

PARISH MESSENGER

SUPPLEMENT to the CHURCH NEWS, DECEMBER, 1978

Rector :

The Revd. Canon Ian Booth, Th.L.
(Tel. 31 5218)

Assistant :

The Revd. David Jones, M.A.
(Tel. 31 4896)

Hon. Assistant :

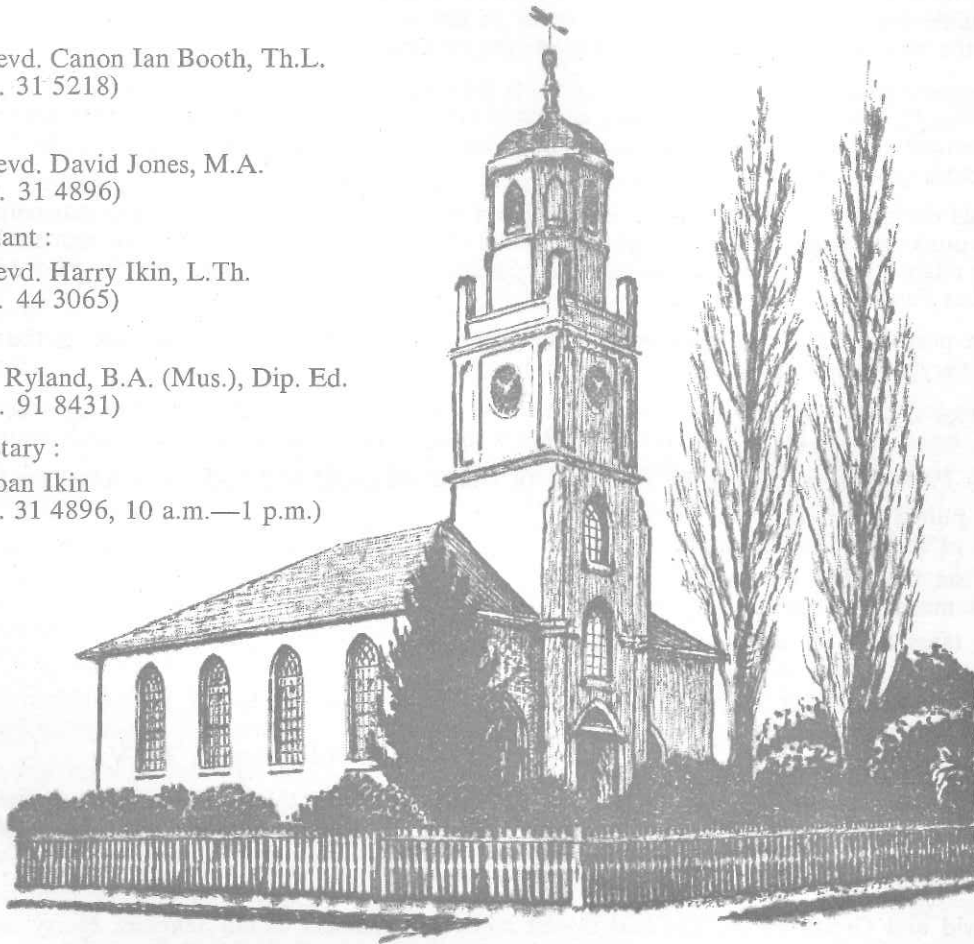
The Revd. Harry Ikin, L.Th.
(Tel. 44 3065)

Organist :

Mr. C. Ryland, B.A. (Mus.), Dip. Ed.
(Tel. 91 8431)

Office Secretary :

Mrs. Joan Ikin
(Tel. 31 4896, 10 a.m.—1 p.m.)



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN — LAUNCESTON

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

8 a.m. Holy Communion.

10 a.m. Morning Prayer.

8 p.m. Service of Nine Lessons & Carols for Christmas (Followed by Cider & Cheese).

11.30 p.m. Midnight Communion.

CHRISTMAS DAY

6.30, 8 and 10 a.m. Holy Communion.

7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.

THE RECTOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

"Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King."

So run the words of Isaac Watts' beautiful hymn. It is a hymn for all seasons but as we move through Advent to Christmas it has a special appropriateness for all of us.

As the Christmas rush gathers impetus here in Australia we become caught up in such a farrago of events made even more complex by the onset of the summer holiday season that we are in serious danger of missing the message. It can be like stepping into quicksand!

I suppose that this confusion merely reflects the tempo of the times the rythm of which is made faster by the fact that the onset of the long holiday season demands the annual wind-up of every organisation in Church and community. Never-the-less Christians must 'face the music' of it and find the right 'key' for the chorus of the heavenly angels in the Australia of 1978.

Jesus entrusted the proclamation of the Good News to his people. To fulfil that trust we first need to evaluate our own involvement in this ceaseless round of activities to ensure that we are not mesmerized by it. Then we ought seriously to commit ourselves to declaring through lip and life that "The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King".

The post-Christmas and post-holiday hangover does not speak very intelligently to the world and appears to have very little joy in it.

I suggest that a simple response in which we can all be involved is stated in the second half of the first verse of Isaac Watts' hymn — "Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing".

The Psalmist's experience as described in Psalm 40 could well find a new relevance for us:

"He pulled me out of the dangerous pit,
out of the deadly quicksand.

He set me safely on a rock
and made me secure.

He taught me to sing a new song
a song of praise to our God.

Many who see this will take warning
and will put their trust in the Lord."

(Psalm 40: 2 and 3, T.E.V.)

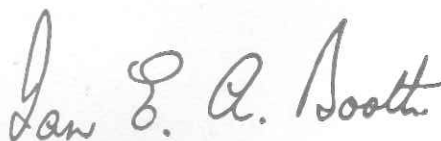
I have just checked through the December Diary and take this opportunity to invite you all to share deeply in the worship of Christmas. The services are planned to give the widest possible opportunity for the Parish Family and visitors to our city to enter fully into the joy of Christmas and to respond in thanksgiving for the birth of our Saviour.

David and Gretta Jones, Val and myself with the members of our families, Harry and Lyn Ikin, Joan Ikin, Chris and Judy Ryland and their family, the Churchwardens and all the parish team join in extending to you prayers and good wishes for a happy and holy Christmas.

"Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns".

God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,



IAN E. A. BOOTH, Rector.

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

The final meeting for 1978 was held in the Parish Centre on Monday, 13th November, 1978. We will resume our meetings in March, 1979.

On St. Luke's Day, flowers given by members were distributed to all patients in hospital by Mesdames Holyman, Palliser and Cornish.

The result from the Morning Tea held on the 2nd November amounted to \$473.56. This included donations. Our very grateful thanks to all our members for their help and support. To the friends of St. Luke's who attended, our sincere thanks also. A cheque has been forwarded to the Hospital requesting that the money be spent on comforts for patients in the Geriatric section.

On behalf of the President, Mrs. Holyman, and members, I send greetings to all patients in hospital at Christmas time. A special Christmas greeting to our older patients in care of Matron and staff.

Members will visit the Hospital during the Festive Season and all patients will receive a small gift. Our usual gifts of Christmas cakes and biscuits will also be sent.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild dinner on the 9th November was well attended and it was pleasing to have two former members with us, Mrs. Ikin and Mrs. Hodges. The place of eating provided good service, an enjoyable meal and a "doggy bag"!

We are reminded of the Market on the 2nd December when goods for sale will be much appreciated.

Thank you to those who have contributed during the year by knitting for the Queen Victoria Hospital and Roland Boys' Home, especially two non-members, Mrs. Latta and Miss Davis from C.M.S.

The Compliments of the Season to all.

G.F.S. TOWNSEND

The members of St. John's Townsend G.F.S. wish to thank all who supported the recent Annual Fair. It was a very successful fair and \$280.00 was raised for our G.F.S. Townsend Church Carpet Fund.

MOTHERS' UNION

Thank you to members and all parishioners who contributed to the stall for the Clarendon Children's Home. A cheque for \$100.00 will be forwarded. Mothers' Union will resume in February. Supper Hostesses: Mrs. White and Mrs. M. Easter.

KINDERGARTEN & SUB-PRIMARY

The Kindergarten and Sub-Primary Christmas Evening will be held in the Parish Centre on Thursday, 7th December at 7.15 p.m. Please come with the children. All parishioners, parents and friends are warmly invited.

PIRATES A-HOY!!!

If you are round the Parish Centre during the last week before school starts (12th — 17th February) BEWARE!!! — But actually the pirates may only be some of the seven to eleven year-olds who will be "embarking" on a week of activities being organised by one of our teachers, Mrs. Lin Farrington. She is getting together a band of "full grown" pirates to help her and it really should be great fun. On Sunday the 18th February the 10 a.m. service will be a special one when we will be talking about Treasure.

Watch for details. Enquiries to Parish Office, 10 a.m. — 1 p.m., Monday to Friday.

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 Churchwardens.

Mrs. E. and Miss J. Rule — \$2.00; M. H. Maclaine — \$2.00; Mrs. V. Thompson — \$10.00; Miss M. Bennett — \$1.00. THANK YOU.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for December and January. If unable to attend please phone Mr. R. W. Donaldson (31 5798 — home).

SUNDAY, 10th DECEMBER, 1978 — 11.15 a.m.

M. Easther	D. Sheldrick
D. Gill	L. Poesiat
G. Lillico	P. Dixon
W. Cowell	W. Donaldson
V. Murgatroyd	M. Booth

SUNDAY, 14th JANUARY, 1979 — 11.15 a.m.

S. Murray	I. Routley
G. Swinnerton	Mrs. Clare
M. Wilson	P. Dixon
D. Sutton	W. Donaldson
D. Plumridge	

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

- 1 Friday
7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
8 p.m. Handel's "Messiah" in St. John's,
Launceston Philharmonic Society.
- 2 Saturday
10 a.m./12 noon "Saturday Market",
in support of Rick Cartledge and
family.
8 p.m. C.M.S. Fellowship Night, Parish
Centre, Speaker: The Rev'd Bill
Warburton, Department of Mis-
sion, recently returned from visit to
Asia.
- 3 **FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Sunday School.
10 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Preacher:
The Rev'd Bill Warburton.
- 4 Monday
7.30 p.m. O.S.L. Prayer Meeting.
- 5 Tuesday
1.30 p.m. Young Mothers' Group.
12 noon Pastoral Committee in Assis-
tant's Cottage.
8 p.m. Bible Study — Cottage Group.
- 6 Wednesday
9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S.
House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
7.30 p.m. Education Committee.
8 p.m. Property Committee.
- 7 Thursday
6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.15 p.m. Kindergarten/Sub-Primary
Christmas Evening.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 8 Friday
7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
- 10 **ADVENT II**
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Sunday School.
10 a.m. Broadland House Service.
11.15 a.m. Meals on Wheels.
7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 11 Monday
8 p.m. St. Luke's Graduation of Nurses
in Parish Centre.
- 12 Tuesday
1.30 p.m. Young Mothers' Group.
8 p.m. Bible Study — Cottage Group.
- 13 Wednesday
9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S.
House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
7.30 p.m. Vestry.

- 14 Thursday
6 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 17 **ADVENT III**
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Family Service.
5 p.m. Youth Group Christmas Tea.
7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 18 Monday
8 p.m. O.S.L. Chapter Meeting.
- 19 Tuesday
9.45 a.m./10.15 a.m. Charles Street
School Service.
1.30 p.m. Young Mothers' Group.
- 20 Wednesday
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
- 21 Thursday
St. Thomas' Day
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
6 p.m. C.E.B.S. Service and Barbecue.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Morning Prayer.
8 p.m. **Service of Nine Lessons and
Carols for Christmas** (Followed by
Cider & Cheese).
11.30 p.m. **Midnight Communion.**
- 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
6.30 a.m. **Holy Communion.**
8 a.m. **Holy Communion.**
10 a.m. **Holy Communion.**
7.30 p.m. **Evening Prayer.**
- 26 Tuesday
St. Stephen's Day
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 27 Wednesday
St. John's Day
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 31 **SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
11.30 p.m. **Watchnight Service** (Holy
Communion).

There will be no week day services at 8 a.m. after Wednesday, 27th December (St. John's Day); these will resume in February. During January there will be Holy Communion Services every Wednesday at 10.30 a.m., and 8 a.m. on Saturday, 6th January (Epiphany of Our Lord) and Thursday, 25th January (Conversion of St. Paul). Sunday Services will be at the usual times. Sunday School resumes 25th February, 1979.