

PARISH MESSENGER

The Question is not

"HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?"

It is

"HOW MUCH DO I LOVE GOD?"



St. Paul writes to the Corinthians: "Every Sunday each of you is to put aside and keep by him a sum in proportion to his gains" (1 Cor. 16:2). This was to meet needs of the Church community to which he had drawn their attention, and it establishes for Christians the principle of returning a proportion of their income for God's work in the world.

We know that part of this work is achieved today through the Church and part through community charitable causes with which we are all familiar. It is suggested that, prior to Thanksgiving Sunday, you should determine what portion of your income should be given through the Church, and hence, the amount to be put on your Thanksgiving Card. At the same time, and by the same act, you are acknowledging that the Church has an importance which warrants the allocation of a specific portion of your income.



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN □ LAUNCESTON

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8.00 a.m. Every Sunday; 10.00 a.m. First, Third and Fifth Sundays.

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

Evening Service: 7.00 p.m. (7.30 p.m. during daylight saving months).

WEEKDAY SERVICES: (In the Chapel)

Morning Prayer, daily at 8.00 a.m.; Holy Communion, Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m.

Rector:
The Rev. Ian Booth Th. L.
Tel: 31 5218

Assistants:
The Reverend David Lewis Tel: 31 4896
The Reverend Harry Ikin L.Th.

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Parishioners,

"My mate at work was very depressed the other day," said Christian following the Sunday morning service recently, "his wife is in hospital and he has to look after the children, get them off to school before he comes to work. Then he has to call at a friends place to arrange for the care of the children until he arrives home from work. Then, when he gets home . . . well, you know how it is!! He wonders whether life's worth it."

Where are we to share all that God's love has to offer people; where can we make Christ known? The answer is, so often, very close at hand. Wherever you find yourself alongside someone who does not know how much God loves them and how powerfully he can help them at their point of need, there is the place of opportunity to make him known.

For some, their commitment to Christ, together with their personal and professional qualifications, will possibly lead to a special call to a specific task of mission overseas or at home necessitating the giving up of their secular job and giving themselves entirely to the particular task for God. Such a response will make them in some ways more remote from the work-a-day world in order that the task of mission will be enriched by their special abilities.

However, by far the majority of Christians will be involved in the work-a-day world and therefore involved with the community in its complex life of work and play, interwoven with which their is a myriad of personal relationships and needs. This is where God calls them to make Christ known in a relevant and pertinent way. This is the place of mission for them.

When your mate at work or your neighbour down the street opens up his life to you do you consider yourself able to help him to know Christ? So many will answer. "Not really, I don't talk about my religion it's too contentious!" And so we dismiss ourselves quietly from the responsibility to which Jesus himself has called us all, that of being his disciples, his people, in the world, proclaiming by word and deed the Good News about him.

Faith must always lead to obedience. If we dismiss ourselves from the responsibility of making Christ known we are disobeying our Lord.

Of recent weeks a number of folk from the parishes of Launceston have been meeting as part of the Mission '75 programme in order to grow in their understanding of Christ to be better equipped to share their faith as opportunities present themselves during the course of daily life. The group of some thirty people meets twice each month on the second and fourth Mondays at 7.30 p.m. at St. Paul's Parish Hall in Cleveland Street. Will you consider joining this group?

Another demand that faith brings to us is that of Stewardship of time and money. The need for a relevant sense of stewardship on the part of all who are part of the fellowship of Christ's Church is as vital today as it ever was. The continuing witness of the Church depends for its vitality on the sacrificial giving of ourselves and all that we have and are.

It is strange that in these times so removed from the early colonial days that people claiming to be part of the Christian Church can still remark, "Oh. but the Government subsidised the expenses of the churches and the stipends of the clergy!" You may not believe it but these very words were said to me in our new Parish Centre since the opening and dedication of that building on 16th March.!

As our faith leads us to give fully to the needs of our parish and the mission of the Church generally, we will in turn learn more of his love because we will be sharing realistically in his work and we will be depending on him so much more for the supply of our own personal needs.

Towards the end of April a Stewardship Programme will be mounted by the Churchwardens and Vestry with the help of quite a number of parishioners. This will not be professionally directed as on some other occasions but will be fully arranged and administered in the parish by our own people. I ask that you respond warmly to the invitation to share in faith a commitment to the financial needs of the parish and also to give yourselves fully to many tasks which wait to be done if our Parish Family is to have a dynamic life. Be sure to be at the Thanksgiving Eucharist at 10 a.m. on 20th April when the Rev'd Gordon Garner of Melbourne will be our Guest Preacher.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Ian E. A. Booth

WOMENS GUILD

The March meeting was held at the rectory with 15 members present.

Quite a long meeting was held, it was decided that in the future we hold all our meetings in the new church centre. Our agenda for the year was completed and our home project for the year will be to buy the stove for the new centre. To raise funds for this we are holding a "Mannequinn Parade" we will need your support for this, so please watch for our notice of time and place. A request was received from Clarendon Home for help with finance to buy a deep freeze. It was moved by Mrs. Page and seconded by Mrs. Sheldrick that we send \$20.00.

Mrs. Sheldrick presented a very full report of the annual meeting of the Diocesan ~~WOMENS~~ Guilds, their project for this year to be "Bush Church Aid". Our next meeting will be on April 10th at the Church Centre at 7.45 p.m. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Mooney on "Birthright".
Supper Hostesses will be Mesdames Cornish and Peck.

MINI MARKET

On Saturday April 5th from 9.30 a.m. there will be a Mini-Market in and around the Centre for the CEBS and GFS. There will be cake and produce stalls, clothes and shoes, white elephants, books, lucky dip, hoopla, guessing competitions, a 'dunking machine', mini-golf, and morning teas and drinks - and much fun for all.

We do need things, anything and everything to sell - so please leave them at the Cottage, or at the Rectory - OR ring 31 4896, and we will call and collect.

BUT - come on the 5th and support this Youth Project of the Parish.

MOTHER'S UNION

At the Annual Meeting the following members were elected into office:

<u>Enrolling Member:</u>	Mrs. V. Booth
<u>Assistant Enrolling Member:</u>	Mrs. Davis
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs. A. Atkins
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mrs. L. Perkins
<u>Mia Mia Secretary:</u>	Mrs. B. Deavin
<u>Link Secretary:</u>	Mrs. B. Smith

It is hoped Mrs. Patterson will demonstrate floral art at the next meeting (watch the Bulletin Sheet) on the 15th April, at 8 p.m.

Supper hostesses: Mrs. J. Easter, Mrs. D. Cartledge and Mrs. Davis. Please remember 18th April. There will be a gathering in our Centre at 2.30 p.m. to give us an opportunity to hear and meet Mrs. Varah, the Central President.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Roster Sunday 13th April, 1975

I Routley (Duty)	B. Proverbs
K. Atkins	J. Roberts
B. Easter	D. Standaloft
D. Lewis	D. Sutton
M. Perkins	A. Whittle

If anyone is unable to attend would he or she please contact Ian Routley by telephoning 44 4936 (home) or 31 6666 (business).

CALENDAR FOR APRIL



HAPPENINGS

Quite some day on the 16th. Over 350 people for the 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Eucharist saw the Processional Cross Dedicated as a memorial to the late Laurence Denham, the Bombarde Stop of the Organ Dedicated and the Organist, Mr. Chris Ryland introduced to us all, and welcomed to the St. John's Family. The Revd. Hugh Girvan preached, talking about the heritage we have from faithful people of the past who have served God through St. John's, and our responsibility to hand on this heritage to future generations.

After the Service, the Mayor spoke for a few moments, and then turned The Key to officially open the Centre. He lead the Clergy and People through into the Centre, and all had a good look around and explored the building.

Some 300 people stayed for a most delicious meal - and many "thank you's" were given to the Hull family caterers who prepared the Buffet meal. At 1.15 p.m. the Bishop arrived, and without waiting for a meal himself, proceeded with the Service of Dedication of the Centre. He complemented St. John's for the excellent plant we now have in the building, and expressed his great hopes for its use in the service of God, by its serving His people.

The Bishop, Clergy, Wardens and People were then led by Michael Roberts, carrying the Processional Cross to the Garden of Rememberence in the grounds of the North Side of the Church, where the Bishop Dedicated the Garden to the receiving of the Ashes of Faithful Parishioners who now serve God on other shores.

It was indeed a most memorable day - of great happiness and achievement; a stimulus for the start of this, the 150th Anniversary Year. I think I reflect the thoughts of all who were there, when I say "Thank You" to the People of vision, the Rector, the Vestry, the Designers and Builders, and all the many people who have assisted in such a diversity of ways to bring about the successful completion of this Parish Centre - to the Greater Glory of God, and for the Service of His people.

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Elizabeth Street

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

Members of the Auxiliary will meet again in the New Parish Centre on Monday April 14th at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Swinnerton, Mrs. Butler. A very successful 'Morning Tea' was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Cornish - the sum of \$169.12 was raised.

- 1 Easter Tuesday: 8 a.m. Holy Communion
- 2 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 4 Friday: C.M.S. Fellowship Night - John and Helen Van Emmerick. Parish Centre 8 p.m.
- 5 Saturday: Mini-Market for CEBS and GFS from 9.30 a.m.
- EASTER 1**: 8 a.m. Holy Communion; 10 a.m. Holy Communion; 10 a.m. Sunday School; 7 p.m. Evensong
- 7 Monday: 7.30 p.m. OSL meeting in the Chapel for prayers for the sick. 8 p.m. Bible Study Contact the Assistant for details.
- 8 Tuesday: ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: 8 a.m. Holy Communion 6 p.m. Men's Tea.
- 9 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 10 Thursday: 7.45 p.m. Women's Guild in the Centre
- EASTER 11**: Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Family Service (At the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Services the preacher will be Bishop David Garnsey). 7 p.m. Evensong and Blessing of Colours - St. Johns Ambulance.
- 14 Monday: 2.45 p.m. St. John's Auxiliary to St. Lukes Hospital, in the Centre. 7.30 p.m. Discussion Group (Mission '75)
- 15 Tuesday: 8 p.m. Mother's Union.
- 16 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 17 Thursday - to 23rd at Paterson Street Methodist Hall, on Archaeological Exhibition.
- 18 Friday: 2.30 p.m. in the Centre: Mrs. Chad Varah, Central President of the Mothers Union.
- EASTER 111: STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Holy Communion, Preacher: the Revd. Gordon Garner of Melbourne. 10 a.m. Sunday School. 7 p.m. Evensong.
- 20 Monday: 8 p.m. in Chapel - OSL Healing Service 8 p.m. Bible Study Group
- 22 Tuesday: 7.45 p.m. GFS - Townsend Group in The Centres.
- 23 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 25 Friday: ST. MARK'S DAY. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Young World Singers at the Princess Theatre.
- EASTER 1V**: 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Mattins 10 a.m. Sunday School, 7 p.m. Evensong
- 28 Monday: 7.30 p.m. Discussion Group (Mission '75)
- 30 Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.