

# PARISH MESSENGER

FOR

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA

(ANGLICAN)

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**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:** Mr. William Pierce B.A. (Syd.), F.R.C.O., F.T.C.L., L.Mus.A.  
(Telephone 31 1676)  
**Office Secretaries:** Mrs. J. Ikin; Mrs. J. Kilby.

## Empowered

## by the

## Holy

## Spirit



Let me tell you about a church that had some real problems; but in spite of all these reached thousands of people for Christ.

It was located in the wrong place. Most of the people looked on the members of this church with scorn and ridicule.

This church didn't have a building in which to meet. It was poor. Most of the members were on the verge of poverty.

The members of the church weren't trained for their jobs.

Their membership was small - only about 120.

The treasurer had just run off with the church's money.

The chief leader of this church had a way of putting his foot in his mouth. He was constantly making people mad!

There were divisions among the members of this church. Several were forced to flee to other cities because of persecution.

The one thing this church had going for it was the power of the Holy Spirit. It was the church in Jerusalem, described in the Book of Acts. With all its problems this church baptised 3,000 people after its first revival service!

# God changes things

Kate and Nicky had new neighbours. A family from Austria had moved in and the children spoke little English. They had been to play at Kate's house, the little girl liked Kate's doll's house and all the pretty things in her bedroom. Nicky and the little boy were about the same age, they each had a toy gun, and soon were having a game of Cowboys and Indians in the garden.

"Bang bang," cried Hans. "I deaded you. Now you dead me."

One day when Nicky and Kate were visiting next door, another Austrian family arrived, and they were overwhelmed by the rapid conversation and laughter in a language they couldn't understand.

At tea that night they were telling Mum and Dad about it. "We didn't know what they were saying," said Kate. "They were very nice, and tried to talk to us in English but they could really only talk to each other in Austrian."

"You need an interpreter," said Dad.

**By Joan Kirk**

"I know what that is," said Nick. "Someone who translates for you. At the United Nations they have them so everyone can understand what the speaker is saying in any language."

"We need an electronic machine that can translate," said Kate "or it would be better if we could speak the language. I might ask Heidi to teach me."

"You know, this makes me think of the story in Acts, chapter 2," said Mum. Then people could understand in their own language what the disciples were saying. God acted as their interpreter, through the Holy Spirit. Bring the New Testament, Nick.

Mum looked up Acts 2 and read the passage aloud.

"Gosh," said Nick. "Could they really understand what was being said? All these people from different countries?"

"Yes" said Dad. "By the power of God's Holy Spirit. It's the time we remember as Pentecost."

"God is clever, isn't he Dad?" said Kate. "He thinks of everything before we do."

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## — PARISH NOTES —

### MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be on Tuesday, June 15th, at 7.45 p.m. in the Parish Centre; our topic will be "Prayer". Members are asked to bring items for a Trade Table in aid of the City Mission Winter Appeal.

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

The next meeting of the St. John's Auxilliary to St. Luke's Hospital will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday, 21st June. (Members please note alteration of date). Afternoon Tea Hostess: Mrs. G. Wherrett, Mrs. J. Coombe, Miss M. Barclay. The Annual Meeting will be held on 12th July, 1982.

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### WOMEN'S GUILD

Thank you to all who supported the Paradette held recently, which was very successful.

**Diary Note:** A Luncheon will be held in the Parish Centre on Wednesday, 14th July. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 10th June at 7.45 p.m. Supper Hostesses: E. Barnes, L. Plumridge, O. Harris.

As from the Annual Meeting -

- President— Mrs. D. Butler (44 2827)
- Secretary— Mrs. K. Ford (27 2482)
- Treasurer— Mrs. L. Plumridge (31 2702)

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### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA

The guest speaker at the next Men's Tea on Tuesday, 8th June at 6 p.m., Will be Mr. Ted Baulis of the Good Neighbour Council who will speak on a migrant's perspective on moving to Australia. Cost — \$3.00.

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### MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday, 13th June at 11.15 a.m. If unable to attend please ring Lesley or Michael Perkins on 28 1358 (home).

D. Gill, S. Murray, M. McMahon, J. McCabe, I. Routley, J. Stevenson, M. Perkins, M. Frith, I. Mayne.

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"People do not expect from the church a constant stream of great statements. They expect love, concern and caring."

Mother Teresa.

THE  
RECTOR'S  
LETTER



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continuing prayer, support and love. Each day the restoration work on St. John's brings new developments which demand on-the-spot decisions. I need wisdom and perception as these decisions are made. Those who constitute with me the Restoration Site Committee are grateful for the spiritual strength and direction given through your prayer support, especially the encouragement to seek the help of the Lord Jesus in all decisions. I sometimes feel a depression when looking at all the dirt and disruption but am excited by the possibilities ahead.

Confirmation will take place at the 10 a.m. service Sunday 28th november, Advent Sunday. Application forms are now available from the Church and the Parish Office. I hope adults and young people who desire to confirm their faith in Christ and reaffirm Baptismal promises will make application to me by the 1st August. The initial preparation class will be at 5 p.m. Sunday 15th August. No candidate for confirmation can be presented to the Bishop until I am satisfied about their readiness. People should never be pushed into Confirmation but be encouraged to make their own deliberate choice. Please speak with me if unsure of your position.

Thankfully we no longer teach that Communicants are only required to attend Holy Communion on a minimum of occasions, namely, Christmas and Easter (C of E.). Today we are the Anglican Church and the concept has changed to total commitment, "All the time". This is no empty demand or obligation. We commit ourselves to the Lord and each other for *all* time, not just the occasional Sunday worship, we are part of a new family called "The Body of Christ" and we are important to and for each other. Because of the love of Jesus for us we are able to love one another.

I John 4:10, 11 "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Yours in Christ,

# PENTECOST

Pentecost, meaning 50 (days after Easter), is the climax of Easter celebration. After the risen Christ appears to his disciples and ascends to the Father, he sends the Holy Spirit as his gift to the Church.

The Spirit is God himself, giving people the power to understand the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection - and to pass it on to all corners of the earth. The Spirit is like a refreshing wind, blowing away our dullness and disbelief. The Spirit is like a fire, warming our cold hearts and making us alive for God.

Many people believe that there is a God. But I can only believe that Jesus' death and resurrection mean God *for me* when the Holy Spirit comes. He comes to us when the good news is preached and the sacraments given - and makes us his witnesses.

Dr. F. Hebart.

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## WELCOME

Mr. William Pierce, Organist and Choirmaster, commences his duties at St. John's on the weekend 5th and 6th June. Pray for him and his special ministry to our congregation, to worship, and to the wider community.

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## THANKS

Miss Gaylene Cohen has been Acting Organist at St. John's since the departure of Mr. Ryland in January. We are most grateful for her ministry and service. She has been highly commended by many people. It is our hope this experience has helped her musical development and will assist her in training yet to come.

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# Reflections

## THANKS

The district nurse suddenly realised that she was very, very tired. She had delivered three babies in three homes in twenty-four hours. This unusual situation had been caused by a crisis at the local hospital.

In each home the nurse asked the new parents if she might offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their child. All had gladly accepted her suggestion, and in an atmosphere of joy had quietly bowed heads while the nurse expressed in simple phrases sincere thanks to God.

"Thank you, nurse - for your prayer and for all your work," they had said sincerely.

"Without God I can do nothing," she had quietly told them.

Do we always recognise our dependence on God?

Do we always remember to thank him for his gifts - especially the gift of a child to our family circle?

*Dorothy O'Neill*

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

### Meeting Weekly:

- Home Bible Study - 7.30 p.m. Monday.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study, C.M.S. House - 9.15 a.m.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study, Rectory - 8 p.m.
- G.F.S. - 6 p.m. Wednesday.
- "Know your Bible" series for women in Rectory - 10.15 a.m. Thursday.
- C.E.B.S. - 6 p.m. Thursday.
- Choir - 7.30 p.m.
- Youth Group - 7.30 p.m. Friday.

### 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.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### BAPTISM

23rd May - Sarah Jane Windsor

### MARRIAGES

- 1st May - Gregory Walter Elford to Dianne Kay Johns
- 1st May - Sterling John Clarke to Lorinda Gwen Maher
- 8th May - Geoffrey Ronald Stonehouse to Suzanne Maree Knight
- 8th May - Miles Brian Clark to Helen Baxter
- 29th May - Phillip Ian Williams to Kathleen Mary Gulliford

### DEATHS

- 24th April - John Selwyn Cox
- 26th April - Elsie Lilian Atherton
- 4th May - Dorothy Stewart Kerrison
- 12th May - Doreen Poole
- 12th May - Frederick Jocelyn White
- 14th May - George Sydney Green
- 18th May - Elenora Hope Russell
- 20th May - Monty Edgar Bonney
- 23rd May - Louis John Knowles

### RESTORATION

Work proceeds at a rapid rate. The Church seems to be in a spider web of steel both external and internal. Scaffolding is in extensive use but has not disrupted services greatly. We are sorry that Funerals have had to be directed to 'Chapels' but we should be able to re-use the Church fully by the end of June.

Midweek Holy Communion Services have been held in the Parish Centre and the Daily Office is said in the Rector's Vestry.

A team of volunteers have been cleaning up the mess each Friday at 7 p.m. and preparing the Church for worship over the weekend. They will be glad of additional assistance.

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8 a.m. Every Sunday; 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday; 7 p.m. 2nd and 4th Sunday.  
Family Service: 10 a.m. 2nd Sunday. Morning Prayer: 10 a.m. 4th Sunday.  
Evening Prayer: 7 p.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday.  
(Laying on of Hands - 7 p.m. 4th Sunday).

### WEEKDAYS

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