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St. John's Parish Messenger

Monthly News from the Mother Church of Launceston, Tasmania

No. 241

OCTOBER, 1971

Rector:

Rev. Hugh Girvan, S.B., St.J., Th.L., Dip. C.C.A.C.
Phone 31 5218

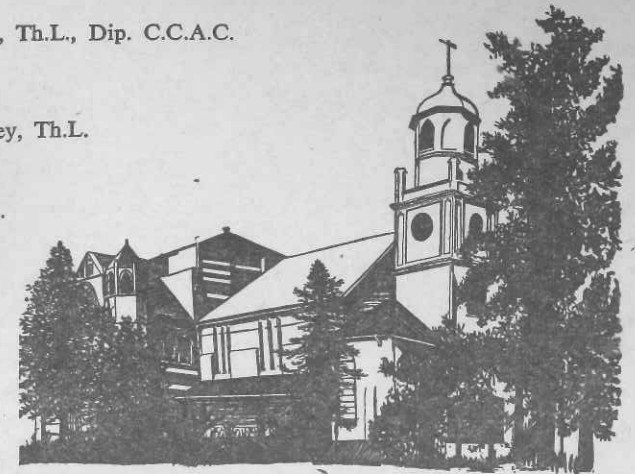
Assistant Staff:

The Reverend Graham Thurley, Th.L.
Phone 31 4896

Deaconess Jenny Shaw, Th.L.
Phone 2 3186

Organist:

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



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear friends of St. John's,

There are a number of important matters which I would bring to your notice this month.

As you know October has become the traditional time for the observance of our Patronal Festival. (St. John's Day is December 27th, hardly the best time for a parish family gathering). This year the Vestry has decided not to hold the traditional Garden Party but instead to invite you all to come to church on Sunday, October 24th, and then to gather for a "Parish Family Luncheon". The Bishop will be with us at our services and luncheon, and I urge you now to mark this date and keep it free. You will receive an official invitation if you are on our mailing list.

Our Bishop will also visit us to preach at a Civic Service on Sunday, October 10th. This service will be held at 11 a.m. (the usual 10 a.m. service will not be held). This service marks the end of the year of office of the Mayor of Launceston and I hope that we as hosts will make sure of our attendance.

In the wider church there is at present an urgent need which one of our people might fill. The Northern Committee of the Church Missionary Society needs a treasurer. I understand the amount of work is not great as Miss Brownrigg does all the banking. Our missionaries give up so much when they go as our representatives, surely we can find a treasurer for them.

You might also note that the C.M.S. Book Depot in St. John St., is now open on Saturday mornings. There has been a large turnover of stock this year and many new titles are now available.

In the service of others some of our folk help "Launceston Lifelink". A course for counsellor training will begin on November 5th, and I will gladly advise any who are interested in being trained for this important work of community service.

Synod has now concluded and I want to pass on the thanks of all those visitors who so greatly appreciated all that was done for them. We joined with other northern parishes in providing hospitality and our ladies catered for hundreds of meals and "cuppas". It was an outstanding effort and the Anglican Women's Fellowship Committee who planned it all deserve our highest praise. The final Synod Eucharist was a most inspiring service and here we ought to publicly express our appreciation to Mr. O'Neill and the choir for their leadership in our service of praise and thanksgiving.

These great occasions lift us above the frustrations we so often know and show us yet again that there is lasting satisfaction in service to others. The love (service) of God and our neighbour is constantly brought before us in our Lord's summary of the Commandments as our highest service. When we obey Him we discover His truth. Perhaps the present challenge is this—we have obeyed and discovered a truth in one area, now is the time to press on and obey Him more completely.

Yours sincerely,

HUGH GIRVAN



Happenings

Last month's copy was in the press when I received news of the arrival of Nicholas James Easter. Congratulations to parents and grandparents. Nicholas has joined the family tradition. Aged four weeks he joined the family at morning worship last Sunday.

* * *

In case some of you missed—as I did—the engagement of the Rev. Alf Chipman and Miss Nola Plush, I include it on the "better late than never" basis. Alf—our former assistant—is still doing youth work in Kenya, and Nola is nursing at the Royal Melbourne.

* * *

Dr. Mary (May) Kingsmill's death removed one of our humblest and yet most valued members. She upheld the family tradition of service to others, and added to her professional skill a loving concern which makes memory of her dear to many.

* * *

Our sympathy goes to Cliff Targett, whose father died on the 17th September at the grand old age of eighty-eight.

* * *

Hope you saw "The Gentle Savage" (sketches of the New Guinea Highlands). Suzanne Sanders, the artist, has now been accepted for missionary service in New Guinea.

* * *

Did you see The Examiner photograph of our "swinging" Guide Captain, Doreen Poole? To be the second person in Tasmania to receive the coveted Emu award calls for our sincere congratulations.

* * *

Was it a surprise that Ingrid Bergman said at a recent interview "People need to have some kind of aim in life, some kind of standard. In my own country of Sweden, too much is free—free love—free everything. People are very unhappy in Sweden."

* * *

When I see the few who attend some of our services and meetings I'm reminded of a comment once made about Noah — "at least he didn't miss the boat." Forgive me for asking the question, but why do so many of us "miss the boat" when challenged to be a dinkum Christian?"

Elizabeth Street

WOMEN'S GUILD

The September Meeting was held at the home of Mrs. M. Easter; 14 members were present.

Mrs. Wendy Bernes spoke about the "Products on Today's Market". This was most interesting, especially for our housekeepers.

Would you please note the change of meeting place this month, it will be held in the home of Mrs. Page, 12 Spencer St. Supper hostesses, Page and Good.

Plans for our end of year party will be discussed at this meeting.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

- 1 Friday, 8 p.m. C.M.S. Annual Meeting, Kindergarten Hall.
- 3 Trinity XVII, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, Creche, Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 4 Monday, 8 p.m. Order of St. Luke Annual Meeting.
- 6 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 10 Trinity XVIII, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Sunday School only. 11 a.m. Civic Service. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 11 Monday, 2.45 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary.
- 12 Tuesday, 6 p.m. Men's Tea.
- 13 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 14 Thursday, Women's Guild. 8 p.m.
- 16 Saturday, G.F.S. Fair.
- 17 Trinity XIX, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong. 8.15 p.m. Coffee Shop.
- 18 Monday, St. Luke, 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Order of St. Luke Healing Service.
- 19 Tuesday, 8 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- 20 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 24 Trinity XX, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 26 Tuesday, 7.45 p.m. Townsend G.F.S.
- 27 Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union to entertain blind folk.
- 31 Trinity XXI, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Mattins, 7 p.m. Holy Communion. 8.15 p.m. 20 and Overs.

ST. JOHN'S FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24th

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion. Preacher: The Bishop.
- 10.00 a.m. Family Service and Confirmation. Preacher: The Bishop.
- 11.30 a.m. Parish Family Luncheon.
- 7.00 p.m. Evensong. Preacher: Canon Tyson.

MOTHERS' UNION

Mrs. Margaret Greeney spoke on the "Visitation of 'Shut-in'" at our last meeting. It was enlightening and interesting to hear that there are about fifty lonely, needy people called upon—some weekly, fortnightly and monthly.

A Creche will be conducted on October 3rd, at 10 a.m., by Mrs. Piper.

Members are reminded to bring articles for the November Mini-Market to be the next meeting on Tuesday, October 19th. Our speaker will be Dr. Joan Farrar. Supper hostesses—Mesdames Scott and Atkins.

Final arrangements for our Afternoon Tea for the Blind and Deaf will be made at our next meeting. Musical items have been organised. The date is Wednesday, October 27th, at 2.30 p.m.

HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Owing to the Annual Morning Tea being held at Mrs. Holyman's home, 8 Riverdale Grove, on Wednesday, October 13th, the usual meeting for this month is cancelled.

Invitations have been sent out for the Morning Tea and we are hoping that this function will again be as successful as in other years. Gifts for the stall would be greatly appreciated. Mrs. Holyman has invited all members of the auxiliary to be her guests for lunch on that day.

The Card Afternoon held at Mrs. Shepherd's home, Elphin Rd., on Friday, September 17th, was again very successful. Proceeds were approximately \$68.00. Many thanks to our members who provided a delightful afternoon tea.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Targett Snr. in the loss of her husband, also to Mr. & Mrs. Targett Jnr. Our thoughts are with them at this time.

G.F.S.

The Annual G.F.S. Fair will be held in the Kindergarten Hall on Saturday, October 16th. It will be opened by Mrs. B. Robinson, Evan-dale, at 2.30 p.m.

There will be stalls of cakes, produce, sweets, a work stall with a variety of useful gifts for Christmas, birthdays, etc. Afternoon Tea will be served.

Please come and assist our annual efforts, proceeds of which will help our Church Carpet Fund.

YOUTH GROUP

The main event for September, on the first Saturday, was a day trip up Mt. Barrow with the expected battle at the summit. The Coffee Hour was held after Evensong on the third Sunday.

Programme for October is as follows:—
Saturday, 2nd, 7.30 p.m., Work Night.
Sunday, 17th, 8.15 p.m., Coffee Hour.

This group is mainly for those 13-16. Anyone interested could contact Mr. Thurley on 31 4896 for details.

HONG KONG MARKET

Help our Sunday School children in their project to support three refugee children in Hong Kong by supporting the Hong Kong Market from 10 a.m. - 12 noon on Saturday, November 6th.

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.

Mrs. L. Jones \$2.00, Mrs. A. R. Hammond \$1.00, Mrs. M. J. Walton \$5.00, Miss Gerhardt \$4.00, Mrs. G. Swinnerton \$2.00, Mr. Burns \$5.00, Mrs. Donaldson \$1.00. Thank you.

G.F.S. FAIR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th
2.30 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S KINDERGARTEN HALL
STALL AND AFTERNOON TEA

AUSTRALIAN PRAYER BOOK BY 1977?

The liturgical commission of the Church of England has been hard at work looking at forms of worship. This month a conservative revision of the Prayer Book will be available. "Australia '69" will be revised and published in 1973. To date some 80,000 copies of the "Australia '69" have been printed, showing that a wide trial of the service was given.

The commission is now working on such things as "Sunday Evening Service", "Marriage Service", "Music and Hymns", "Christian Initiation", "A Shorter Litany", and sundry other things.

One would need to search to find a denomination that hasn't been experimenting with its liturgy in an effort to find a means of true worship for the 20th Century. Those listening to broadcast services may have been amazed to hear some Roman Catholic services in modern English and soundly Biblically based.

Our Liturgy was finally revised in 1662 when English was regarded at its greatest—Shakespeare's English. Is such a language a true means of expression of worship today? Many think not. The sale of 28 million copies of "Good News for Modern Man" (the New Testament) in under five years is a good barometer.

HONG KONG FAIR

HELP OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL!
SUPPORT 3 CHINESE CHILDREN
IN HONG KONG.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6th
PARISH HALL, 10 A.M. - NOON

AMEN: SO LET IT BE

Those who come to Church find that this is a word that is very often on their lips. I wonder if we give sufficient thought to what it means. Or, perhaps, do we really mean it. When we say "Amen", for example, to the Lord's Prayer, we are giving verbal assent to its entire contents. But to address God as "Our Father", and then not to treat him as such in our daily lives, and not to have a brotherly concern for our fellow men, is surely hypocrisy. So, too, it is to pray "Hallowed by Thy Name" and to show no respect for God in normal words and actions. "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" is surely a dangerous petition if we harbour a grudge against anyone. To add Amen to this or any other prayer without facing up to all that it involves, is to rob this word "Amen" of any meaning.

Without doubt, effective prayer demands more than a mere verbal response. It needs a sincere and active response both in will and deed.

(Carolus in "The St. Arnaud Churchman")