

# PARISH MESSENGER

## CHURCH OF ST. JOHN □ LAUNCESTON

### USUAL SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8.00 a.m. Every Sunday. 10.00 a.m. First and Third Sundays. 7.00 p.m. Fifth Sunday.

Morning Prayer: 10.00 a.m. Second Sunday. Family Service: 10.00 a.m. Third Sunday.

Evening Prayer: 7.00 p.m. Every Sunday except Fifth

(The evening service is held at 7.30 p.m. during daylight saving months.)

## Rector :

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

## Assistant :

The Reverend David Lewis  
Telephone 31 4896

Organist : Mr. Lindsay O'Neill, B.Mus., F.R.C.O. (Ch.M.), A.R.C.M.

## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends at St. John's,

I recently noticed two incongruous street signs. One was a permanent sign in Frederick Street erected outside Saint Vincents Hospital, it exhorts motorists to drive quietly. The other was a temporary sign placed almost beside the "Quiet" sign, it advised motorists that men were at work. The "men at work" were attacking a section of pavement with pneumatic drills that created a pandemonium of noise. The plea for quiet could not have been more severely violated if the "Music Man" had marched all his seventy-six trombones about the hospital.

Reflecting on this I realised there was an analogy here between the church and the world. The "quiet" sign is up at the church pleading for peace and tranquility, the right to rest and pray and ponder noble thoughts about God. But men are at work in our world making all manner of disturbance. And the noise of it comes in our windows from Washington, Moscow, Berlin, Peking, Vietnam, Africa, Ireland and Canberra.

We, naturally, resent this appalling turmoil under our window. We pray to God it will soon go away. But the men keep putting their drills into useless old things and in a convulsion of noise rip them to shreds.

We are accustomed to thinking that God absents himself from chaos, but I think in this we have been mistaken. God brings chaos. Whether it is the noise of the drills from the jungles of Africa, the mountains of New Guinea, or the campus of some university, God is in the disturbance. I must say this because it is what the Bible teaches.

God presides over even the tumult. He writes the agenda for history, and one thing on that agenda is the removal of sin and the coming of righteousness. Like any good engineer, God must pluck up and destroy what is unsound before He can build what is sound. And this is always disturbing, whether it is the dentist drilling out the decayed area of tooth, the labourer drilling the pavement or the changing of our liturgy.

That there is a giant revolution going on in our world, few will dispute. I believe that God is party to that revolution. He brings judgment on the ways of men. Our God is a disturber. A consuming fire, a relentless enemy of rotten structures, and no pulling down of the shades of our minds, or erecting of "Quiet" signs will prevent His changes.

For me this means that the headlines of our paper are concerned with the things of God. It also follows that when we fail to do justly and love mercy and walk humbly with our God, He is then, in His own way, shaking the corrupt things, and the worn out things in our society, and in His way pulling them out from beneath us. When we refuse to bestir ourselves to do His will, He shakes to pieces all the things which frustrate His purposes.

We may prefer quietness and complacency, but be assured there is no quiet for us within the framework of a sinful status quo. God will see to that.

Sincerely in His and your service,  
HUGH GIRVAN.

## CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

1. Monday: 7.30 p.m. O.S.L. in Chapel.  
8 p.m. Annual Meeting of O.S.L. in Hall.
5. Friday: 8 p.m. Annual Meeting of C.M.S. in Hall.
7. TRINITY XVI: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Generation Service.
8. Monday: 2.45 p.m. St. Luke's Auxiliary in Hall.
9. Tuesday: 6 p.m. Mens' Tea.
10. Wednesday: 8 p.m. Vestry.
11. Thursday: 7.45 p.m. Womens' Guild.
14. TRINITY XVII: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Evensong.
16. Tuesday: 8 p.m. Mothers' Union.
18. Thursday: ST. LUKE'S DAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
21. TRINITY XVIII: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
23. Tuesday: 7.45 p.m. Townsend Group.
27. Saturday: 2.30 p.m. G.F.S. Annual Fair in Hall.
28. TRINITY XIX: ST. SIMON AND ST. JUDE. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. 7 p.m. Evensong.
30. Tuesday: 8 p.m. Ecumenical Discussion Group.

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER  
FOR OCTOBER 14th

R. Clearey	S. Murray
P. Cox	L. O'Neill
B. Easter	D. Sheldrick
G. Hill	J. Stevenson
G. Lillico	M. Whitfield

## TALK IT OVER

at

## THE PARISH FAMILY WEEKEND

(9th to 11th November)

There will be time to  
get together  
play together  
and discuss together our

## Family Problems

Conversations on  
Authority

(My Life's My Own)

## The Generation Gap

(In My Younger Days)

## Discipline in the Home

(Wait Until Your Father Comes Home)

## Breakdown in Marriage

(The Seven Year Itch)

## Money

(What's Mine's My Own)

Application Forms in the Church

## FLOWER ROSTER

Church	Chapel
October 7 —	
Mrs. Stevenson	Mrs. Higgins
October 14 —	
Mrs. White	Mrs. Girvan
October 21 —	
Mrs. Robinson	Mrs. Hill
October 28 —	
Mrs. M. Easter	Mrs. Smith
November 4 —	
Mrs. Cornish	Mrs. Grueber

## ST. JOHN'S G.F.S.

## ANNUAL FAIR

27th October  
2.30 p.m.

produce — Cakes — Work Stalls  
Afternoon Tea

## DON'T MISS

## ALF CHIPMAN

OCTOBER 7th

AT THE 7 P.M. SERVICE



## HAPPENINGS

Our baby of the month is Catherine Jane, daughter of Geoff and Elizabeth Stevens (nee Sanderson). For the second time in two months congratulations to grandparents Jim and Dorrie Sanderson.

\* \* \*

Can't keep up with the overseas jet set, but this month Neil and Nancy Gollan will be in Japan and Jean Sheldrick is off to New Zealand. Those off to the U.K. include Margaret Willson, Joe Jones and Peter and Doris Cranswick.

\* \* \*

Many of us lost a dear friend with the death of Sophie Greuber. In her last years, spent in the Fred French Home, with her husband Gordon, she continued to show that cheerfulness and fortitude which had endeared her to many.

\* \* \*

For months we've had a fitness class for the ladies "Fitness Follies for Flabby Females." Now the men are not to be outdone. David Lewis has started "Movements for Muscle Bound Men."

\* \* \*

The first of our congratulations for academic achievement this year must go to Kent Lillico who has been awarded a scholarship to Grammar.

\* \* \*

Seems 1975 is to be THE year. In Launceston it will be the 150th anniversary of St. John's. In our state five denominations will combine in a Mission to Tasmania. Now six denominations in Victoria are calling for an emphasis on Christian witness, outreach and renewal in 1975.

\* \* \*

Heard of a religious lady who wanted her Rector to be present at her operation, so that she could be opened with prayer.

*Elizabeth Street*

### MOTHERS' UNION

Our sincere thanks to all those who made our Mini-Market to aid Clarendon Children's Home such a success.

The date of St. Aidan's 50th Birthday Celebrations is Thursday, 18th October. It will commence at 2 p.m. in St. Aidan's Parish Hall. The theme is to be "New Beginnings."

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 16th October commencing with a service in the Chapel at 8 p.m. Supper hostesses will be Mesdames M. Easter and H. Girvan.

### WOMENS' GUILD

The next meeting of St. John's Womens' Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. G. Swinnerton, Lantana Avenue, on Thursday, October 11th at 7.45 p.m.

Knitting for the Queen Victoria Hospital was sent in by Mesdames Peck Swinnerton and Kerrison.

Our sincere thanks to those ladies who kindly help us to maintain a supply of small garments for the hospital.

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

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be held in the parish hall on Monday, October 8th at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon tea hostesses will be Mesdames A. H. Shephard and R. Cornish.

Result of the "Coffee Morning" held last month in the parish hall was \$100.30, this included donations. Many thanks to our loyal members who supplied home-made biscuits — also friends for donations to the stall.

The Annual Morning Tea will be held at the home of Mrs. Holyman, 8 Riversdale Grove, on Thursday, November 1st. Gifts for the stalls would be very welcome.

### ALMOST

Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

(Acts 26: 24-32).

The word "almost" can mean a great deal. Paul certainly persuaded very many people to commit themselves to Christian faith. Nobody preached the Gospel of Christ more passionately or more ably. But it is seldom intellectual force which brings people to faith, and, if Agrippa was not speaking derisively, it was more than the cogency of Paul's reasoning which impressed him. In our own sceptical age, we can easily overrate the importance of theologising. What prevented the sophisticated Agrippa from being converted by Paul keeps many from believing in the modern world — something beyond persuasion, an unwillingness to venture where faith may lead.

— Response.

### ARROW PRAYERS

Lord Jesus, give us the insight to see ourselves as we were, as we are, what we could be through our faith and your love and grace.

Dear Lord, remind us daily of our prime Christian duty to help men return to thy fold. Help us to make everything else in life a distant second place.

Dear Jesus, grant us more character to see and admit wrong in our own lives and to do something affirmative about it.

God, grant us Christianity that lasts for more than just one hour on Sunday.

— James Amick.

From a U.S.A. parish bulletin.

### HAVE YOU BURIED THE HATCHET?

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake forgave you."

Old Joe was very seriously ill. He was an old man and the doctor told him as kindly as he could that his time was 'running out.' Joe then began to put his affairs in order, but one thing that worried him was that for several years he had not spoken to or had dealings with a man who had been a close friend. Joe recalled that he and his one-time friend had argued over many matters and had parted over a matter that was really quite trivial.

Wanting to straighten things out he sent a message to Bill and asked him to call and see him. Bill consented and came to Joe's house. Joe explained why he had sent for him, saying that he could not go into eternity with such bad feeling remaining between them.

With a little reluctance and with great effort Joe apologised for things he had said and done. Reaching out his hand he asked forgiveness from Bill. From then on all was well, till finally Bill got up to go. He took leave of Joe and went to the door of the room. As he laid his hand on the door-knob, Joe called after him. 'Bill, remember, if I get better, this doesn't count!'

We may smile at Joe — but shouldn't we also do something about the way we ourselves behave? Someone upsets us; we say we forgive them, but when a little friction rises again, are we not quick to resurrect past grievances and add them to the present matter? We are ready to 'bury the hatchet,' but leave the handle sticking out for future use! We need to give close attention to the above text. If we accept free and full forgiveness from Our Lord, should we not also give it to others?

O God, help me to remember that the Lord Jesus prayed that His Enemies should be forgiven. Help me to have His spirit and be ready to forgive those who hurt or injure me. May I be ready to pray for them and be ready to help and serve them to show I forgive them fully. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Kiama Messenger

It shal greatlie helpe ye to understande Scripture, if yow marke not onelie that whyche is wrytten or spoken, but of whome, and to whome, with what wordes, at what tyme, where, and to what intende, in what circumstaunces, consyderynget what goeth before and what folweth,

John Wycliffe



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