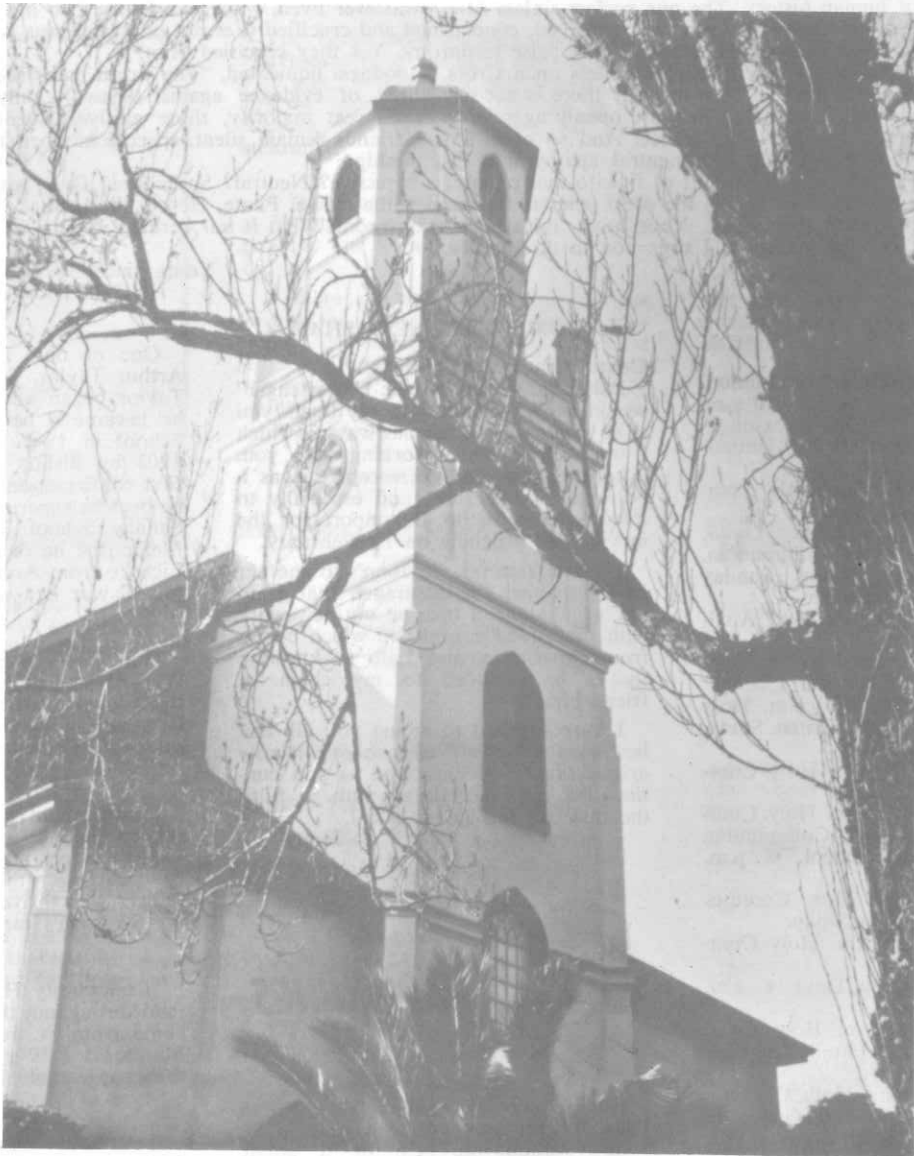


# PARISH MESSENGER



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,

In the Lessons and Gospels read during Lent we follow the passion of our Lord. As you think again of His suffering and death, what is your verdict of Jesus Christ? If you had been there at the turn of the centuries, what part would you have had in His liquidation?

Three classes of men were involved in His betrayal, trial and crucifixion. His enemies, who were aggressive in their opposition, the great majority, who were neutral, and His friends who were silent. Though few in number, his enemies took the initiative and made a lot of noise. Jesus' friends were not vocal, they were smitten dumb with fear. This meant that the neutral majority heard one voice, that of Christ's enemies. It was then a simple thing to turn the apathetic crowd into a mob ruled by violence and hysteria. Neutrality is always dangerous.

Actually Jesus was tried six times. Three by the religious leaders, twice by Pilate and once by Herod. Two occurred between midnight and dawn. Four came swiftly following sunrise. Jesus rushed through these travesties which mark the most ignominious hours of human history. The one perfect sinless Man who ever lived, who gave Himself to men in a life dedicated to alleviate man's misery and cure man's sin, was betrayed, condemned and crucified. Yet not one voice was raised that would justify this. The few witnesses who consented to speak bore false testimony. Yet they crucified Him.

This is a portrait of the world. Righteousness on a Cross. Goodness liquidated. "The world hates Me", said Jesus, "because I testify of it that its works are evil." To this day there is not one shred of evidence against Jesus — only false witnesses. Yet intelligent men, good men, reject Him. Few are openly aggressive. The great majority, those easily influenced by the few vocal critics, still crucify Jesus by their indifference. And so often Jesus' friends remain silent, speechless when they might say a word for their Lord, a word that would turn neutral apathy into discipleship.

The question is, where does each of us fit into that picture? Aggressive? Neutral? Speechless? Or a witness to Christ's glory? Actually Christ was not on trial. It was the chief priests, the scribes, the elders, Pilate, Herod, the masses. Their judgment against Christ was a verdict against themselves. Your heart, mine, is a courtroom. What is our verdict? Where do we stand? If you have not already thought out this question, I urge you to do so now.

Yours sincerely,  
HUGH GIRVAN

**CALENDAR FOR MARCH**

March—

- 5 **Lent 3:** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 7 **Tuesday:** 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lenten Study.
- 8 **Wednesday:** 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 9 **Thursday:** 7.45 p.m. Ladies' Guild.
- 12 **Lent 4:** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 13 **Monday:** 2.45 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary.
- 14 **Tuesday:** 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mothers' Union Diocesan Council. 6 p.m. Men's Tea. 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lenten Study. 8 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- 15 **Wednesday:** 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 19 **Passion Sunday:** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 21 **Tuesday:** 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lenten Study.
- 22 **Wednesday:** 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 25 **Annunciation (Lady Day):** 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 26 **Palm Sunday:** 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 28 **Tuesday:** 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. (G.F.S. Townsend Group to attend). 8 p.m. Lenten Study.
- 29 **Wednesday:** 8 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Communion.
- 30 **Maundy Thursday:** 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion and Maundy Ceremonies.
- 31 **Good Friday:** 8 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. Noon to 3 p.m. Devotions. 7 p.m. United Service.

**FROM DEACONESS SHAW**

Dear Friends at St. John's,

All the space in the "Messenger" would not be sufficient to say thank you to so many for the various ways in which I was helped while working with you. I hope all of you will accept this as a personal "thank you", and especially to those who came to Devonport for the service and welcome on 1st February.

I move from one St. John's to another having gained the assurance that I do not work alone. I take up my new work with the added confidence which comes from experience, and I do so knowing that I have added to my chain of friendships.

I look forward to seeing you all, and hearing the "latest" as such opportunity arises. May God bless you as you continue to grow in His strength to fulfil the task He has given us all.

— Jenny



**HAPPENINGS**

Our American visitor, Dr. Alfred Price, proved that you can hear in St. John's without the help of a public address system. He may be called "The Tall man of God", but he also has the voice of an Old Testament prophet.

\* \* \*

Overheard a comment on our new organist. "We'll soon have a large choir of young ladies." Who said "Ah men!"

One of our February visitors was Arthur Taylor, now of Melbourne. Mr. Taylor began attending St. John's when he became a boarder at the Grammar School in 1897. He was confirmed in 1903 by Bishop Mercer (the bishop's first confirmation in St. John's). In 1924 he became superintendent of St. Oswald's Sunday School. Leaving Tasmania for Melbourne he received his Lay Reader's Licence from Archbishop Head in 1932. Mr. Taylor is a vigorous 89 year old.

\* \* \*

Our first attempt at "Meals on Wheels" was quite a happening, but all those taking part enjoyed the experience. It certainly opens ones eyes to meet some of our elderly citizens.

\* \* \*

Heard about the taxi driver who rubbed his eyes when he saw a goat in George Street at 6 a.m. Turned out to be Marlene, the four legged lawn mower who thrives on the weeds around the St. John's car park.

\* \* \*

"Community Hymn Singing" on 7NT (and throughout the A.B.C. network) will come from St. John's on Sunday, 12th March, at 6.30 p.m. We tape recorded the programme last month.

\* \* \*

Read with alarm the latest divorce figures. Some comfort however comes from the fact that there are still more marriages than divorces, proving that clergy can still out-talk lawyers.

*Elizabeth Street*

## MEALS ON WHEELS

At the invitation of the Red Cross a number of St. John's congregation have promised to provide cars, drivers and assistance to deliver meals to the elderly on the second Sunday of each month. The meals are collected at Cosgrove Park and delivery starts at 11.30 a.m. and finishes about an hour later.

Nine cars and eighteen helpers are required each month and Mr. Michael Perkins (phone 31 3541) will be glad to add your name to the list of helpers.

**HOLY WEEK  
AND  
EASTER SERVICES**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY—**

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

**GOOD FRIDAY—**

8.00 a.m. Litany and Ante-Communion.

10.00 a.m. Family Service

12 noon - 3 p.m. Three Hours Devotion.

7.00 p.m. United Service

**EASTER DAY—**

7.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Choral).

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

7.00 p.m. Evensong.

Communion for those confined to home or hospital will gladly be arranged upon request to the Rector.

## MOTHERS' UNION

Our first meeting for the year was held on Tuesday, 15th February. Mrs. MacCleod, the representative for the Mission to Lepers, showed us some interesting slides of leprosy sufferers from different parts of the world. She told us of the past work of the Mission, and the continuing need for drugs and special footwear.

The Annual Meeting will precede our March meeting on Tuesday, 21st at 8 p.m. We are looking forward to a good "get together", and extend an invitation to new members. Supper hostesses: Mesdames Deavin and Watson.

All members are invited to attend the Diocesan Council Meeting on Tuesday, 14th March. It begins with a QUIET MORNING in the church at 9.30 a.m. This will be taken by the Bishop. Luncheon is 40 cents, and the afternoon meeting will conclude at 4 p.m.

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

The first meeting for the year will be held in the Rectory on Monday, 13th March, at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon tea hostesses will be Mesdames Palliser and Holyman.

Sincere thanks to those members who sold buttons for the hospital appeal. Our Auxiliary collected \$104, a very gratifying result.

## WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild will commence its year's activities with a service in the Chapel at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday, 9th March. This will be followed by a meeting in the Rectory. New members will be most welcome.

A report of the Guild Conference held at Westbury on 24th February will be given at our March meeting.

If there are any ladies, they do not have to be members of the Guild, who would be willing to join the roster of ladies who arrange flowers in the church our Secretary, or the Rector, will supply further information.

## LAWN MOWING ROSTER

Week ending 11th March—G. Hill

25th March—J. Roberts

15th April—D. Merrington

22nd April—L. Jones

29th April—M. Perkins

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ROSTER

Sunday, 5th March—B. Proverbs

12th March—J. Stevenson

19th March—M. Perkins

2nd April—J. Bonney

9th April—L. Jones

16th April—J. Atkins

30th April—J. Sanderson

## 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.

H. & E. Asmus 50c, Anon \$1.00, L. R. Page \$2.00, Mrs. A. R. Hammond \$1.00, Mrs. F. Atherton \$1.00, A. Thollar \$5.00. Thank you.

## WAS JESUS UNFAIR?

"I have heard some people complain that if Jesus was God as well as man, then His sufferings and death lose all value in their eyes, "because it must have been so easy for Him." Others may (very rightly) rebuke the ingratitude and ungraciousness of this objection; what staggers me is the misunderstanding it betrays. In one sense, of course, those who make it are right. They have even understated their own case.

The perfect submission, the perfect suffering, the perfect death were not only easier to Jesus because He was God, but were possible only because He was God. But surely that is a very odd reason for not accepting them? The teacher is able to form the letters for the child because the teacher is grown-up and knows how to write. That, of course makes it easier for the teacher; and only because it is easier for him can he help the child. If it rejected him because it is "it's easy for grown-ups" and waited to learn writing from another child who could not write itself (and so had "unfair" advantage), it would not get on very quickly.

If I am drowning in a rapid river, a man who still has one foot on the bank may give me a hand which saves my life. Ought I to shout back (between my gasps) "No, it's not fair! You have an advantage! You're keeping one foot on the bank?"

That advantage—call it "unfair" if you like—is the only reason why he can be of any use to me. To what will you look for help if you will not look to that which is stronger than yourself?

Such is my own way of looking at what Christians call the "Atonement".—from Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis.

## WORSHIP

What do we mean when we say that worship is a good thing? Perhaps we are saying that it is the right and proper thing for Christians to do. Which of course it is. The worship of God is a duty, an "ought". The word "ought", comes from the word "owe". We ought to worship regularly, because as creatures of God we "owe" it to our Maker and Lord.

But is public worship a duty? Jesus thought so. He went to the synagogue "as His custom was". The early Christians broke bread together. We, who are His children, gather as His family. We are to love one another, to work as partners, and to acknowledge Him together.

# Ludbrooks Home Furnishing Centre

CHARLES STREET – Telephone 31 3122

Three home furnishing departments in one modern centre for ultimate convenience

**CARPETS – SOFT FURNISHINGS – WINDOW DECORATOR CENTRE**

We also have a large selection of kitchenware by Corning-Ware and Pyrex

## *E. J. BOCK*

PAINTER and DECORATOR

3 CHARLES STREET SOUTH Telephone 44 1551

FOR REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS – TOWN AND COUNTRY

## **HONEY**

Leatherwood, Clover and Bush

E. J. WAKEFIELD

99 Margaret Street Telephone 31 2749

T. P. WHITE for

## **Watch Repairs**

74 ELIZABETH STREET, LAUNCESTON

(above Fitzpatrick's Pharmacy)

## *Louis Vermesy*

UPHOLSTERER

SPECIALISTS IN ALL WORK

179 St. John Street Telephone 2 3422

## *C.T. Finney & Sons*

PTY. LTD.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

16 BRISBANE STREET, LAUNCESTON

Telephone 2 2368

## **Finney Monumentals**

PTY. LTD.

MONUMENTAL MASONS

Nunamina Avenue, Launceston

Telephone 2 2368

## *ALLGOODS*

CORNER YORK STREET AND ST. JOHN STREET, LAUNCESTON  
SPECIALISTS IN WORK CLOTHES AND FOOTWEAR

Tents, Flies and all Camping and Hiking Equipment

## **Lady Elizabeth Hats**

HIGH CLASS MILLINER

90 Elizabeth Street Telephone 2 3097

## *R.H. Watson & Son*

99A St. John Street, Launceston

WATCH SPECIALISTS AND JEWELLERS

**Electrical, Radio and Television  
Retailers, Contractors and  
Consultants**

For years now we've been building the reputation of being the experts in all domestic and industrial electric contracting and maintenance.

We handle every type of electrical job, including heating and workshop repairs to domestic and industrial appliances.

Immediate service with our radio controlled vans.

**Powell's** ELECTRIC SERVICE  
PTY LTD.  
\* 69 York St Launceston \*

## **Reeman & Manning**

PTY. LTD.

44 CAMERON STREET, LAUNCESTON

FOR VALIANT AND ALL HILLMAN MODELS

Telephone 2 1957

KEN ATKINS

## **Driveway Service Station**

138 Wellington Street Telephone 2 4455

FOR ALL THE MOTORIST NEEDS