

PARISH MESSENGER

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHURCH NEWS, JULY 1980

Rector:

Archdeacon Ian Booth, Th.L.
(Telephone: 315218)

Assistant:

The Rev'd Tony Henricks, Th.L.
(Telephone: 314896)

Hon. Assistant:

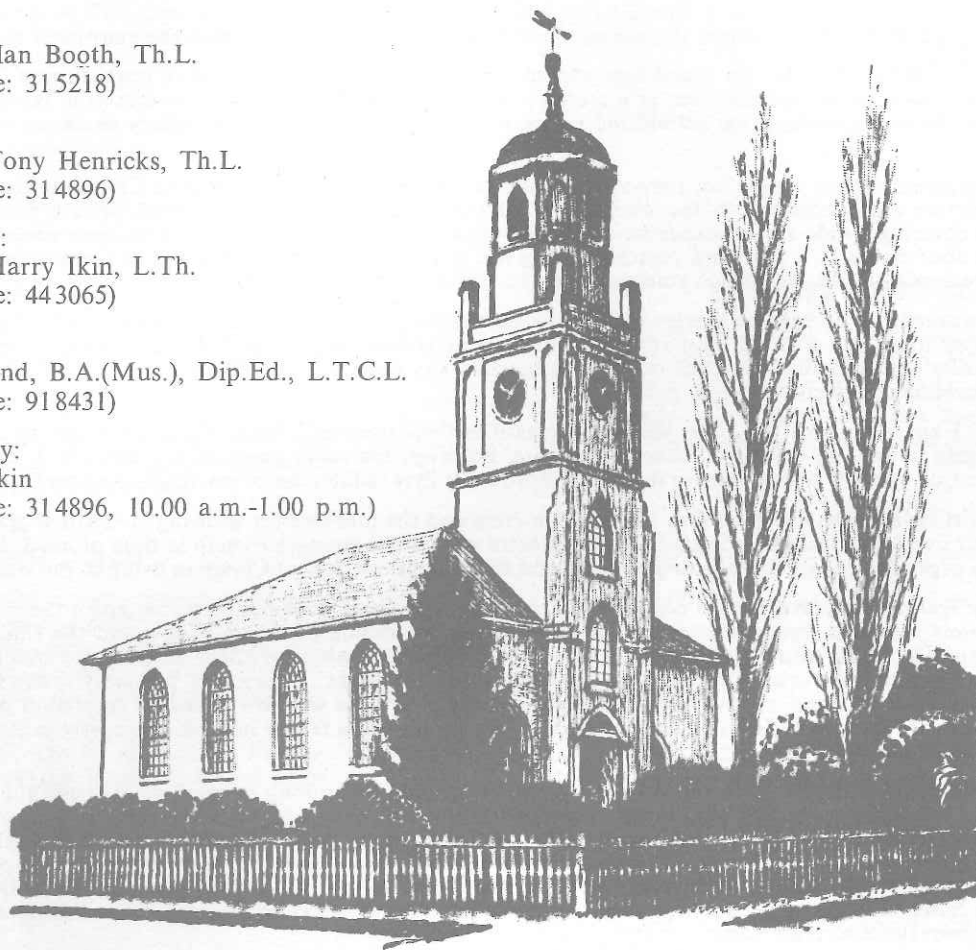
The Rev'd Harry Ikin, L.Th.
(Telephone: 443065)

Organist:

Mr. C. Ryland, B.A.(Mus.), Dip.Ed., L.T.C.L.
(Telephone: 918431)

Office Secretary:

Mrs. Joan Ikin
(Telephone: 314896, 10.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.)



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN – LAUNCESTON

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8.00 a.m. Every Sunday; 10.00 a.m. First, Third (Healing Service) and Fifth Sunday.
7.00 p.m. Fourth Sunday (Healing Service). **Family Service:** 10.00 a.m. Second Sunday.

Morning Prayer: 10.00 a.m. Fourth Sunday.

Evening Prayer: 7.00 p.m. First, Second, Third and Fifth Sundays.

WEEKDAY SERVICES: (In the Chapel)

Daily Office: 8.00 a.m. Monday to Saturday (Holy Communion, Saints' Day).
Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

THE RECTOR WRITES

Dear Parishioners,

Some words by their association frighten us. "Crisis" is one such word. Most of us have an immediate emotional response to the word — but what does it mean?

The word itself is derived from a Greek word which means "to decide" or "to separate". A crisis then is an experience which is a turning point. For some people this seems to conjure up a fearful threat. Hence the emotional response.

A moment's careful thought can reveal that a crisis can be a time of challenge and of opportunity. There are many positive experiences that grow from accepting crises in a creative way. "Easier said than done", comes your reply. "True", I say, "but if we reach out to the resources God has set around us we find support to make the necessary decisions and changes which each crisis demands."

It is my experience that people are rediscovering the supportive care of the Christian Church in the crises they face. There are many supportive caring agencies in the community of today. There are Governmental, private professional and voluntary service agencies covering a wide area of expertise to which people can turn. Unfortunately with some the concern cannot continue after the office door closes at 5 p.m. and personal caring has given way to an endless round of form-filling. This is not so much a criticism but a recognition of a fact which emerges from the structure of society today.

The commitment of a Christian carries with it the imperative "to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength and your neighbour as yourself." Intrinsic to the nature of the Christian life is caring and caring demands that we reach out in a supportive way to help people in crisis to marshal all their resources in order to meet their situation creatively.

I suppose I am looking at the crises we would regard as "emergencies", those things that happen suddenly, taking us off guard and plunging us into an emotional chaos. There are, however, the more predictable crises which are experienced by everyone at some time or another which involve turning points in our lives, adolescence, marriage, retirement, old age and many more.

Every Christian has something to give to people in crisis and the more we are growing in spiritual grace and the fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives (read Galatians 5: 22 & 23) the greater will be our strength to help in time of need. The task of caring is not confined to the organised life of a congregation but ought to be a natural part of Christian living in the community where we live.

As a congregation, however, we do not have the asset of supportive fellowship to strengthen the care we extend to others. One of the greatest strengths for people in crisis is a supporting fellowship of caring people and the Church ought always to be such a fellowship. The fellowship we offer ought not to be confined to what we might describe as Church hours; it ought not to cease when the Church and Parish Centre doors are locked for the night. It can well be costly fellowship; costly in terms of "always open for business" and costly in that it might intrude into time we have allocated to private pursuits. Remember the Good Samaritan in the parable of Jesus (Luke 10: 29-37). His support of a fellow in crisis was costly in time, in changed itinerary for his travels and in money.

Most of you will know the importance I have given to "people welcoming people" at St. John's. I still believe that we are not as caring as we ought to be for each other and for visitors and new folk who find their way into our services and other activities. All people are potential "crisis" people. Our commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ, our attendance at worship or a parish group of some kind does not make us immune from the crises of life. We are all moving towards predictable crises and all stand close to unpredictable ones as well. As we reach out in Christian love and care or just plain friendship to those with whom we worship we build "bridges" across which they can move in times of crises and what's more, "bridges" across which we can move when our own times of crisis come.

One of the greatest tragedies of our time is that people do not have bridges across which to come in times of need and do not build bridges across which to move to others in their need.

We can begin by making the fellowship of worship and other activities within the life of St. John's a warm and friendly action of personal bridge-building. Introduce yourself to people you do not know, welcome those who visit or who come for the first time, visit them and invite them to your home. Our worship will be more fully Christian as we express our love for one another when we meet to express our love for God in the worship we offer.

Beyond the caring fellowship of the congregation is another challenge. It is vital that Christians build bridges of caring love out into the community where they live. There are so many people who have lost their foothold in the unstable circumstances of crisis, who have not found real caring in the community support systems and who desperately need a bridge of love across which to move into warm personal support and the transforming power of Jesus. Because we have largely failed to build such bridges the genuineness of our Christian lives is in question.

The caring we aim at is not a patronising hand-out service but a caring which will enable a crisis to become a turning point, a time of creative decision making which frees the person concerned to grow as a person and do things for himself. As we share the deeper things of the Spirit with such a person he may well come to personal faith in Jesus Christ because he experiences it at work.

I conclude with two verses of Scripture, which, if you think deeply about them, have much to say about crisis caring and love both within the family of the Church and beyond it:—

“So then, as often as we have the chance we should do good to everyone and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith.” (Galatians 6:10 T.E.V.)

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and in his grace gave us unfailing courage and a firm hope, encourage you and strengthen you always to do and say what is good.” (2 Thessalonians 2:16 T.E.V.)

May God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,

Ian E. A. Booth

IAN E. A. BOOTH, Rector.

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15th July at 7.45 p.m., commencing with a service in the chapel.

On Wednesday, 9th July there will be a Luncheon in the Parish Centre from noon to 2 p.m. for the Cartledge family. Donation \$3.50. Tickets available from Miss D. Butler and the Parish Office.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Another Floral Festival is being arranged and will be held in the church from Thursday, 11th September until Sunday, 14th September. Many groups and organisations have been contacted inviting them to take part in the hope that we can maintain the high standard set previously.

Once again the Guild will be responsible for the preparing and serving of the Parish Tea held prior to the Annual Meeting.

At the next meeting on 10th July, Wendy Cowell and Margaret Willson as guest speakers will give their impressions of the Oberammergau Passion Play. Supper hostesses: Miss Barnes, Mesdames Andrews and Stevenson.

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 Centre on Monday, 14th July at 2.45 p.m. Afternoon tea hostesses: Mesdames Page, Sutton, Easter.

The August meeting will be the Annual Meeting.

BUSH CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The Box openings and special donations for this financial year to 30th June 1980 have amounted to \$215.00. This is a very pleasing amount and is much appreciated by the Victorian Secretary, the Rev'd E. Horth on behalf of the Society. THANKS TO ALL.

ST. JOHN'S MEN'S TEA

Meets in the Parish Centre, 2nd Tuesday in the month at 6 p.m. Tea - \$2.00. ALL MEN WELCOME.

Tuesday 8th July - Speaker: Mr. Gordon Tyson (Family Law Court) on "How does our Christian faith overcome problems in marriage?"

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday 13th July 1980 at 11.15 a.m. If unable to attend please ring Bill Donaldson on 31 5798 (home).

W. Arendt, N. Dicker, J. McCabe, D. Plumridge, D. Sheldrick, J. Stevenson, A. Whittle, J. Roberts, B. Peel.

PARISH FAMILY FUN NIGHT (Concert)

Friday, 15th August at 7.45 p.m. in Parish Centre. ALL WELCOME.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Parish
this year
will be held on
MONDAY, 28TH JULY, 1980
Parish Tea - 6 p.m.
\$1.50 adults
50 cents children.
Annual Meeting - 7.30 p.m.

R.S.V.P. SLIP FOR PARISH TEA

Number coming.....
Name.....
Address.....

CALENDAR FOR JULY

- 1 Tuesday **St. Peter's Day**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship.
- 2 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S. House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4.00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
6.00 p.m. G.F.S.
7.30 p.m. Pastoral Committee.
8.00 p.m. Property Committee.
- 3 Thursday 1.00 p.m./2.30 p.m. Y.M.D. Friendship Group.
1.00 p.m./3.00 p.m. Play Group.
6.00 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 4 Friday 7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
- 6 **ORD. SUNDAY 14**
7.40 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.30 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
10.00 a.m. Sunday School.
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Office of admission to Confirmation Preparation, followed by meeting in Kindergarten Room of Parish Centre for candidates, parents or in case of married adults, husbands or wives).
7.00 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 8 Tuesday 6.00 p.m. Men's Tea, Speaker: Mr. Gordon Tyson (Family Law Court).
8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship.
- 9 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S. House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
12 noon/2.00 p.m. Mothers' Union Luncheon.
4.00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
6.00 p.m. G.F.S.
7.30 p.m. Vestry.
- 10 Thursday 1.00 p.m./3.00 p.m. Play Group.
6.00 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Women's Guild.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 11 Friday 7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
- 12 Saturday 11.00 a.m. G.F.S. Diocesan Annual Meeting.
- 13 **ORD. SUNDAY 15**
7.40 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion, Preacher: the Rev'd Joseph Lee of Korea.
9.30 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
10.00 a.m. Family Service, Speaker: the Rev'd Dudley Barker, Tasmanian Representative of Bible Society.
11.15 a.m. Meals on Wheels.
11.30 a.m. Confirmation Class.
7.00 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 14 Monday 2.45 p.m. St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's.
- 15 Tuesday 7.45 p.m. Mothers' Union.
8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship.
- 16 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion C.M.S. House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4.00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
6.00 p.m. G.F.S.
- 17 Thursday 1.00 p.m./3.00 p.m. Play Group.
6.00 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 18 Friday 7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
- 20 **ORD. SUNDAY 16**
7.40 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.30 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
10.00 a.m. Sunday School.
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Healing Service).
11.30 a.m. Confirmation Class.
7.00 p.m. Evening Prayer.
- 22 Tuesday **St. Mary Magdalen**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.45 p.m. G.F.S. Townsend.
8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship.
- 23 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S. House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4.00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
6.00 p.m. G.F.S.
- 24 Thursday 1.00 p.m./3.00 p.m. Play Group.
6.00 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.
- 25 Friday **St. James' Day**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Youth Group.
- 27 **ORD. SUNDAY 17**
7.40 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
9.30 a.m. Prayers for the parish.
10.00 a.m. Sunday School.
10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
11.30 a.m. Confirmation Class.
7.00 p.m. Holy Communion (Healing Service).
- 28 Monday 6.00 p.m. Parish Tea.
7.30 p.m. Annual Meeting.
- 29 Tuesday 8.00 p.m. Parish Fellowship.
- 30 Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Bible Discussion, C.M.S. House.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
4.00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice.
6.00 p.m. G.F.S.
- 31 Thursday 1.00 p.m./3.00 p.m. Play Group.
6.00 p.m. C.E.B.S.
7.45 p.m. Choir Practice.