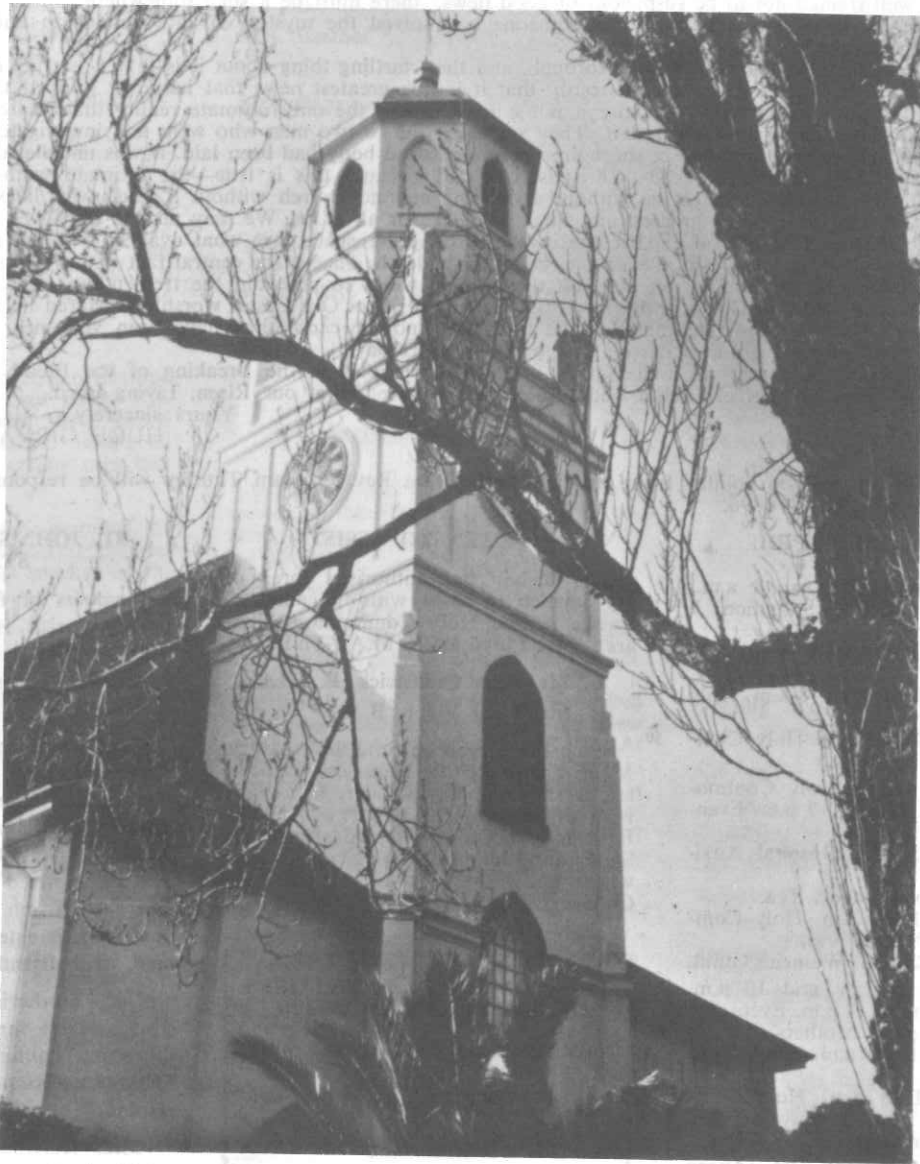


# PARISH MESSENGER



**CHURCH OF ST. JOHN □ LAUNCESTON**

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

Assistant  
The Reverend Graham Thurley, Th.L.  
Telephone 31 4896

Organist: Mr. Lindsay Hutchinson, B.A., L.T.C.L., A.Mus.A.

### FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends of St. John's,

How would we react to radio or TV bulletins which brought us good news, rather than the usual disasters. I can imagine us saying, "It just can't be true—there must be a snag somewhere."

We are so accustomed to our daily dose of despondency that we have come to take it for granted. Really good news is almost unknown. The world is a very small place nowadays and bad news travels fast. All the lurid details burst in upon our peace. If we silence the radio and TV and pick up the newspaper, we know what we shall find. Idly we scan the headlines — "plague, pestilence and famine, battle, murder and sudden death".

It was the same yesterday, and the day before, and the day before that. The sports page is much more interesting and less troubling to our conscience. We might take notice if the headlines reported a 50% reduction in income tax, or a genuine agreement between Russia and the U.S.A. to abolish all nuclear weapons. But all the time we should feel it was too good to be true. We have been too well trained not to be suspicious of good news, there must be a snag somewhere.

What then if the news comes through that someone has solved the mystery of life and death and probed the secret of man's very existence?

It is no idle question. The news HAS come through, and the startling thing about it is that it is true, there are no snags. The witness of history and personal experience both testify that it is the greatest news that has ever gripped the hearts of men. It is in fact the only really good news simply because it is the truth about the only ultimate reality that matters.

Three ordinary women first discovered it. They passed it on to two men who went and investigated for themselves. What they discovered was an empty tomb where a short time before a dead body had been laid. It was unbelievable, but it was true. No good then to seek the living among the dead—Christ is risen and because this is true—the ultimate truth—you are reading this now, for there could be no church magazine without a church, and no church without a Lord who lives.

The mystery of the grave is the greatest and final problem for all of us. We may take to ourselves the wings of the morning, we may plumb the great deeps and explore the mysteries of outer space, but what avail is it if the final judgment is to be the grave-digger's spade? It is not, Jesus Christ has conquered death. That is the central fact of the Christian Faith, and because of it Christians meet Sunday by Sunday on the first day of the week, to proclaim the tremendous news.

"A Happy Easter" we say. Only the Risen Christ can make it so. Our Easter worship is shared by a great multitude which no man can number. Amongst them are many of the faces we know because they have been very near and dear to us. They now rejoice in the greater brightness of a dawning beyond our short day.

Long ago at Emmaus, Jesus was made known unto His Disciples in the Breaking of the Bread. As yesterday, so it is today, and for ever. May we perceive Him and rejoice as we meet Him, our Risen, Living Lord.

Yours sincerely,  
HUGH GIRVAN

P.S. — I shall be in Victoria on holiday from 3rd-21st April, The Rev. Graham Thurley will be responsible for my work and can be contacted on 31 4896.

### CALENDAR FOR APRIL

- April—
- 2 EASTER DAY: 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
  - 3 EASTER MONDAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
  - 4 EASTER TUESDAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
  - 5 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
  - 9 EASTER I: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Evensong.
  - 10 Monday: 2.45 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary.
  - 11 Tuesday: 6 p.m. Men's Tea.
  - 12 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
  - 13 Thursday: 7.45 p.m. Women's Guild.
  - 16 EASTER II: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
  - 18 Tuesday: 2 p.m. Mothers' Union.
  - 19 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
  - 23 EASTER III: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. 7 p.m. Easter Carol Service.
  - 25 FEAST OF ST. MARK: (Anzac Day) 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.45 p.m. Townsend G.F.S. Group.
  - 26 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mothers' Union Morning Tea.
  - 30 EASTER IV: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

### LAYMEN TO ASSIST

The Bishop has authorised three of our laymen to assist with the administration of the Holy Communion. They are: Mr. Lloyd Bath, M.A., Th.L.

Mr. Peter Cranswick, B.A. LL.B  
Mr. Peter Webb, B.A.

Each has served on St. John's Vestry. Mr. Cranswick is the Diocesan Advocate and a Diocesan Lay Reader. Mr. Webb is a Diocesan Lay Reader and Mr. Bath has recently resigned from the Staff of Ridley Theological College where he was Dean of Studies and College Librarian.

### THE COMBINED AUXILIARIES OF ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL

invite you and your friends to a  
MORNING TEA

at the home of  
Mr. & Mrs. T. D. Room  
"Strathlea",

Alanvale Road, Newnham  
on Wednesday, April 12th  
from 10.30 a.m.

Morning Tea: 45 cents  
Mixed Stall with plants, cakes, etc.  
Turn left at Bethune Park

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

Members of the Auxiliary will meet in the Parish Hall on Monday, April 10th at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon tea hostesses: Mesdames G. Swinterton and H. Gardiner.

The combined auxiliaries of St. Luke's Hospital are holding a Morning Tea at the home of Mr. & Mrs. T. D. Room, "Strathlea", Newnham, on Wednesday, April 12th, at 10.30 a.m. There will be a mixed stall with cakes, plants, etc. Admission 45 cents. A cordial invitation is extended to all parishioners and their friends.

Our Mothering Sunday posies of flowers were made by Mesdames Holyman and Palliser and given to patients in St. Luke's and at St. Anna's Nursing Home.

Mrs. Holyman expressed her regret at the passing away of two of our elderly members, Mrs. West and Mrs. Targett. Their help and assistance was always so readily given for a number of years.

A letter from the Board of Management was received, thanking members for a donation of \$400.00.



## HAPPENINGS

Found, in St. John's, an envelope inside a donation — outside a note — Robert C. Hay — Randwick, N.S.W., married to Minnie Bod in this church, 1922. One of the many who remember with thankfulness the ministry of our church.

\* \* \*

When it comes to attendance at worship some of us don't "make the grade" as often as we should, so full marks to Lynn Watts who has been doing the right thing on crutches.

\* \* \*

Another effort worthy of note, is that made by two young mothers, Leslie Perkins and Helen Thurley, who have not let young babies stand in the way of teaching in the Sunday School. To their scholars delight they take their babies with them.

\* \* \*

The late Florence Huxtable celebrated her birthday with her twin sister Mrs. G. Dodery, and that night was "called home". A worshipper at St. John's all her adult life, we shall greatly miss her.

\* \* \*

The Broadland girls who sampled the "left overs" of the Mothering Sunday Simnel Cake, gave top marks to the cook — Bob Williams.

\* \* \*

Good news, sales at the C.M.S. Bookshop are increasing. But this means that the honorary manageress needs more help. Is there anyone who could give some regular time to help our missionaries in this way?

\* \* \*

If you don't know the charming young lass who stands waiting to help you at our book table on Sunday mornings, she is Maryanne Puttman, a nurse at the Q.V. If she hasn't the book you want, she will obtain it for you.

\* \* \*

If you are wondering about the new chair in the Sanctuary of the Chapel, it was carved and given by Miss M. Gregory of Arthur Street.

\* \* \*

Overheard as a group stood admiring the new heating unit. "When that gets going the Rector will be a hot gosseller."

*Elizabeth Street*

## FLOWER GUILD ROSTER

April 2—	
EASTER DAY — All ladies help.	
Church	Chapel
April 9—	
Mrs. Stevenson	Mrs. Girvan
Mrs. B. Easther	
April 16—	
Mrs. Cornish	Mrs. Smith
April 23—	
Mrs. Robinson	Mrs. Greuber
April 30—	
Mrs. Easther	Mrs. Thompson
May 7—	
Mrs. Page	Mrs. Watson

## WORKING BEE

Men of the Parish are urged to assist at the working bee which will be held on Saturday, 8th April, commencing at 9 a.m. The usual tools are needed and trailers will be a help.

## WOMEN'S GUILD

We began our year's activities with a service in the Chapel. Fifteen members attended the meeting which followed in the Rectory.

The President, Mrs. White, gave a report on the Conference of Northern Guilds, held at Westbury in February. The 1971-72 project of support for the Roland Boys' Home raised \$600, a gratifying result. Members were asked to support indigenous Clergy in New Guinea as their project for 1972-73. At the Conference it was also decided to join other Guilds in the Diocese in supporting the Anglican Guilds Migrant Scholarship by contributing \$2.00 per Guild per annum. The next Conference will be held at Campbell Town.

Another contribution of baby clothes for the Queen Victoria Hospital was donated by Misses Scott and Wilson.

Our speaker for the meeting was Miss Rose, her subject was chinaware and her talk was most enlightening and interesting.

The next meeting will be held on April 13th, at Mrs. White's, 16 Wyett Street, the topic will be "Products for '72".

Owing to the sudden election, a decision has been made by the Guild Committee to hold a stall to raise funds on Election day, April 22nd, outside St. John's Hall. We would ask all parishioners, where possible, to contribute goods, jam, cakes, etc. for the stall. Goods may

be left with Rev. Thurley on the Friday 21st, or on Saturday after 9 a.m. at the stall.

## WE HAVE A FUTURE

To look back is to invite death, whether for Lot's wife or for Orpheus. There is a profound difference between those who feel that the present is always being given to them by the past, stained and twisted by the past's mistakes, and those who feel that the present is flowing towards them, new, out of the future. The first is the more natural point of view, the second the more Christian. For it is the **Resurrection of Jesus** which made it possible for us to reverse, as it were, the flow of time. That event owed nothing to the past but came, new and unprecedented, out of the future. It broke the old entail of cause and effect and turned 'events' into 'advents'.

Anyone whose eyes have been opened by Christ should be able to live with this new look, knowing that 'now' is not an end product but a new start. It was at the height of the Mau Mau revolution in Kenya that a young African, whose father had been murdered, said: "The real difference in being a Christian is simply this—we know we have a future."

—James Taylor

## MOTHERS' UNION

The Annual Meeting was held in the Rectory on 21st March. Prior to the meeting members attended Holy Communion (The "Australia 69" Liturgy) and the Lenten Study.

Office bearers for the next year are: Enrolling Member, Mrs. Girvan; Assistant Enrolling Member, Mrs. Roberts; Secretary, Mrs. Ayers; Treasurer, Mrs. Watson; Literature Secretary, Mrs. Deavin.

The April meeting will be held at 2.00 p.m. on April 18th. Please note the change of time from the evening for this month. This is to enable some of our older members, and former members to be present. The meeting will take place in the Hall.

Will members and friends please note that we will hold a Morning Tea in aid of Christopher Mansell Fund at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 26th April, in the Hall.



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