michelle Ralph, Jodie Louise Breen.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Glenn Michael Lindsey and Rosemary Joan Brooks, Lester Joseph Spencer and Beverley Robyn Simmonds, David John Arnott and Margaret Elizabeth Rudd, Peter John Kitchin and Lynette Frances Wilkes.