

PARISH MESSENGER

Rector:

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

Assistant:

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

Hon. Assistant:

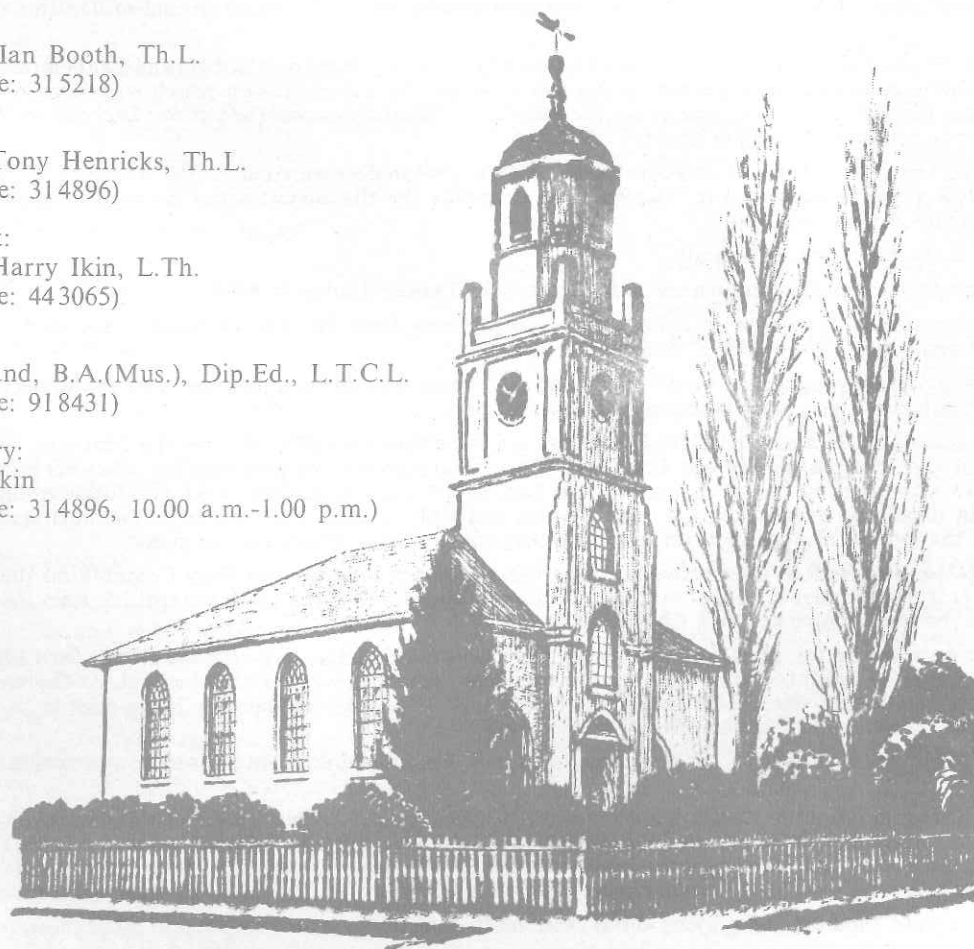
The Rev'd Harry Ikin, L.Th.
(Telephone: 443065)

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,

At this time each year we have reached the half-way mark in Confirmation preparation. We are also about to be involved in the Session of Synod for the year.

This year Synod will meet over the weekend of Friday 5th September, to Sunday 7th September. One subject that has concerned members of Synod for a long time, in common with other Synods in Australia and overseas, is what we sometimes refer to as "Christian Initiation". Discussion on Christian initiation usually covers the whole ground of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion.

Arising out of previous Synods, conferences on this subject were arranged in Hobart and Launceston during past months. A report of these conferences will be presented to this year's Session by a Commission which was charged at last year's Synod to prepare a Diocesan Conference, with speakers on the subject of "Baptism as practised in our Diocese; its theological and pastoral ramifications, and to produce some guidelines for the future."

In short, the report says that "It was considered that the conferences were beneficial" and there is "the need for some kind of follow-up." The Commission asks for "further time to pursue the theological issues involved in the whole area of Christian initiation and nurture in the congregation."

Two other steps will be put to Synod:—

1. That material from the conferences form the basis for Lenten Studies in 1981.
2. That Ruri-decanal conferences collate suggestions arising from the Lenten Studies and that the Commission report "some guidelines for the future" to Synod in 1981.

If Synod accepts this programme we will all be asked to tussle with the complex issues of this subject so I suggest that every member of the Parish give it very serious thought and earnest prayer.

One thing is certain, Baptism and Holy Communion are matters central to the life of a Christian. They are central because our acceptance of Christ is central and our Lord Jesus Christ commanded not only that his followers preach, teach and heal but also baptize those who come to believe in him. At the Last Supper he commanded those who followed him to remember him by eating the broken bread and drinking of the cup. Baptism and Holy Communion were to be sacraments of life, ongoing, growing life in Christ not the formal religious observances which they seem to have become for so many.

Where mere formal religious observance becomes the reason for Baptism and Holy Communion there is no living response and no growth. Is it any wonder then that faith grows dim and appears to die? Congregational life loses its vitality and it becomes a struggle to find the resources to keep the Church doors open.

There may be some better guidelines to follow, some deeper challenges and responsibilities for Christians to accept. If we are being led by the Holy Spirit to define these and to act upon them then we must be obedient. At the very least we must, in the light of Scripture, re-examine our present practices to see how best they can become more alive to us personally, and to the Church generally, in the changed and changing society in which we live.

I want to leave you with several Bible references to look up and think deeply about as you tackle the issues opened up in what I have said.

On Baptism refer to Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:14-18, 1 Corinthians 12:12 and 13, Galatians 3:26 and 27, Colossians 2:11-15 and on the Holy Communion, Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-26, Luke 22:14-20, Acts 2:41 and 42 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-25. As you refer to these also bear in mind how Jesus received the children in Mark 10:13-16 and their status in the Kingdom of Heaven. Also how whole households (parents, children, servants and their families) came to faith and were baptized.

In order that your thinking and praying about these matters be not in a vacuum keep in mind these two questions:—

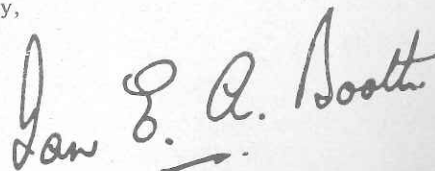
1. Why do so many parents, children and godparents associated with baptisms at St. John's not participate regularly in Sunday worship or family fellowship activities in the parish?
2. Why do so many who have been confirmed at St. John's, their witnesses and their families, not continue regularly at the Holy Communion?

It is true that our congregations are growing, that Communicant numbers have doubled in the last six to seven years and some other aspects of parish life have strengthened but an honest assessment will reveal that this is very small when related in the number of baptisms and confirmations.

I hope that the challenge to think through the meaning of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion will be taken up by everyone who reads this, not just those who "like" to think about such matters. Especially, I hope the young people of the parish will become vitally aware of the challenge represented in what I have written.

May God bless you all.

Yours sincerely,



IAN E. A. BOOTH, Rector.

ST. JOHN'S MEN'S TEA

Meets monthly on second Tuesday in Parish Centre at 6 p.m. Catered tea \$2.00. All men welcome.

Tuesday, September 10th:

The Leprosy Mission - Mr. Don Rees, Vic/Tas. Promotion Officer.

Tuesday, October 4th:

Youth Support Unit - Miss Libby Wren.

Tuesday, November 11th:

Ladies Night.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The final arrangements for the Floral Festival was the important agenda item at the last meeting. Please note the dates, 11th-14th September, and we ask parishioners to watch for the advertising concerning it, and to give support by bringing friends to see the beautiful flowers which will be on display in the Church.

We trust those who have been on the sick list are well again.

Several members will be assisting with the catering for Synod.

Because of the Floral Festival, the September meeting has been cancelled.

The next meeting will be on 2nd October. Supper hostesses, Mesdames Easter and Thompson.

MOTHERS' UNION

There will be no September meeting as the Mothers' Union Diocesan Council will be held in Hobart on Tuesday 16th, and also many of our members are unable to be present.

Miss D. Butler is taking orders for 1981 Diaries and also \$3 for the Mothers' Union magazine for 1981. Please contact her as soon as possible. Calendars will be available later on.

The wave of Prayer will be held in the Chapel or Choir Vestry on Friday, 12th September from 9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

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

Members of the Auxiliary will meet in the Parish Centre on Monday, September 8th. at 2.45 p.m.

Afternoon tea hostesses - Mesdames L. Ikin, L. Cornish and Miss W. Green.

Tentative arrangements are being made for our Annual Morning Tea which we hope, will be held in October.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday, 14th September, 1980, at 11.15 a.m. If unable to attend please ring Bill Donaldson on 31 5798 (home).

L. Brain, W. Donaldson, M. Easter, J. Fletcher, D. Gill, A. J. Green, L. Knowles, V. Murgatroyd, D. Plumbridge, G. Swinnerton.

CHURCHWARDENS, VESTRYMEN AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 1980/81

Rector's Warden - Mr. M. M. Easter.

People's Wardens - Mr. D. Gill, Mr. J. Roberts.

Vestry - Rector's Nominations - Mr. F. Duffy, Mr. T. B. Butler, Mr. D. Munro.

Elected - Mr. G. R. Swinnerton, Mr. R. Cleary, Mr. A. J. Green, Mr. C. Ryland, Mr. T. Walsh, Mr. B. Peel.

APPOINTMENTS

Secretary - Mr. G. R. Swinnerton.

Treasurer - Mr. R. Cleary.

Finance Committee - Mr. R. Cleary (convenor), Mr. A. J. Green, Mr. M. M. Easter, Mr. J. Roberts, Mr. T. B. Butler, Mr. D. Munro.

Property Committee - Mr. D. Gill (convenor), Mr. G. R. Swinnerton, Mr. F. Duffy, Mr. J. Stevenson, Mrs. O. Harris (Parish Centre Matters), Mr. J. Smith.

Pastoral Committee - Mr. C. Ryland (convenor), Mrs. L. Farrington, Mr. P. Farrington, Mrs. F. Duffy, Mr. M. Croft, Mr. B. Tkaczuk, Mrs. O. Harris, Mrs. J. Ryland, Mr. T. Walsh, Mr. L. Bath.

Orford Committee - Mr. M. Easter (convenor), Mrs. M. Easter, Mr. T. B. Butler, Mr. B. Easter.

Y.M.D. FRIENDSHIP GROUP

We have decided to meet fortnightly after the school holidays. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 18th at 1 p.m. at Parish Centre.

Y.M.D. Members were encouraged by the meeting with Commonwealth Leader, Mrs. Margaret Matthews last month. Mrs. Matthew's talk was stimulating and we hope to have other guest speakers from time to time during the year. We are also planning a morning coffee on Wednesday, October 22nd. Further details of Y.M.D. of Play Group will be given by ringing Sue Cartledge 31 5789 or Ann Westerman 31 4423.

ONE WORLD WEEK - 21ST/28TH SEPTEMBER

As Christians, we are challenged to: recognise that we live in one world. Acknowledge our basic unity in Christ, explore the links that are possible between all people, celebrate the way our lives are enriched by people of other cultures. Use and share responsibly the world's resources, work for justice in today's world and tomorrow's.

Through ONE WORLD WEEK we provide an opportunity to focus on world issues at the beginning of a new decade through events which YOU plan.

Churches are asked to emphasize our place in 'the global village' and FORM A GROUP with others who share these concerns to discuss. ONE WORLD WEEK provides an opportunity for Christians in Australia to focus attention on our responsibility as members of a world community and to share these concerns with others. The Church is challenged to share these concerns with the whole community.

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

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|----|-----------------------|--|--|----|-----------------------|--|---|
| 2 | Tuesday | 8.00 p.m. | Parish Fellowship. | 17 | Wednesday | 9.15 a.m. | Bible Discussion C.M.S. House. |
| 3 | Wednesday | 10.30 a.m.
7.30 p.m.
8.00 p.m. | Holy Communion.
Pastoral Committee.
Property Committee. | | | 10.30 a.m.
6.00 p.m. | Holy Communion.
G.F.S. |
| 4 | Thursday | 1 p.m./2.30 p.m.
1 p.m./3.00 p.m.
7.45 p.m. | Y.M.D. Friendship Group.
Play Group.
Choir Practice. | 18 | Thursday | 1 p.m./3 p.m.
6 p.m.
7.45 p.m. | Play Group.
C.E.B.S.
Choir Practice. |
| 5 | Friday | 2.30 p.m. | Synod commences at Launceston Church Grammar School and continues until Sunday afternoon 7th September. (Visitors Gallery). | 19 | Friday | 7.30 p.m. | Youth Group. |
| | | 7.30 p.m. | Youth Group. | 20 | Saturday | All day to 6.30 p.m. | O.S.L. Day Conference. |
| 7 | ORD. SUNDAY 23 | | | 21 | ORD. SUNDAY 25 | | |
| | | 7.40 a.m.
8.00 a.m.
9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
7.00 p.m. | Prayers for the Parish.
Holy Communion.
Prayers for the Parish.
Holy Communion.
Evening Prayer. | | | | ONE WORLD WEEK COMMENCES |
| 8 | Monday | 2.45 p.m. | St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital. | | | 7.40 a.m.
8.00 a.m.
9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
11.30 a.m.
7.00 p.m. | Prayers for the Parish.
Holy Communion.
Prayers for the Parish.
Sunday School.
Holy Communion (Healing Service).
Confirmation Class.
Commissioning of the Rev'd K. W. Percey as I.T.I.M. Chaplain in Northern Tasmania. |
| 9 | Tuesday | 6.00 p.m. | Men's Tea—Mr. Don Rees Vic/Tas. Promotion Officer.
The Leprosy Mission. | | | | |
| | | 8.00 p.m. | Parish Fellowship. | 23 | Tuesday | | ST. MATTHEW'S DAY |
| 10 | Wednesday | 10.30 a.m.
7.30 p.m. | Holy Communion.
Vestry. | | | 8.00 a.m.
7.45 p.m.
8.00 p.m. | Holy Communion.
G.F.S. Townsend.
Parish Fellowship. |
| 11 | Thursday/ | 11 a.m./4 p.m. | Floral Festival (Opening 11 a.m.) in Church. Stall, morning/afternoon tea in Parish Centre (Thurs-Sat). | 24 | Wednesday | 9.15 a.m.
10.30 a.m.
6.00 p.m. | Bible Discussion C.M.S. House.
Holy Communion.
G.F.S. |
| 14 | Sunday | 1 p.m./3 p.m.
7.45 p.m. | Play Group (venue to be advised).
Choir Practice. | 25 | Thursday | 1 p.m./3 p.m.
6.00 p.m.
7.30 p.m.
7.45 p.m. | Play Group.
C.E.B.S.
Adult Confirmation.
Choir Practice. |
| 12 | Friday | 10 a.m./4 p.m. | Floral Festival continues. | 26 | Friday | 7.30 p.m. | Youth Group. |
| | | 7.30 p.m. | Youth Group. | 27 | Saturday | 9.30 a.m.-12 noon | Sunday School Market. |
| 13 | Saturday | 10 a.m./4 p.m. | Floral Festival continues. | 28 | ORD. SUNDAY 26 | | |
| 14 | Sunday | Floral viewing in Church only. | | | | | VOCATION DAY |
| | | ORD. SUNDAY 24 | | | | | Retiring offertory at each service for Ordination Candidate's Council. |
| | | 7.40 a.m.
8.00 a.m.
9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
11.15 a.m.
7.00 p.m. | Prayers for the Parish.
Holy Communion.
Prayers for the Parish.
Morning Prayer.
Meals on Wheels.
Evening Prayer (Choral). | | | 7.40 a.m.
8.00 a.m.
9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
10.00 a.m.
11.30 a.m.
7.00 p.m. | Prayers for the Parish.
Holy Communion.
Prayers for the Parish.
Sunday School.
Morning Prayer.
Confirmation Class.
Holy Communion. (Healing Service). |
| 16 | Tuesday | 8.00 p.m. | Parish Fellowship. | 29 | Monday | | ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS' DAY |
| | | | | | | 8.00 a.m. | Holy Communion. |
| | | | | 30 | Tuesday | 8.00 p.m. | Parish Fellowship. |