



# 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.

**THE RECTOR'S LETTER**

Dear Friends at St. John's,

The Vestry has held their first meeting and without delay has begun to make plans for their year in office. In order to widen involvement the main activities of the parish are cared for by committees which are responsible to the whole Vestry. These committees are chaired by a member of the Vestry but include many who are not Vestry members but who do want to be active in a particular area of the parish life. It may be that there are others who would like to share in the work of these committees, therefore I want to list them for you and ask that, if interested, you will contact the chairman of the committee of your choice and offer your services.

Works Committee: Chairman, Mr. G. Lillico; Property Committee: Chairman, Mr. D. Gill; Finance Committee: Chairman, Mr. B. Easter; Glebe Committee: Chairman, Mr. A. J. Green; Parish Education Committee: Chairman, Miss S. Brownrigg; Visitation Committee: Chairman, Mr. M. Perkins; Orford Property Committee: Chairman, Mr. B. Easter; Kelso Property Committee: Chairman, Mr. R. Goldsworthy.

After the Annual Meeting had decided to use the English Series III Service for Holy Communion, Mrs. F. Cox brought to me an order of it specially prepared for family worship. She had obtained this during her recent visit to England and I was not aware of it. The Vestry has now decided to use this family edition of Series III and Miss Brownrigg has them on order. I hope that we shall have them soon.

Another domestic matter which I would bring to those who were not at the Annual Meeting is the constant need for more helpers in the Sunday School, Choir and G.F.S. We do not lack children, we do lack those who will make the time to help them for Christ's sake. We do not lack a good organ or organist (we have one of the best of each in Australia), we do lack those who are willing to be trained to lead our worship.

In a recent T.V. programme our Primate stated that apathy was the main danger within the Anglican Church. I am sure that most Rectors will agree with the Primate. It is most disheartening to prepare services, sermons and functions and then find that those for whom all the hours are spent "couldn't care less" and allow anything and everything to come first. It says much about our priorities. I suggest that we all again read the "Parable of the Great Feast" (St. Luke 14:15-24).

Yours in loving service  
 HUGH GIRVAN

**CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER**

- 2 TRINITY XI: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 3 Monday: 7.30 p.m. O.S.L. in Chapel.
- 5 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 9 TRINITY XII: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 10 Monday: 2.45 p.m. St. Luke's Auxiliary in Hall.
- 11 Tuesday: 6 p.m. Mens' Tea.
- 12 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 13 Thursday: 7.45 p.m. Womens' Guild.
- 16 TRINITY XIII: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Family Service. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 17 Monday: 8 p.m. O.S.L. in Hall.
- 18 Tuesday: 8 p.m. Mothers' Union.
- 19 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 20 Thursday: 10.30 a.m. Mothers' Union Mini Market.
- 21 Friday: ST. MATTHEW'S DAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 23 TRINITY XIV: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 25 Tuesday: 7.45 p.m. Townsend Group.
- 26 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 29 Saturday: ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS DAY. 8 a.m. Holy Communion.

30 TRINITY XV: 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Mattins. 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

**MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER 9th**

W. Donaldson	P. Cox
R. Cartledge	D. Atkins
N. Woods	G. Hill
M. Easter	L. Nicholas
L. O'Neill	J. Stevenson

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

The next meeting of St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital will be held in the parish hall on Monday September 10th at 2.45 p.m.

Afternoon tea hostesses will be: Mrs. Cornish and Miss Green.

A tentative date has been set for the Annual Morning Tea to be held at the home of Mrs. Holyman, Riverdale Grove—Thursday October 18th—details in next month's Parish Messenger.

**WOMENS' GUILD**

The next meeting of the Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. R. Page, 12 Spencer Street. Supper hostesses will be Mesdames Page and Easter. Mrs. Page, who is well known for her beautiful

floral work, will demonstrate some of the finer points to our members.

A cheque for \$20.00 has been forwarded to Glenview Home in Hobart, in lieu of selling badges.

**MOTHERS' UNION**

We hope everyone who braved the bitter night thought it was worthwhile after hearing Policewoman Detective Constable M. Hayes speak on "Drugs". She travelled up from Hobart for the occasion and brought with her drug samples, slides and a film.

Wave of Prayer will be observed on Tuesday 11th September between 9 and 10 a.m. in the Chapel.

The Mini-Market to aid Clarendon Home at Kingston will be held on Thursday 20th September at 10.30 a.m. Would members keep this date in mind.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th September commencing with a service in Chapel at 8 p.m.

**St. John's**  
**PARISH FAMILY WEEKEND**  
 9-11 November  
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## HAPPENINGS

The birth of Vanessa Gibson makes her our youngest parishioner. Congratulations to her parents Lindsay and Jenny Gibson, also to grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sanderson.

\* \* \*

It was only for a few hours but our former assistant Alf Chipman paid a fleeting visit recently. He is now on deputation work in Victoria and should see us again before his marriage with Miss Nola Plush on December 1st.

\* \* \*

Our congratulations to Marcus Tilley and Elizabeth (Biddy) Fife whose engagement has been announced. Marcus needs no introduction although we see less of him since his work has taken him to Hobart. Biddy is a Hobart girl, so it's evident that Marcus is successfully mixing pleasure with business.

\* \* \*

Nice to see some of our international travellers back. Olive Jones after her all too short trip to relatives in England, and Arthur and Kathleen Ford who had a much longer stay. Their son Rodney (our former assistant organist) continues to gain further qualifications and has been studying under the famous John Birch. Many still remember his recital in St. John's a few years ago.

\* \* \*

Noticed the death at Beaconsfield of Fred Crow. A former Vestryman of St. John's he was buried from his old parish church. His late wife Beth and daughter Marjorie were members of our choir and Beth was also a staunch member of our Mothers' Union.

\* \* \*

It's an old gibe, not believed by those who know, that clergy work one day a week. Now an official survey made in the Diocese of Wangaratta has shown the range of hours to be between 52 and 95 a week (and no overtime).

\* \* \*

During a Youth Group meeting, discussion turned to the current womens' lib movement. Someone repeated the story about the suffragettes during the early 1900's, in which an old campaigner heartened her young recruits with: "Just pray to God; she'll help you".

*Elizabeth Street*

## FLOWER ROSTER

Church	Chapel
September 2— Mrs. Cornish	Mrs. Greuber
September 9— Mrs. Swinnerton	Mrs. Thompson
September 16— Mrs. Page	Mrs. Crawford
September 23— Mrs. B. Easther	Mrs. Watson
October 7— Mrs. Stevenson	Mrs. Higgins

## THE SECRET GOSPEL

A few years ago, a group of young people surveyed 675 people in a small country town. The survey included only one question: "How does a person get to heaven?"

The ten most frequent answers were: Be a good neighbour. Go to church. Read the Bible. Work your way. Live right. Be sincere. Be baptised. Pay your bills. Obey your conscience. Hope.

Commenting on the survey, the "Alliance Witness" asked, "If being good, living right, being sincere, could get us to heaven, why did Jesus go to the cross and die?"

It is a tragic indictment on the Christian Church if we have made the name of Jesus Christ a part of everyday conversation without having made the person of Christ, as revealed in the gospels, a part of everyday reading.

Right on your street are people who believe that they can work their way to heaven . . . people who do not realise that Jesus Christ has paid the price for them.

Merely assuming that people in a Christian country know why Jesus Christ came has turned Australia into a "forgotten mission field".

What can you do to "unlimit" the gospel in your area?

—The Sower.

## NO CONFLICT

I was interested to read in "The Anglican Digest" some words written by Victor Hess, Nobel Prize winner (discovery of cosmic rays). This was what he said: "I must confess that in all my years of research in physics and geophysics I have never found one instance in which scientific discovery was in conflict with religious faith . . . Must a scientist doubt the reality of miracles? As a scientist I answer emphatically: NO! I can see no reason at all why Almighty God who created us and all things around us, should not suspend or change—if He finds it wise to do so—the natural, average course of events".

—The Editor.

## SUGGESTIONS TO HELP YOU ENJOY GOING TO CHURCH

1. Go to meet with GOD. You will meet other people as well, but remember that most of all you go to meet with God. Go in a spirit of expectancy. "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8). This is God's promise for you to claim. Make it your prayer as you kneel in the pew before the service begins.

2. Put all your heart into the service. Enjoy the singing, but mean the words. Echo the words of the prayers in your own heart and make them your prayers as well as the Minister's. You will not always find this easy, but whoever said that being a real Christian was easy? Jesus Christ never did. It is hard work concentrating, but the more worthwhile will be your worship. Ask God to help you over this, and persevere. The more you "put into" worship, the more you will "get out of it"; and even more important than that, the worship you offer will be pleasing and acceptable to God.

3. When the lessons are read, find the place in your own Bible and follow them. It helps enormously to see the words as well as to hear them, even if the reader is using a different version from yours. Other people in the congregation may not do this, but do not be embarrassed. By your example you will encourage them to do the same.

4. Similarly when the sermon is preached, turn to the passage or text in your Bible and follow the preacher's theme. You will be surprised how much better a good sermon becomes when you do this — in fact, any sermon will yield, much more if you follow this practice. The usefulness of a sermon does not depend wholly upon the preacher, it depends also upon the active co-operation of the listeners.

5. Above all try to remember that the real centre of worship is not you, or the congregation, or the choir, or the Minister. It is He who should predominate in our worship. All the parts of the service — the singing, the prayers, the readings, the sermon, the silences — should be like the spokes of a wheel, all leading to the hub or centre: God Himself.

—Kiama Parish Messenger.

## 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.

Miss Sutton, \$2.00, Mrs. P. Williams, \$1.00, Anon., \$1.00, \$4.00, \$2.00, \$4.00, \$2.00, Mrs. Lee, \$1.00, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ford, \$5.00, Mrs. A. R. Hammond, \$1.00, Miss J. Ingram, \$5.00, Mrs. H. Morgan, \$5.00, Mrs. J. Nichols \$1.00, Mrs. J. Godfrey, \$1.00, Miss D. Lockwood, \$1.00, Mrs. Walton, \$5.00, Miss Bullock, \$1.00.



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