

JUNE 74

● 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. Fourth 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**Assistants:**The Reverend David Lewis, The Reverend Harry Ikin, L.Th.
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,

Since coming to St. John's I have, in this letter, tried to pass on each month some insight into our faith. What has been left unsaid over the past four and a half years can not be said now, so I confine myself to a word of encouragement to all who have encouraged and helped my wife and myself over the years we have spent with you.

I believe that St. John's is about to enter exciting times. The building of the Parish Centre will make possible a fellowship which will revitalise the parish. We have left behind the days when we worshipped as individuals, and have recovered an understanding of what it means to be "the People of God," but the working out of this insight is difficult in a building the size of our church. For while St. John's is a wonderful and awe inspiring building, its very size separates us at the very time when we should be feeling and expressing our unity. Its size also demands a dignity of worship which can sometimes appear cold and aloof. All this can be overcome if the new Parish Centre becomes a centre of fellowship, giving meaning to our personal relationships within the family of God.

The promoting of this will now be in the hands of the Reverend Ian Booth who will bring his own friendship and calm assurance to the parish life. I do commend him to your prayers and active support. Make his coming a time for a fresh start, and for new resolves in your service for, and worship of, our Lord.

The new buildings are being developed by a committee of the Vestry which deserves your utmost support. Its members are showing great wisdom and enthusiasm. They are giving a great deal of time to detail and their dedication deserves our appreciation.

Upon all of you I now ask, and will continue to ask God's blessing. I am all too conscious of my own short-comings, and for these ask your forgiveness. Be assured that to the best of my ability I have, in Christ my Lord, loved you all.

Sincerely, your brother in Christ Jesus,
Hugh Girvan.

- 2 WHITSUNDAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, 7 p.m. Evensong.
5 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
9 TRINITY SUNDAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Mattins, 11.30 a.m. Meals on Wheels, 7 p.m. Generation Service
10 Monday: 2.45 p.m. Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital.
11 ST. BARNABAS' DAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 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 1: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Holy Communion, 7 p.m. Evensong.
18 Tuesday: Mothers Union 8 p.m.
19 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
23 TRINITY 11: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Family Service, 7 p.m. Evensong.
24 NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST: 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
25 Tuesday: 7.45 p.m. Townsend Group.
26 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
29 ST. PETER'S DAY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion.
30 TRINITY 111: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Mattins, 7 p.m. Evensong.

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER

June 9th —

I. Routley (duty)	S. Murray
D. Atkins	L. O'Neill
W. Cowell	Miss Whitfield
B. Easter	J. Stevenson
P. Hull	N. Woods

Any driver unable to attend please phone Ian Routley, work 31 6666, home 44 4936.

FLOWER GUILD ROSTER**CHURCH**

June 2 —

Mrs. M. Easter	Mrs. Higgins
June 9 —	
Mrs. Cornish	Mrs. White
June 16 —	
Mrs. Hart	Mrs. Hill
June 23 —	
Mrs. Swinnerton	Mrs. Smith
June 30 —	
Mrs. B. Easter	Mrs. Grueber

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Parents please note, no Sunday School during school holidays.

Next Family Service, Sunday, 30th June at 10 a.m.

Next Family Film Evening, Friday, 28th June at 7.15 p.m.

NEW RECTOR

The Bishop has announced that the Reverend Ian Booth Th. L. at present Rector of St. John's Devonport, has accepted nomination to the parish of St. John, Launceston.

Since training for ordination at Moore Theological College, Sydney, Ian Booth has served as Curate of Wollongong, and Curate in Charge of the Oaks, both in the Diocese of Sydney. With the Bush Church Aid Society he served at Ceduna, Ororoo and Peterborough, (all in South Australia), then at Oatlands and St. Paul's Launceston, and before going to Devonport a period as Victorian Secretary of B.C.A.

He and his wife Valerie have four sons, Graham, a student at the University of Tasmania, Philip, at present preparing for his matriculation exams, and Kevin and Michael aged twelve and nine respectively.

Mr. Booth will take up his work at St. John's late in September. Until the induction of the new rector the ministry of the parish will be in the care of the Rev. Harry Ikin and the Rev. David Lewis.

GENERATION SERVICE

June 9th at 7 p.m.

A special act of worship for teenagers and the young in heart.
DO A NEW THING — BE THERE



HAPPENINGS

When our new Rector, Ian Booth arrives, he will be keeping up an old tradition. For he did his theological training at Moore College, Sydney, as did Hugh Girvan, Leonard Sutton and Marcus Brownrigg.

* * *

Congratulations to Bishop Cranswick who recently celebrated his eightieth birthday. I noticed in Church News that the Rev. L. V. Daniels is writing a thesis on Bishop Cranswick and his work for Ecumenism. I hope that in due time it will be published for all to read.

* * *

Hope you didn't miss the Easter Carol Service when the Choir was at its best. Choirs, like every organisation, have their ups and downs, but the Carol Service was a high peak occasion.

* * *

The late Ruth Hammond, who died last month, had not been with us very often of late, but many memories will go back to her closer association. There may be a few who will remember the days when her father, Mr. Tevelyn, did so much for St. John's.

* * *

The Rector's brother, the Rev. Canon Wesley Girvan and his wife Marjory will not forget their visit to St. John's. While here, they received news of the birth of their first grandchild.

* * *

Our Sunday School Superintendent, Murray Falkner has been appointed Senior Student of W.E.C. Our young people think he's tops, too.

* * *

I hear that the painting of the concrete ceiling of the Church has been on the Vestry agenda for many years. If only we could continue the mosaic as in the dome, the effect would be breathtaking.

* * *

Did you hear about the Rector who boiled over because his parishioners did not want sermons that percolate? They want instant salvation.

Elizabeth Street

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GUILD

The Annual Meeting of the Guild was held at the Rectory in May. The election of officers was as follows:

President: Mrs. White

Vice-President: Mrs. Easther

Secretary: Mrs. Harris

Treasurer: Mrs. Sheldrick

Committee: Mesdames Andrews, Holyman, Swinnerton and Peck

A presentation was made to Mrs. Girvan and the members wished her well in the future. A bon voyage card was sent to Mrs. Palliser, who with her husband, is going abroad for a holiday at the end of May.

Don't forget the A.W.F. Conference at St. John's on 28-29 May. All welcome.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday June 13, at the home of Mrs. A. E. Ford, 8 St. George's Square. Mrs. Ford will speak of her stay overseas and also show slides.

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

Members of St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital will meet in the Parish Hall on Monday June 10, at 2.45 p.m.

Afternoon Tea Hostesses: Miss M. Gear, Miss V. Andrews.

Proceeds from the Combined Auxiliaries' Morning Tea, held in April, have now reached \$322.70. This included several donations. Our thanks to these generous donors.

MOTHER'S UNION

It was with regret that we farewelled our President, Mrs. Girvan, at our May meeting. On the other hand we were thrilled to welcome several new members.

Our next meeting on Tuesday, 18th June will commence with a service in the Chapel at 8 p.m. Dr. R. Smith will be showing slides and telling us of his work in Africa. Supper Hostesses: Mrs. Davis and Mrs. White.

Members are reminded that June will be the closing month for articles (an Australian tea towel, handkerchief, face cloth or any article of a souvenir nature suitable for postage) for the Overseas Sale. Also, could we make a start on our work stall for September's Mini Market to aid Clarendon Children's Home — something you would buy!

FAMILY FILMS

If you want your family to see decent films, then you will not want to miss the 'Family Films' showing each month. This month will be showing "Showboat" on Friday 28th June commencing at 7.15 p.m.

C.E.B.S.

A CEBS group starts at St. John's at the commencement of Term 2 — If you wish to enrol your son in this movement, please contact the Assistant for an enrolment form.

VIEWPOINT

Fascination with the occult is growing all over Australia, and the Christian Church is having real difficulty reacting to it.

On the one hand, most clergy are ignoring it, hoping it will go away.

On the other hand, a few clergy are over-anxious to minister in this new and dramatic field and seem to be exorcising any and every personality defect they see.

Reason for this growing interest in the spiritualist world can be put down to two factors at least:

- Migration to Australia of more than one million people since 1945, including many peasants from a superstitious background in Southern Italy and Malta.

- Disillusionment of some young people with our materialistic way of life.

You can't close your eyes to this phenomenon and pretend not to see school children crowded around the ouija board or attending seances or flocking to the latest horror movie.

Nor should our attitude be entirely negative, just labelling it a "passing fad," while we continue to "preach the Gospel faithfully to dwindling numbers."

We need a thorough assessment of the New Testament evidence on demon-possession and a careful theological investigation of the current phenomenon. Then we need a blueprint matching good theology to current needs and guiding Christians how to react and how to minister to an increasingly troubled society.

That is why it is good news that Standing Committee has appointed a special Commission of Enquiry into the Occult to advise the Church what attitude should be taken to the question. Let's hope that they can come up with some answers, because there certainly are some questions.

— ALAN NICHOLS

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