

PARISH MESSENGER

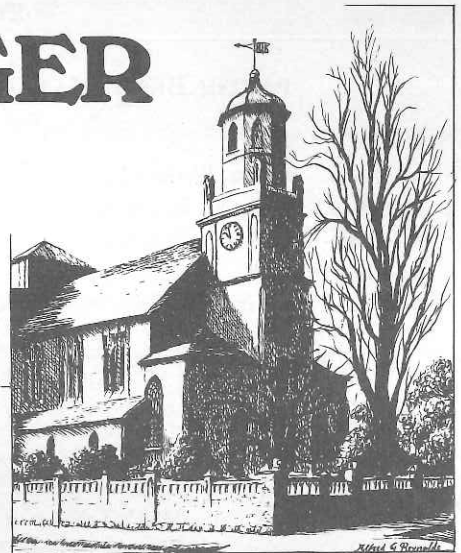
OF

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA

(ANGLICAN)

Postal Address: 157 St. John Street, Launceston 7250
Office Telephone: (003) 314896 (10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.)



Rector: The Rev'd Ernest Horth, Th.L.
(Telephone: 31 5218)
Assistant: The Rev'd Robert McKay, B.V.Sc., Th.Dip.
(Telephone: 31 4896)
Organist: (Vacant)
Office Secretary: Mrs. Joan Ikin

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8 a.m. Every Sunday; 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday; 7.30 p.m. 4th Sunday.
Family Service: 10 a.m. 2nd Sunday. Morning Prayer: 10 a.m. 4th Sunday
Evening Prayer: 7.30 p.m. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday.
(Laying on of Hands - 7.30 p.m. 4th Sunday)

WEEKDAYS

7.30 a.m. Monday to Friday. Holy Communion: 10.30 a.m. Wednesday.

THE RECTOR'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

On Tuesday 2nd February I celebrated my seventeenth anniversary of Ordination as a Deacon in the Church of God. They have been years mixed with joy and sorrow, success and failure. Many lessons have been learnt and many more are still to come. I've shared in the joys and sorrows of a great many people, witnessing the way God changes lives, upholding and uplifting, even in spite of themselves. These years have involved me in three curacies, six years in full-time Army Chaplaincy, four and a half years as a parish priest in Melbourne, nearly three years as Victorian Secretary of the Bush Church Aid Society. Now I have a whole new learning and growing experience ahead of me as Rector here at St. John the Evangelist Church, Launceston.

During the six years in full-time Army Chaplaincy, mostly served in the final stages of the Vietnam commitment, new insight was gained into the depths of human nature and the tender love of our Heavenly Father. My first Chapel Service was attended by one soldier and we sat on the doorstep and shared together the goodness of the Lord. The most difficult occasions arose from men being killed in action and part of my task, infrequent thankfully, was to tell loved ones the news and then to minister to their needs. I have a soft spot for those who serve in the Defence Forces, having been converted to Christ in 1956 during my service in the R.A.A.F. as an Engineering Apprentice, and I encourage you to pray for our Service men and women, particularly Christians in the Defence Forces.

Parish experience in Melbourne was demanding but rewarding. In particular, I was provided with a fresh insight into the youth of our society and the struggle they have with false values, lack of warmth, love and honesty from far too many of their elders. As a family, we had the joy of seeing what God was doing in and through the lives of these young people. We watched God-given gifts being used and developed, experiencing the love of these young people for us as we were, not as they thought we ought to be. It was a parish in which we seemed to go from one crisis to another, yet one in which people of all ages were blessed by God. Four young men, rather than that parish are now in the ordained ministry another two are in training, other people are active in their witness for Christ, wherever they are located.

While serving as Victorian Secretary of the Bush Church Aid Society the privilege was mine to meet a wide range of people in the Australian Church as I visited many fascinating places. Across Australia God is renewing His Church. This is an exciting experience to be part of. Greater emphasis is evident on Salvation in Christ alone, rather than a salvation through church attendance. Congregations are encouraged to be "the people of God", to be "the body of Christ" in reality and with all its implications. No longer do many congregations give the impression of being know-all or superior, perfect people. The sinners amongst us are starting to feel more at home "among friends" in God's family because the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ is more of a reality. There is less of the strict moral codes and rules that divide, hold back or humiliate.

In coming to St. John's as your Rector I can do no other than be the true man I believe God wants me to be. I will make many mistakes and have quite a few hard lessons to learn. You will have to be patient with me as I will sometimes offend and disappoint or fail to measure up to expectations. Your prayers, love and understanding are deeply valued.

My prayer for us all as we step out into 1982 and a new phase in parish history together is best expressed by St. Paul in his letter to the Philippian Church, Chapter 2, verses 1 and 2:-

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose."

Your friend and Rector,

PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Weekly:

- 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 C.M.S. House
After 7.30 p.m. Service in Lent.

Monthly:

- 2nd Monday — St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital 2.45 p.m.
- 2nd Tuesday — Men's Tea 6 p.m.
- 2nd Thursday — Women's Guild 7.45 p.m.
- 3rd Tuesday — Mothers' Union 7.45 p.m.
- 4th Tuesday — G.F.S. Townsend 7.45 p.m.

"PARISH NOTES"

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union will commence for 1982 on Tuesday 16th February with Service in the Chapel at 7.45 p.m. New members warmly welcomed.

WOMEN'S GUILD

A Service of Holy Communion in the Chapel at 7.45 p.m. will precede the first meeting for the year of the Women's Guild on Thursday, 11th February.

An invitation is extended to the women of St. John's to join in the fellowship of the Guild, which is a fund-raising organisation and as well offers opportunities of service in the life of the Parish.

Information can be obtained from the President, Mrs. Butler, 44 2827.

Supper hostesses for the meeting are to be arranged.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for February 14th at 11.15 a.m. If unable to attend please ring Lesley or Michael Perkins on 28 1358 (home).

H. Bourke, M. Clare, W. Cowell, S. Murray, V. Murgatroyd, M. McMahon, J. Roberts, J. Moxon, K. Lillico, M. Perkins.

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.

Miss B. Parramore \$5.00; Mrs. G. A. Cutts \$5.00; Mrs. J. Whitney \$5.00; Mrs. E. Horth Snr. \$2.00; Anon \$10.00; Anon \$4.00; Mr. A. Thollar \$10.00.

THANK YOU.

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH

Every Sunday at 7.40 and 9.30 a.m.

Location — temporarily in Chapel.

All parishioners welcome.

— WEEKDAY SERVICES —

7.30 a.m.

Monday to Friday
in the Chapel.

Why not start the day together in a short time of meditation, praise and worship.

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"BATMAN FESTIVAL"

SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S

10 a.m. Family Service
14th March, 1982

★★★ PARISH FAMILY PICNIC IN ★★★ GROUNDS AFTERWARDS

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MEN'S TEA

Resumes TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 6 p.m.

Speaker: The Rev'd E. E. Horth (Rector)
Treasurer/Secretary: David Plumridge.

All men are invited to attend and guests are welcome. Please notify that you intend to come by putting your name on the list at the back of the Church.

Cost will be approx. \$2.50 but this is yet to be finalised.

LENT STUDIES FOR DAILY PERSONAL OR FAMILY USE

"40 DAYS"

written by Archbishop Grindrod
Excellent material.

\$2 at C.M.S. or order through
Miss S. Brownrigg.

ASH WEDNESDAY

24th February 1982

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion, followed by
Special Lent Bible Study.

DEATH OF BISHOP CORNISH

All Anglicans were deeply shocked at the news of the sudden death of Bishop Vernon Cornish, Bishop Elect of Tasmania, and our prayers and thoughts are with Mrs. Cornish and the boys.

**ANN'S
CHURCH**

by Joan Kirk



Ann's church was having a working bee.

Everyone had come to help clean the church and the garden ready for a special service, when there would be many visitors. They all wanted the church to look the best it could.

The church looked very different from the way Ann was used to seeing it. The pews were empty and Ann was helping to dust them.

Mummy was arranging some flowers with another lady, and they chatted and laughed together as they worked. It sounded strange to Ann, who was used to sitting quietly in church.

Outside, Daddy was raking gravel with their minister, who looked very strange in work shorts and a T-shirt! Mr. Brown was there, too.

His job on Sundays was to play the organ, but to-day he was pulling up weeds and pruning back the tree branches near the car park. Another man was shifting the rubbish away with his wheelbarrow. It was Mr. Smith, who usually handed out the hymn books and welcomed people as they came into church.

"Want a ride, Ann?" he called, as Ann came out to see Daddy.

"Yes, please!" cried Ann, as she ran to climb into the wheelbarrow.

At the back of the church they found Mrs. Williams, with a scarf over her head, burning the rubbish. Ann knew her from Sunday school.

Just then someone called from the kitchen to say the kettle had boiled, and Ann ran to ask the helpers to come and have a cup of tea.

As they all sat around together, resting and eating some of Mummy's scones Ann said, "I like working bees. People look just ordinary when they aren't dressed up."

Everyone laughed. "You can see people belong to the church all of the time, eh Ann?" said their minister.

"Yes," said Ann. "Not just on Sundays. It's like a great big family isn't it? Everyone helps everyone else. I'm glad I belong too."

A Prayer: Thank you, Jesus for the people in my church. Thank you for the leaders and the teachers, the helpers who open the doors, arrange the flowers, pick up the books and papers after the service and those who make music. Thank you for showing me that we couldn't have church without people. Amen.

How many other people can you think of who help in your church? What are their jobs?

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LENT STUDIES

Commence ASH WEDNESDAY and continue each Wednesday evening in Lent after the 7.30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

... recommencing Sunday, 21st February.

Meets in the Parish Centre every Sunday except the second Sunday in the month at 10 a.m. (On the second Sunday pupils and parents attend FAMILY SERVICE).

Contacts:

Secretary – Miss Sybil Brownrigg
(work) 31 6759
(home) 31 1520

Kindergarten & Sub-primary (ages 3½ up to Grade 2)
Superintendent – Miss E. Kiddle, 31 5279.

Senior Sunday School (Grades 3 - 7)
Superintendent – Mrs. Lin Farrington, 44 7602.

Junior Tower Group (Grade 8)
Mr. Pat Farrington, 44 7602.

Senior Tower Group (older children)
Mr. Terry Heggaton, 91 1898.

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NOTE:

2-4 p.m. **SATURDAY 20TH FEBRUARY**
SUNDAY SCHOOL GET-TOGETHER
(Parents and pupils) AT THE PUNCHBOWL.
IN THE PARISH CENTRE IF WET.

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★ DIARY SPECIALS ★

- 20th February 7.30 a.m. Anniversary Service for Rector.
- 22nd February 7 p.m. Scout Service - 75th Anniversary.
- 24th February ASH WEDNESDAY
7.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.
(Lent Study after evening Service).

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

- 27th December Richard Francis York Syme
- 27th " Lincoln James Roberts
- 27th " Amy Elizabeth Roberts
- 27th " Jennifer Catherine Abineri
- 27th " Kathryn Gillian Abineri
- 3rd January Cameron Franklin Neil Pitt
- 3rd " Rupert Geoffrey Dangar Bell
- 10th " Daniel Christopher McKenzie
- 10th " Aleta Louise Shryock

MARRIAGE

- 26th December Ernest William Guest to Patricia Mary Poppleton
- 28th " Craig Philip Parker to Gayle Eleanor Bissett
- 2nd January Eric Geoffrey Cripps to Michelle Adrienne Newman
- 9th " Allan Garry Williams to Christine Anne Harriss
- 9th " Peter John Gates to Margaret Ann Midson
- 9th " Norman Thomas Griffin to Roslyn Meredith Sprague
- 16th " Glenn Littlejohn to Tanya Lee Stewart
- 23rd " Randall Glen Russell to Bettina Faye Wilschefski
- 23rd " Grant William Craw to Karen Lee Dewis
- 30th " Colin George Wise to Joanne Wendy Wong
- 30th " Rodney Paul Cook to Jane Maree Whyman
- 30th " Donald Cameron Edwards to Sunhie Kim

DEATHS

- 16th December Sadie Beryl Bishop
- 27th " Sydney Richard Edward Collins
- 27th " Cheryl Jane Piki
- 13th January Flora Beverley Churton

REFLECTIONS

Try Looking!

"My soul thirst for thee . . . as in a dry and weary land where no water is . . ." writes the Psalmist.

It is common human experience to find ourselves in a dry and weary land. Perhaps it is the land of disappointment. Our dreams have vanished, our hopes failed, and life has suddenly lost its savour.

Or perhaps it is the dry land of mental and physical weariness - the same land in which Elijah found himself after his great victory over paganism on Mount Carmel. He said:

"It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers."

Or it may be the dry land of overwhelming loss, where there are, indeed, no waters of comfort.

What can we do? The Psalmist finds relief in worship.

"So I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary, beholding thy power and glory . . . because thy steadfast love is better than life."

In the hour of despair he simply looks into the face of God. The love he sees there uplifts his heart.

We can all try just looking.

Dorothy O'Neill

★★★ REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR ★★★
THE PARISH STAFF

In his first month as Rector Mr. Horth conducted 51 services, including 7 Baptisms, 3 Weddings and 1 Funeral. He prepared and preached 22 individual sermons, visited the sick in hospital both in Launceston and Hobart, welcomed and settled in a new assistant minister, attended civic, community and church functions, spoke on F.M. Christian Radio, visited a few homes, conducted 33 interviews and tried to move in at the Rectory. Phew!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The question to be asked about every congregation is not: How big is it? How fast is it growing? How rich is it? It is: What difference is it making to that bit of the world in which it is placed? It is actually functioning as first-fruit, sign and instrument of God's new creation for that bit of the world?

Leslie Newbigin.

SAM

by Mathetes

