

PARISH MESSENGER

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHURCH NEWS, DECEMBER, 1981

Rector:

The Rev'd. Ernest Horth, Th.L.
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Assistant:

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Organist:

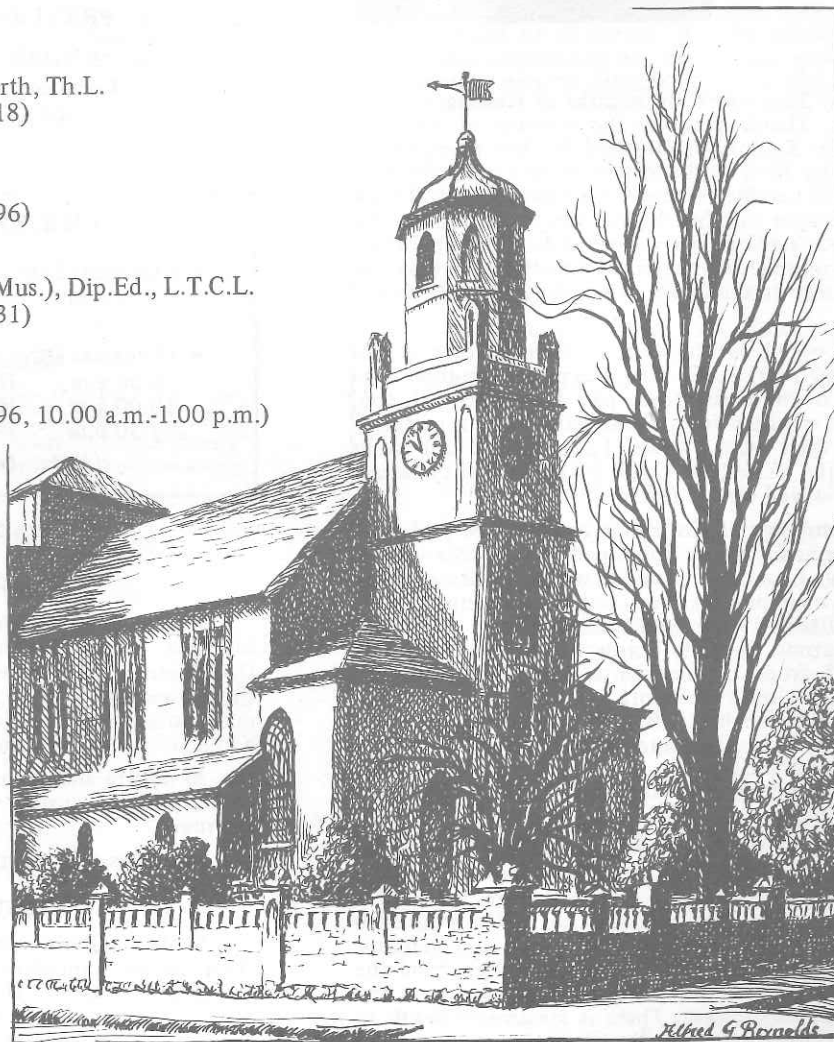
Mr. C. Ryland, B.A.(Mus.), Dip.Ed., L.T.C.L.
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CHURCH OF ST. JOHN – LAUNCESTON

(ANGLICAN)

THE
RECTOR'S
LETTER



Dear Friends,

After many long but busy months of waiting we have finally arrived. Thank you for the warmth of welcome extended to the Rectory family and for the preparations undertaken for us. With all the improvements to the Rectory I'm sure we will be able to make it a happy home. Thank you for your prayer support. Please don't stop praying for us now we have arrived. We are in need of the upholding and equipping presence of the Holy Spirit if we are to give a positive ministry to the Glory of God and the uplifting of His people.

On behalf of all parishioners, I extend sincere thanks to the Reverend Alfred and Mrs. Reynolds for their love and leadership in the parish these past five months. I, too, have received a ministry from them, valuing their maturity in Christ plus their wise counsel. I'm sure you join me in wishing them the richest of God's blessing as they return to Margate and a well earned rest.

The fun and joy of Christmas celebrations will be a contrast to the harsh reality some people face this year in our community. Economic hardship will be creating strains and tensions which put marriage and relationships at risk. Greed and selfishness will leave a trail of hurt, homeless and unloved victims. Casualty Wards will be busy patching up the injured from car accidents or brawls. Age and disability will shut individuals off from contact with their fellow man. Unreasonable demands and thoughtlessness will leave others exhausted and empty. Even those who have an over-abundance of this world's goods can, in their secret and quiet moments, be amongst the most miserable.

Christ is not the answer if we see Him only as a problem fixer. Many Christians are faced with vexing difficulties. Because of continued suffering or failure, they are tempted to disbelieve. The Bible clearly reveals that Jesus Christ is the "Redeemer", the One who rescues and saves, even though a hell-hole type existence may continue around us. Jesus Christ came to this earth to set man free from the dominion of Satan and the wrath of God. He paid the ransom price for our release. There is far greater depth to Christmas than just a baby's birth. Christmas is also linked up with the Crucified and Risen Lord. We mustn't lose sight of this fact.

Jesus Christ is the One who is changing us slowly but surely into His Own likeness. Jesus is the One who gave us His Holy Spirit to strengthen, comfort and equip us. In Jesus Christ there is joy and hope to be found even when all the world's riches and pleasures have gone.

We who know Christ as our Lord and Redeemer have a great treasure to share, and we cannot walk by on the other side ingoring the hurts which we ourselves could help to heal. Jesus made it clear that those to whom much is given, from them much will be required. By our actions or inactivity we can be instruments for change in Society, for better or worse. This Christmas, we remind ourselves of

the words spoken to Joseph by the angel, recorded in Matthew's Gospel Chapter 1 verse 21, "She (Mary) will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Love and peace in Jesus Christ is our prayer for you all this Christmas from the Rectory family.

☆ PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH ☆

SUNDAY at 7.40 and 9.30 a.m.

Location – temporarily in Chapel.

All parishioners welcome.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

★ Christmas Eve

8.00 p.m. Nine Lessons and Carols.
11.30 p.m. Midnight–Holy Communion.

★ Christmas Day

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer and Carols.

(Note: No 6.30 a.m. Service)

"PARISH NOTES"

WOMEN'S GUILD

Members are looking forward to the annual break-up function at the Leather Bottel Inn on Thursday 10th December when we anticipate a happy evening together. Final bookings have to be made by 7th December so please make sure your name is included before that day. The bus will leave the Parish Centre at 7 p.m.

A sincere thank you to everyone who has supported Guild projects during this year. Meetings will resume in February.

The Blessings of the Festive Season to one and all.

MOTHERS' UNION

M.U. members wish to thank all those who supported their recent luncheon. \$200 will be forwarded to the Clarendon Children's Home as a result.

G.F.S.

The members of G.F.S. Townsend wish to thank all who helped in any way to make their Annual Fair a great success. \$378 was raised and banked in our G.F.S. Townsend Church Carpet Fund, which is very pleasing.

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

Members of the Auxiliary held their last meeting for 1981 in the Parish Centre on Monday 9th November. It was pleasing to see so many of our members present. Flowers and small gifts were presented to the President, Mrs. Holyman, Secretary Mrs. Palliser and Mrs. E. Reynolds, wife of the Rector, who with the Rector, has been present at all meetings during their stay at St. John's.

On St. Luke's Day, members made posies for all patients and staff members; these were distributed during the day. It was nice to receive letters from patients showing their appreciation.

The Stalls conducted in the hospital grounds by our Auxiliary and "The Friends of St. Luke's Auxiliary" proved a great success. Our sincere thanks to members for providing such lovely cakes etc. Over \$200 was raised.

A Morning Tea in the Parish Centre on Thursday 3rd December will conclude our activities for 1981.

From our members we wish each and all the "Compliments of the Season" and many thanks for their assistance and patronage during the year.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for December and January at 11.15 a.m.

December 13th:

H. Bourke, M. Clare, R. Dixon, M. Easther, J. Fletcher/D. Newman, A. J. Green, V. Murgatroyd, M. McMahon/C. Hill, A. Whittle, M. Perkins.

January 10th:

L. & M. Brain, M. Easther, D. Gill, S. Murray, V. Murgatroyd, M. McMahon/C. Hill, G. Swinerton, B. Donaldson, L. Bath, A. & K. Lillico.

If you feel you would like to be part of the "Meals on Wheels" team but you don't drive, then you can team up with someone already on the team who requires a helper. For more details, please ring either Lesley or Michael Perkins on 281358 (home).

PARISH MESSENGER

The following parishioners are thanked for their donations. These help us to defray the cost of printing, postage and distribution together with "Church News". Donations may be given to the clergy or churchwardens.

Mr. & Mrs. O. A. Connell \$2.00; Mrs. Williams \$5.00; T. & P. Burns \$5.00; Mrs. J. Roach \$5.00; Anon \$5.00; Mrs. M. J. Walton \$10.00; Mrs. D. Roake \$2.00; Arch-deacon I.E.A. Booth \$5.00; Anon \$1.00; Mrs. V. Gordon \$5.00; Mrs. E. Fuller \$5.00; Miss E. Kiddle \$5.00.

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BUSH CHURCH AID SOCIETY

All B.C.A. boxholders welcome the Rev'd Ernest Horth, formerly the Victorian Secretary of B.C.A. in Melbourne, as our new Rector of St. John's. We wish the Rector, his wife and daughters every happiness in our parish.

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HOW SHALL THEY HEAR?

"How shall they hear," who have not heard news of a Lord who loved and came; nor known his reconciling word, nor learned to trust a Saviour's name?

"To all the world," to every place, neighbours and friends and far-off lands, preach the good news of saving grace; go while the great commission stands.

"Whom shall I send?" Who hears the call, constant in prayer, through toil and pain, telling of one who died for all, to bring a lost world home again?

"Lord here am I." Your fire impart to this poor cold self-centred soul; touch but my lips, my hands, my heart, and make a world for Christ my goal.

Spirit of love, within us move:
Spirit of truth, in power come down!
So shall they hear and find and prove
Christ is their life, their joy, their crown.

" THE MESSIAH "

Friday 11th December, 1981

8.00 p.m.

in St. John's Church

by

THE LAUNCESTON PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Admission by programme through members and at door \$4.00; students and pensioners \$2.00; Family \$10.00.

STAFF CHANGES

At the end of November the parish farewelled the Rev'd Alf Reynolds and Mrs. Reynolds after their long stay with us. The parish is grateful for the wonderful work done by Mr. Reynolds during his time with us. His willingness to attend to all details and the visiting in the parish that he has undertaken has been much appreciated by all. Our blessings go with Alf and Eunice as they return to their home and garden at Margate.

At the same time, the Rev'd Tony Henricks has been appointed to Carrick Parish. Tony has been with us since March 1979 and has been most diligent in visiting the sick and attending to all the other duties pertaining to an assistant's work in a parish such as St. John's. He has endeared himself to all with his cheerful manner and obliging nature. We wish him well in his new appointment.

☆ **CHRISTIAN RADIO - TEST TRANSMISSION** ☆

F.M. Stereo 101-5MHZ

between Monday 30th November and
Sunday 6th December, 6 a.m. to midnight.

TUNE IN! - YOU WILL ENJOY IT!

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Meeting Weekly:

- Parish Fellowship - 8 p.m. Tuesday.
- G.F.S. - 6 p.m. Wednesday.
- C.E.B.S. - 6 p.m. Thursday.
- Choir - 7.30 p.m. Thursday.
- Youth Group - 7.30 p.m. Friday.
- Wednesday Bible Study - 9.15 a.m. at CMS House.

Meeting Monthly:

- 2nd Monday - St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital 2.45 p.m.
- 2nd Tuesday - Men's Tea 6.00 p.m.
- 2nd Thursday - Women's Guild 7.45 p.m.
- 3rd Tuesday - Mother's Union 7.45 p.m.
- 4th Tuesday - G.F.S. Townsend 7.45 p.m.

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WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, 31st December, 1981
11.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

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SERVICE TIMES

● SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion:

- 8.00 a.m. Every Sunday.
 10.00 a.m. First, Third and Fifth.
 7.30 p.m. Fourth Sunday.

Family Service:

- 10.00 a.m. Second Sunday.

Morning Prayer:

- 10.00 a.m. Fourth Sunday.

Evening Prayer:

- 7.30 p.m. First, Second, Third and Fifth Sundays.

Laying on of Hands and Prayer for Healing takes place in latter part of

- 10.00 a.m. Service – Third Sunday.
 7.30 p.m. Service – Fourth Sunday.

● WEEKDAYS: (In the Chapel)

Daily Office:

- 8.00 a.m. Monday to Saturday.
 (H.C. on Saint's Day).
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion – Wednesday.

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★★ FAMILY SERVICE – 13TH DECEMBER ★★

will be a special Christmas Service followed by a
 FAMILY LUNCHEON.

An opportunity for the Horth Family and the
 Parish Family to get to know each other.

ALL WELCOME

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There will be no weekday services during January except
 for –

- 10.30 a.m. H.C. each Wednesday.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

10.00 a.m. Sunday in the Parish Centre
 (Except 2nd Sunday and School Holidays).

Kindergarten Christmas Evening
 7.15 p.m., 17th December.

Recommence – Sunday 20th February, 1982.

REFLECTIONS

PRAYER – AN ADVENTURE

In a famous painting, "The Boyhood of Raleigh," an old sailor sits on the harbour wall talking to two boys. His arm is flung out in a dramatic gesture towards the sea.

One boy looks interested in the old sailor's tales, but the other boy looks entranced. His eyes reflect his inner vision of life at sea, full of adventure and new discoveries. Young Raleigh is already "there," commanding his ship and riding out the storms as his eye scans the horizon for treasure trove.

The painting tells its own story of the power of word and imagination. It also teaches us something about prayer.

Jesus tells us to pray "believing", and one way is to hold on to the vision of our prayers until they become reality. This is the way in which Mary prayed after the Angel that told her of the Child she was to bear. After the Angel had gone, and long before the Child was born, Mary was praising God for choosing her for this unique work. In this way, prayer becomes an adventure.

Dorothy O'Neill

OTHER DIARY SPECIALS

DECEMBER

- 3rd – St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's morning tea – 10 a.m./noon.
 4th – Induction Service for new Rector 8 p.m.
 10th – Women's Guild Christmas Dinner "Leather Bottel Inn", 7 p.m.
 11th – "The Messiah" – 8.00 p.m.
 13th – Parish Family Luncheon – 11.45 a.m.
 13th – Youth Service 2.30 p.m.
 17th – Kindergarten Christmas Evening 7.15 p.m.
 22nd – St. Luke's Hospital Nurses' Graduation – 7.45 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 7th – Installation of Bishop Vernon Cornish as Bishop of Tasmania in St. David's Cathedral, Hobart.
 14th – Archdeaconry of Launceston welcome to the new Bishop in St. John's Church, 7.30 p.m.