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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania

No. 230

OCTOBER, 1970

Rector :

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

Assistant Priest :

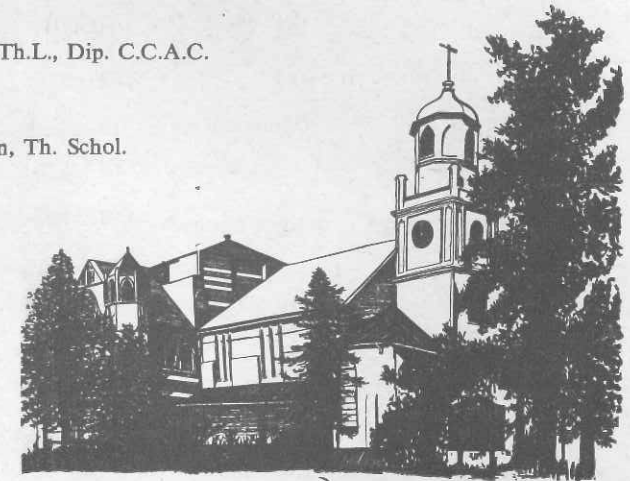
The Reverend Murray Johnson, Th. Schol.

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,

With this "Messenger" will come your copy of "Church News" giving details of Synod. You will notice that there were no world shattering decisions. However, I thought you would be interested to know my impressions of this my first Synod in Tasmania.

As a laymen, or clergyman, I have now been a member of five diocesan Synods and of our General Synod for Australia. The form and pattern is always the same yet there are great differences. Melbourne Synod is so large and impersonal the many clergy seldom attend or do so for a minimum period, while in Sydney many clergy never qualify for a seat. In Tasmania all clergy, including those on the retired list attend. While this keeps the retired man within the fold of the active ministry it yet presents a problem for some of the active priests who see the retired clergy as a potential block vote restricting progress in the Church. While on paper this may appear to be possible I saw no evidence of it and now doubt the reasonableness of this argument.

The Bishop, by his kindness as Chairman, must have endeared himself to all of us, I was sorry that one or two tended to take advantage of his generosity.

In our informal gatherings we had time to make new, and renew old friendships. A number of lay representatives were attending their first Synod and, like myself, were anxious to meet folk from other parishes. Meal times and afternoon teas provided this opportunity.

The Cathedral services were conducted with due dignity and I was impressed by the number of the servers. These lads, mostly late teenagers, also waited on us at tea time on Monday.

On Tuesday morning, St. Michael and All Angels Day, I attended the Holy Communion celebrated for the girls of St. Michael's Collegiate School. There was much more ceremonial than we are accustomed to, but it was good to see so many of the girls taking a part in the service.

An unscheduled event, before each evening session, was a time of community singing with the Revd. John Senior at the Town Hall Organ.

There was a strong move by the laity and a number of the clergy to re-evaluate the way in which the diocese is structured, and debate on this was intelligent and penetrating. The result was the setting up of a Select Committee of four clergy and five laymen. They will "investigate and report on the development and use of personnel and the general organisation and management structure of the Diocese". In days when all we do comes under critical scrutiny this is wise. I had the honour of being one of the four clergy elected to this committee which will meet in St. John's Rectory this week.

I also had the honour of being elected to the Diocesan Council and the Board of Christian Education. This will take some of my time from the parish, but it is a contribution to the diocese that I can make on your behalf.

It was a good Synod. Its decisions will not have a great effect on us at present, but some of them, particularly that on Communion and Confirmation could have far reaching effects in the future.

We this month turn our eyes to our own parish and I commend the various events associated with our Dedication Festival. Your attendance is a vital contribution to their success.

Finally, I want to thank all those who have been remembering Laurence Denham in their prayers, and particularly the great number who answered my call to join me in prayer for him. We hope that he will be well enough to move to Launceston shortly. Should you like to write to him the address is—Gloucester House, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Missenden Road, Camperdown. 2050. N.S.W.

Yours sincerely,

HUGH GIRVAN.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

- 4 **Trinity XIX.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 5 Monday, 7.30 p.m. O.S.L. Prayer Group and Annual Meeting.
- 7 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 8 Thursday, 7.45 p.m. Women's Guild, 13 Wyett St.
- 9 Friday, 8 p.m. Rural Decanal Conference in Hall.
- 11 **Trinity XX.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 10 a.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 13 Tuesday, 6 p.m. Men's Fellowship and Tea. Ian Knowles C.M.S.
- 14 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m. - noon, St. John's Auxiliary for St. Luke's—Morning Tea at Mrs. Holyman's, 8 Riverdale Grove. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 17 Saturday, 2.30 p.m. G.F.S. Annual Fair.
- 18 **St. Luke's Day.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. Revd. Daryl Chellew. 7 p.m. Evensong, Revd. Daryl Chellew.
- 20 Tuesday, 8.00 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- 21 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 22 Thursday, 10.15 a.m. Morning Tea at Rectory for Women's Guild.
- 24 Saturday, 3.30 p.m. Garden Party at Rectory.
- 25 **Trinity XXII.** 8 a.m. Holy Communion, Archdeacon Costello, 10 a.m. Family Service, Archdeacon Costello, 7 p.m. Evensong, Revd. O. Heyward.
- 27 Tuesday, G.F.S.
- 28 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

November 5—

10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Mini Market in aid of Clarendon Children's Home in Kindergarten Hall.

G. F. S. FAIR

SATURDAY, 17th OCTOBER
2.30 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S KINDERGARTEN HALL
STALL AND AFTERNOON TEA

METHODIST TO PREACH IN ST. JOHN'S

The Methodist Church of Victoria and Tasmania will commemorate its 150th Anniversary this month, and will hold its Annual Conference in Tasmania for the first time.

The conference will be held for ten days (some Anglicans think a three-day Synod too long), and 500 delegates will attend. Our Synod sent fraternal greetings to the conference.

To mark the occasion I have invited the Revd. Daryl Chellew of Leopold, Victoria, to preach in St. John's on Sunday, 18th October, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. services. Mr. Chellew formerly served at New Norfolk and Westbury. He was Methodist Minister at St. Arnaud when I was Archdeacon there, and it will be a joy for my wife and I to see our Methodist friends again.

ST. JOHN'S DEDICATION FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, 24th OCTOBER—

3.00 p.m. Garden Party in the Rectory Grounds.

SUNDAY, 25th OCTOBER—

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
Preacher: The Venerable A. G. Costello.

10.00 a.m. Family Service.
Preacher: The Venerable A. G. Costello.

7.00 p.m. Festal Evensong.
Preacher: The Revd. O. S. Heyward.

TERRITORIAN FOR MEN'S TEA

Mr. Ian Knowles, a worker with the Church Missionary Society in the Northern Territory, will show slides of his work at the October Meeting of the Men's Fellowship.

All men of the parish are invited on Tuesday, 13th October, at 6 p.m.

WHAT HAPPENED AT SYNOD?

Come and hear all about it at the Rural Deanery Conference to be held in St. John's Hall, on Friday, 9th October, at 8 p.m.

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

Owing to the annual morning tea party being held at the home of Mrs. H. Holyman, 8 Riverdale Grove on Wednesday, 14th October, the usual meeting for October will not be held.

Members will meet again in November, this will be the final meeting for this year.

G.F.S.

Please come to our annual Fair on Saturday, 17th October, at 2.30 p.m. in the Kindergarten Hall. There will be cakes, produce, afternoon tea and a work stall filled with articles suitable for birthday and Christmas gifts. Bring your friends. Proceeds for our Church Carpet Fund.

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be on Tuesday, 20th October, at 8.00 p.m. Following a service in the Chapel we will meet in the Hall where our guest speaker will be Mrs. Audrey Dobson—TNT9 4 Roses Cooking Corner.

A "Mini Market" will be held on Thursday, 5th November, from 10 a.m. till 12 noon in St. John's Kindergarten Hall.

There will be Morning Tea—a work stall—cakes, etc. The proceeds will be in aid of the Clarendon Children's Home.

Please come along and bring your friends.

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GUILD

The September meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Targett with 13 members in attendance.

As our previous afternoon tea, held for our senior ladies of the parish was so successful, it was decided to hold another on Tuesday, 8th December, at 2.15 p.m.

Members agreed to send a \$10.00 donation to the Mission to Seamen for their annual appeal.

A morning tea (bring a gift and buy a gift) for fund raising is to be held at the Rectory on 22nd October at 10.15 a.m.

Further knitting was received from several members for the Q.V. Hospital.

Mrs. McLeod showed films and spoke on the work of the Mission for Lepers. Such people make one feel very humble. Thank you Mrs. McLeod.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Easter, 13 Wyett Street.

NO FINANCIAL PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?

The Bishop of Ballarat says in the "Church Chronicle" some trenchant words which we might all take to heart.

There are no financial problems in the church—there are only spiritual problems. Solve the spiritual problem, which is fundamental, and the financial problems will disappear. And the fundamental problem is that those who still go to Church are not "saying

their prayers". I have reason (and very good reason, too) for making such a statement. Our religion, even amongst regular church-goers, is still largely formal. To "go to Church" is not enough, if it is not matched with a corresponding reality of devotion which the phrase "saying your prayers" crudely describes. If our people—including many who may read this—were really people of prayer is it remotely conceivable that their family pledge could possibly be 20 cents a week, as it still is, to my sure knowledge, in many cases?

It is because there is such little prayer amongst us that the Spirit is weak amongst us, and that, as one result our financial state is so feeble and ineffective. I am not concerned about our finances, whose crippled state is crippling the work of the whole Church, inside the parishes and outside. But I am concerned very deeply with the spiritual debility of which our financial problems are the mere surface symptoms. Only the revival of personal religion amongst us, centred individually round the practice of private prayer and corporately round the Offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, will open the Church's life to the re-invigorating power of the Divine Spirit, and enable us to go forward in the Church's work as God has called us to do.

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: Mrs. W. Aust, \$2.00; Mr. R. C. Sutton, \$2.00; Thank you.

HOLY BAPTISM

"Thine own by adoption"

Carol Louise Wise, Jason Laurence Leonard O'Shea, Jason Jamie Curtis, Dale Anthony Woolston, Shaun Maxwell Rigby, Tanya Maree Thorpe, Sandra Helen Quarrell, Kathryn Patricia Wells, Nerelle Jane Hill, Darrell John Roach, Julia Marie Collinson.

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Those whom God hath joined together"

Noel Frederick Miley and Caroline Jane Palmer, Graeme Rodney Allen and Patricia Isla Champ, Carl Edward Thomas and Cheryl Anne Hill, Laurence William McCashin and Elizabeth Jeanette Youster, Shane Ernest Arkley and Dianne Joy Townsend, Brian Andrew Carswell and Lynn Le Fevre, Colin Maxwell Illman and Rosalie Joan Chugg, Wayne Philip Heenan and Patricia Margaret Wilmshurst, Paul John Larter and Cheryl Landya Ringrose, Rex Alexander Denholm and Fay Heather Green, Gregory Ross Hughes and Mary Elizabeth Hoskinson.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

"I am the resurrection and the life"

William Weir, Harold James Nevin, Claude James Newton.