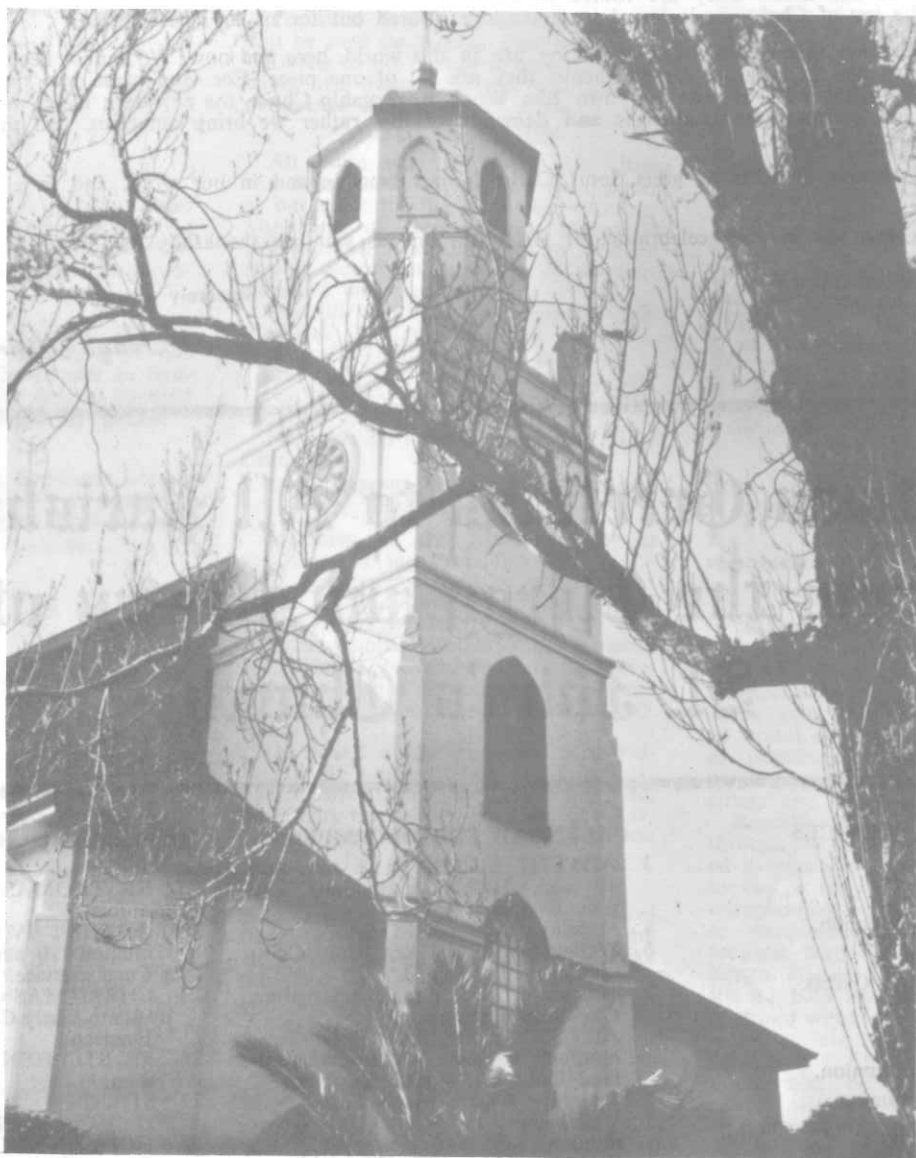


PARISH MESSENGER



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 at St. John's,

It is not yet December and I am writing about Christmas, and my thoughts about the Good News of Christ's birth are all mixed up with the day's news. The latest stage in the Vietnam peace negotiations; the Federal election campaign; the price of wool; a father and son lost off our West Coast. What will the headlines be in December, and what does this sort of news have to do with the News we sing about "O come all ye faithful, Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord?"

First this: the joy of Christmas and the assurance and joy it brings do not arise out of the circumstances of our lives, or the events of our times. They are rooted in this mighty fact "And the Word (The Son of God) became flesh and lived among us". The joy of Christmas is found in God's love poured out for us in Jesus Christ.

But we who celebrate this coming with great joy are in this world, here and now. We cannot keep the fact of Christmas and the events of our lives in separate compartments, they are all of one piece. For God came into the life of the world in Jesus Christ, that he might take us into His own life. When we worship Christ, the new-born King, we are not taking refuge from the troubles and sorrows, the challenges and demands of life, rather we bring ourselves, and the world as we know it, to God through Jesus Christ.

To celebrate Christmas, then, is to greet Jesus Christ in our worship and in our work, and in all life as the Lord of Life.

May our Lord bless you in your celebration of His birth, and as you live thankfully and joyfully.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh Girvan

Christmas Greetings to All Parishioners from the Clergy and Vestry of St. John's Church

CHRISTMAS SERVICES**Christmas Eve —**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.00 a.m. Mattins.
8.00 p.m. Festival of Carols.

Christmas Day —

6.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion - Choral.
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Evensong and Carols.

Please notify the Rector of any desiring Communion in hospital or at home.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

3 ADVENT SUNDAY : 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
4 Monday : 7.30 p.m. O.S.L.
6 Wednesday : 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
7 Thursday : 7.15 p.m. Kindergarten Christmas Evening.
10 ADVENT II : 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. (Broadland House) 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
12 Tuesday : 6 p.m. Men's Tea.
13 Wednesday : 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
15 Friday : 8 p.m. "The Messiah".
16 Saturday : 8.15 p.m. Organ Recital.
17 ADVENT III : 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.

20 Wednesday : 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
21 ST. THOMAS : 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
24 ADVENT IV : 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 8.00 p.m. Carol Service.
25 CHRISTMAS DAY : 6, 7, 8, and 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Evensong.
26 ST. STEPHEN : 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
27 ST. JOHN : 8 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
28 HOLY INNOCENTS : 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
31 CHRISTMAS I : 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Evensong. 11.30 p.m. Holy Communion (New Year's Eve).



HAPPENINGS

Exmouth on the coast of Western Australia is the destination of the Thurlays. Graham's ministry will be varied. A R.A.A.F. station, cattle and sheep properties and an Aboriginal settlement, bore water and an average temperature of 90 to 110 degrees or 32 to 43 celcius.

* * *

One goes, another returns. Lindsay O'Neill is due to return on Saturday 16th (A.N.L. permitting).

* * *

Newest parishioner is now Leonie Diane daughter of Barbara Deavin, one of our Mothers' Union members. Husband is David and Leonie has four brothers.

* * *

Michael Perkins is Chairman of our Works Committee. His transfer to Sydney for three months hasn't daunted our Michael. He supervises by 'phone.

* * *

The visit of the Rev. Caedmon Koieba provided us with a tonic. From a canibal background he is now Rector of a self-supporting parish of Papuans.

* * *

Have you caught up with the Murray Johnson's since they went to Victoria with World Christian Action? Murray's boss was in Launceston last month and I learnt that Stuart now has a baby sister, Philippa.

* * *

Discovered there were six adult baptisms in St. John's last month. We don't blow trumpets, but the call of God is still being heard.

* * *

No wonder Miss Lily Best, who showed her audio-visuals in the parish last month, is affectionately known as 'Tiger Lil'. Heard one parishioner say "she takes the world by its tail and shakes it".

* * *

The three Wise Men sought and worshipped Christ — which proves that they were wise men.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Elizabeth Street

G.F.S. NEWS

The recent Girls' Friendly Society Fair was a successful social afternoon and raised \$120. Our thanks to all who attended or assisted in any way.

A leaders' training day was held at the Rectory last month. A leader training team came from Hobart for the day and we now look forward to applying our new skills for the benefit of the girls.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Kindergarten Christmas evening will be held on Thursday 7th December at 7.15 p.m. Parents are invited to attend.

The final Family Service for the year will be held on Sunday 17th at 10 a.m.

Owing to the change in school holiday dates, the **Sunday School will not recommence until February 18th.**

MOTHERS' UNION

All those who met Miss Lily Best will know how we enjoyed having her as our guest for the November meeting. The films of New Guinea, Melanesia and Western Australia gave us a much clearer picture of the work of the missionaries and clergy.

We will commence our monthly 'get-togethers' on Tuesday 20th February, at 8 p.m. — more of that in 1973.

Our congratulations to Barbara and David Deavin on the arrival of their daughter Leonie.

May you all have a Happy and Holy Christmas.

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

Members of the Auxiliary met at the home of the President, Mrs. Holyman, for the last meeting of this year.

The Auxiliary will go into recess until Monday, March 12th, 1973.

At the Annual Meeting of the Hospital on Thursday, November 16th, the Secretary presented a cheque for \$550 to the Chairman of the Hospital, Mr. T. D. Room.

On behalf of the members, Mrs. Paliser made a presentation to Mrs. Holyman thanking her for leadership and hospitality throughout the year. The Rev. Girvan joined members for afternoon tea.

B.C.A. BOXES

Holders of B.C.A. boxes may leave their box at the church or with the clergy for opening. If anyone would like their box collected, please contact Celia Hill, 31 4223.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ROSTER

December :

- 3. J. Sanderson.
- 10 J. Bonney.

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER FOR DECEMBER

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| G. Thurley | M. Wilson |
| B. Easther | G. Lillico |
| G. Hill | M. Easther |
| L. Watts | H. Girvan |
| J. Roberts | J. Green |

GROUNDS ROSTER

December :

- 2 J. Bonney
- 9 C. Girvan
- 16 G. Atkins
- 23 M. Perkins

FLOWER GUILD ROSTER

Church :

December 3 —

Mrs. Stevenson

December 10 —

Mrs. Page

December 17 —

Mrs. Swinnerton

December 24 —

All ladies please help.

December 31 —

Mrs. White

Chapel :

Mrs. Hill

Mrs. Greuber

Mrs. Thompson

Mrs. Crawford

GIVE AND LET LIVE

I was hungry and you formed a humanities club and discussed my hunger. Thank you.

I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance.

I was homeless and you preached to me of the shelter of the love of God.

I was lonely and you left me alone to pray for me.

You seem so holy, so close to God, but I'm still very hungry, and lonely, and cold.

GIVE NOW TO THE CHRISTMAS BOWL

FOR WORLD CHRISTIAN ACTION

FROM ALF CHIPMAN

"Every now and then after tea you will see me heading off down the Kabare hill, with tilley-lantern in hand, towards the secondary school office. Why? The office work has accumulated so much so that I need the use of a typewriter or duplicating machine to get things moving properly (especially: reports, circulars and important letters).

Recently the C.E.B.S. of Tasmania, through the Rev. Brian Horwood accepted a missionary project to raise money to buy a long carriage typewriter and a duplicating machine. Both these pieces of equipment are needed to help us forward with the youth work in Mt. Kenya Diocese. It is a heavy project for the boys and any help an individual or group within St. John's might be able to give would be greatly appreciated by the Tassie C.E.B.S. The Kikuyu people would also be most grateful and it should save some of those late night vigils at the secondary school.

C.M.S. has now given the green light for the 28th July 1973 as my date for coming home for Rest and Deputation. I look forward to sharing in worship at majestic St. John's and meeting you all again after 4½ years, meanwhile The Lord bless thee and keep thee. Alf".

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