

Praise Him!

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'And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host PRAISING God.'



PARISH MESSENGER

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN □ LAUNCESTON

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

8 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.
11.30 p.m. Midnight Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

6.30, 8, 10 a.m. Holy Communion
7.30 p.m. Evensong.

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

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

THE RECTOR WRITES,

Dear Parishioners,

At the time of writing, the political life of our nation is in the most chaotic state for generations. Tension runs high and we all wonder what will happen next.

By the time you read this the future may be clearer or the chaos more chaotic.

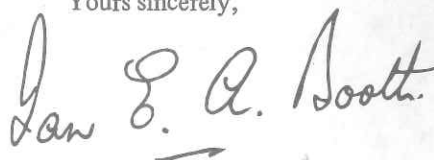
Into this background I must project a Christmas and New Year greeting and my greeting is "Praise Him! Praise Him!" The message that heralded our Lord's birth is the message that speaks clearly to all who would endeavour to serve their fellows and their country, "Peace on earth to men of goodwill". It is a message that must be heard beyond Christmas into the daily responsibilities of the new year if it is to have relevance at all.

The message of hope and love which came into the world in Jesus and which is still found in him must surely stand out in warm contrast to cold front of words and action which have frozen so much of our national life in recent days.

Jesus still breaks the power of sin and sets men free. Isn't this a reason for praising him now and into the coming year as we endeavour to serve him through our life together in his family at St. John's.

I wish you a happy and holy Christmas and may the New Year be exciting and purposeful for you all.

Yours sincerely,



FAREWELL

The Rev'd David Lewis leaves us on 4th January after three years as Assistant Curate in the parish. His work has been greatly appreciated as he has given himself faithfully to these first years of his ministry with us here at St. John's. We have gained much from him and we trust that he has gained a little in return that will prove of value in the years ahead.

We wish him God's rich blessings as he spends the next year overseas after a short stay with his family at Sandy Bay.

We will miss "Frodo" too!

SPECIAL NOTICE

Parishioners will have the opportunity of saying their personal farewells to the Rev'd. David Lewis at the Cider and Cheese fellowship time in the Parish Centre following the Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve.

For those not away on holidays there will be a formal expression of farewell in the Parish Centre following Evensong on Sunday 4th January and we hope you can be there.

ANNOUNCEMENT

C.M.S. SUMMER SCHOOL

W.E.C. COLLEGE, ST. LEONARDS ... 27th-31st January.

The Bible Studies at the Summer School will be given by the REV. JOHN STOTT of London who has been Rector of All Souls' Church, Langham Place, London for 25 years and is an Outstanding Evangelical Scholar and Biblical Expositor. He is a Convention Leader of much experience and a widely read Author.

The theme of Mr. Stott's studies will be "GOD'S NEW SOCIETY"—an exposition of the Letter to the Ephesians and these studies will be similar in content to those given by him at the 1975 Keswick Convention, England.

REGISTER NOW!!! Further information from the Rector, or:

C.M.S. OFFICE.

First Floor,

92 St. John Street,

Launceston. 7250

Phone 31 6759.



HAPPENINGS

I am on a serious note this month, my favourite Bible expositor, the Rev'd J.R.W. Stott from All Souls', Langham Place in the heart of London will be Bible Study Leader at the C.M.S. Summer School in Launceston from 27th to 31st January. You simply must register to attend, you will find a form at the back of the Church.

Tasmanian Council of Churches Conference in Hobart 20th to 22nd February will be another highlight of early 1976 with Dr. Kosuke Koyama of Japan. I hope my friends will think hard about attending this conference, too.

Parish Messenger, like me, will be having a rest during January, so you will not hear from me again till February.

Elizabeth Street

GUILD NOTES

Thirteen members attended the November Meeting in the Parish Centre. The main function for December will be the afternoon tea for Senior Parishioners on December 3rd at 2 p.m. in the Parish Centre.

The Guild Christmas Dinner will be held on December 11th at the St. James' Hotel at 7 p.m.

\$10 was forwarded to Clarendon Childrens' Home from the sale of Christmas Cards.

The order for new crockery, jugs and teapots has been placed and delivery should be early December.

Dates for 1976

First Guild Meeting will be in the Parish Centre on 12th February.

The Guild Conference will be held at St. Andrew's Church, Westbury on 26th February at 9.30 a.m.

Christmas Flowers

The members of the flower guild would be delighted to hear from anyone with flowers which could be used for decorating the Church at Christmas. Flowers would need to be left at the Church by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 24th.



MOTHER'S UNION

Our final meeting for 1975 was held in Parish Centre on November 19th. There were forty-six present at the service of Holy Communion (twenty-seven members and their friends) which preceded a very enjoyable social evening. A fine play, "The Other Inn" was presented by the South Esk C.W.A. Drama Group. A Duet and Solo were given by Miss Brownrigg and Mrs. Radford.

First meeting for 1976 will be February 17th at 8 p.m.

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

The final meeting of the Auxiliary for 1975 was held in the Parish Centre on Monday, November 10th. The Auxiliary will go into recess until March, 1976.

My grateful thanks to all members for their untiring work throughout the year and I trust that all will enjoy a well earned rest.

The last year has been most successful, all functions being very well attended. At the end of the financial year a donation of \$1,082.00 was made to the Hospital and a further donation of \$450.00 has been made.

Wishing all members and our supporters "The Compliments of the Season".

GROUNDS ROSTER FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The following persons have been rostered to cut the lawns and general maintenance of grounds:

December 13th	M. Perkins	(Church)
	R. Cartledge	(Rectory)
December 20th	B. Easther	(Church)
	N. Tilley	(Rectory)
January 10th	G. Lillico	(Church)
	I. Routley	(Rectory)
January 24th	J. Stevenson	(Church)
	R. Dewis	(Rectory)

G.F.S. TOWNSEND FAIR

The Townsend members of St. John's G.F.S. wish to thank all who supported the recent annual fair. It was a great success, \$215.00 was added to our Church Carpet Fund.

A.W.F. REPORT

Anglican Womens' Fellowship Picnic at Punch Bowl Reserve, Wednesday 17th December. Meet at 11 a.m. outside Punch Bowl Sanctuary. Bring own lunch and thermos.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

Monday	1	7.30 p.m. O.S.L. in Chapel - (Followed by break-up)
Tuesday	2	ST. ANDREW'S DAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday	3	9 a.m. Bible Study in C.M.S. House 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 2 p.m. Guild After-noon Tea for Senior Parishioners 6 p.m. G.F.S.
Thursday	4	6 p.m. C.E.B.S. 7.15 p.m. Kindergarten Break-up 8 p.m. Choir Practice
Friday	5	4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
ADVENT 2	7	8 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Broadland House Service 10 a.m. Sunday School 7.30 p.m. Evensong
Tuesday	9	6 p.m. Men's Tea - (Wives invited) Speaker: Mrs. Max Bushby
Wednesday	10	9 a.m. Bible Study at C.M.S. House (Final for the year) 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 6 p.m. G.F.S. 7.30 p.m. Vestry
Thursday	11	6 p.m. C.E.B.S. 7 p.m. Guild Christmas Dinner at St. James Hotel 8 p.m. Choir Practice
Friday	12	4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
Saturday	13	C.E.B.S. - G.F.S. Walkathon 11.45 p.m. Transport from the Church Noon Barbecue at Trevallyn Dam 1.15 walk to St. George's - Competitions in to Parish Centre by 4 p.m.
ADVENT 3	14	8 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Family Service - Admission of G.F.S. and C.E.B.S. members, presentation of Badges. Sunday School Awards. The Preacher will be the Rev'd Rex Upton. 7.30 p.m. Evensong
Wednesday	17	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 6.30 p.m. - 9 p.m. C.E.B.S. - G.F.S. Barbecue and Break-up.
Thursday	18	8 p.m. Choir Practice
Friday	19	4.30 p.m. Junior Choir Practice
ADVENT 4	21	8 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Holy Communion 7.30 p.m. Evensong (The Choir will be singing at Exeter).

Wednesday	24	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 8 p.m. The Festival of Carols and The Reading of the Nine Lessons. Followed by Cider and Cheese in the Centre. 11.30 p.m. Midnight Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY	25	6.30 a.m. Holy Communion 8 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Holy Communion 7.30 p.m. Evensong
Friday	26	ST. STEPHEN'S DAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion
Saturday	27	ST. JOHN'S DAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion
SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	28	8 a.m. Holy Communion 10 a.m. Mattins 7.30 p.m. Evensong
Tuesday	30	INNOCENTS DAY 8 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday	31	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 11.30 p.m. WATCHNIGHT SERVICE (Holy Communion)

During January - the Sunday Services will be at the usual times. There will be no week day services at 8 a.m., these will resume in February. There will be Holy Communion Services every Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. and at 8 a.m. on Tuesday 6th (Epiphany of Our Lord) and Tuesday 27th (Conversion of St. Paul).

MEALS ON WHEELS

Roster Sunday December 14th, 1975.

Ian Routley (Duty Driver)	K. Atkins
B. Easther	J. Green
P. Hull	G. Lillico
S. Murray	M. Perkins
D. Standoft	A. Whittle

Any person who is unable to attend would they please phone Ian Routley - 44 4936. Please be at Cosgrove Park by 11.30 a.m.

Roster Sunday January 11th, 1976.

Margaret Willson (Duty Driver)	W. Cowell
N. Dicker	W. Donaldson
M. Easther	A. Ford
D. Gill	G. Hill
G. Lillico	L. Nicholas

Any person who is unable to attend would they please phone Margaret Willson - 30 1364. Please be at Cosgrove Park by 11.30 a.m.