

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)
Acting Organist: Miss G. Cohen (Telephone: 44 8436)
Office Secretary: Mrs. Joan Ikin

THE RECTOR'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

During the First World War the Reverend Oswald Chambers gave Bible Studies to troops at the Y.M.C.A. camps and huts in Egypt. He is recorded as saying, "The war has upset every man's nest; we are face to face with a terrific upheaval in life; there is no civilized security anywhere on the globe. We have seen that there is no such thing as a Christian nation, we have seen the unutterable futility of the organized Christian Church and many a man who has had no tension in his life has been suddenly obliged to face things he never intended to look at." You would think he was speaking of 1982. Oswald Chambers puts these things in the light and perspective of the Cross. He points out that because Jesus Christ is so like unto His people we can face the turmoil and stress, and stand with Him in the shadow of a great agony, undiscouraged and unafraid.

St. Paul expresses the same idea in his Second Letter to the Corinthian Church - "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

We live in a world where corruption and lostness is on the increase. Far too many people have put God Almighty aside for "other gods". As a result, a growing number of individuals are

being caught up in the darkness of sin and the demonic. Defeat, depression and destructive attitudes abound. There is a rapidly diminishing number of people who can go to work with a clear conscience because they know the wrong they have done. Others cannot enjoy work any more because of the lies, stealing and bludging that takes place. Unhappiness and discontent are evident at every turn in society. As compensation individuals turn to alcohol, drugs, criminal behaviour and deeper corruption. In the middle of all this is the Christian Church, not as a building but as the people of God who are called by our Lord Jesus to be "lights" and "the salt of the earth".

This world needs to know that Jesus is Lord of our lives; that His love is free, rich and wonderful; that His call is to repent and be saved. As Christians we cannot be active witnesses of the love of Jesus Christ "in us" and "hide our light under a bushel". Likewise, we cannot be active witnesses of the Lord Jesus and expect to escape persecution. Those who live in darkness do not like "the light" to come into their lives for such light disrupts their dark vision. Furthermore, those wounded and hurt by evil will not like "the salt" touching them because it brings pain while it tries to heal.

As Christians we need to grasp the Scriptures afresh and realise the spiritual battleground in which we are located. "The devil as a roaring lion wanders around seeking whom he may devour." Evil spirits are looking for individuals who live in a vacuum, whose lives are empty, for they can enter with devastating results. However, we proclaim Jesus Christ, Crucified and Risen, the One who has defeated Satan but not yet destroyed him. Therefore, let us take good note of the Scriptures encouragement and hold securely to our life in Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-7 - "We do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."

Your friend and Rector,

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8 a.m. Every Sunday; 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday; 7.30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Family Service: 10 a.m. 2nd Sunday. Morning Prayer: 10 a.m. 4th Sunday.

Evening Prayer: 7.30 p.m. 1st, 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.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- ★ A large congregation gathered at St. John's on Friday, 19th February for the Annual Induction Service for Broadland House School.
- ★ On Monday, 22nd February a congregation of approximately 400 attended the 75th Anniversary Founder's Day Service for the Scout Movement.
- ★ At the 10 a.m. Service on 23rd May, Members of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) will attend St. John's for their annual Dedication Service.
- ★ The 10 a.m. Service on Sunday, 13th June will be a very special occasion. The World Ploughing Championships are to be held in Northern Tasmania and a Service of Dedication of the Golden Plough will take place in St. John's, involving officials and competitors from all over the world.

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

WOMEN'S GUILD

There was a very good attendance at the Communion Service and first meeting for this year.

Fund raising was discussed and three tentative dates were chosen for functions.

Many people will be pleased to learn another Floral Festival will be held early in the Spring.

Members are reminded of the Northern Guild Conference which will be held at Christ Church, Longford on Thursday, 11th March. Morning tea will be served at 10 a.m. prior to the Service of Holy Communion at 10.30 a.m. A light luncheon will be available at Jessen Lodge for \$2.00. Cars leave St. John's at 9.30 a.m.

A Notice of Motion has been received for the next meeting when members will vote for either a change to afternoon meetings or continue as an evening group. Those unable to attend can vote by proxy.

The next meeting 11th March at 7.45 p.m. Supper hostesses - Mesdames Fletcher, Thompson and Heathcoate.

MOTHERS' UNION

There will be a M.U. Diocesan Council Meeting in St. John's Parish Centre on 9th March. Holy Communion Service at 10.30 a.m. Lunch \$1.00. ALL WELCOME.

Our next meeting on 16th March is the Annual Meeting. A Service of Holy Communion will be held in the Chapel at 7.45 p.m. prior to the meeting. All members are asked to make a special effort to attend. New members warmly welcomed.

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

This year will commence with a meeting in the Parish Centre on 8th March at 2.45 p.m.

Afternoon tea hostesses - Mrs. Holyman and Mrs. Palliser.

MEN'S TEA FELLOWSHIP

Parish Centre - Tuesday, 9th March, 6.00 p.m.

Speaker: Don Barnes - W.E.C. Missionary Training College.

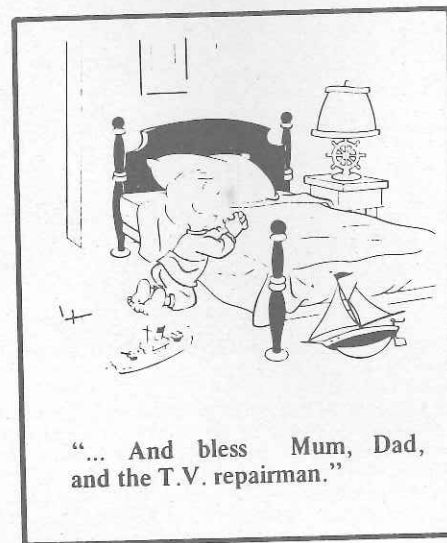
Don is a fine speaker and a very committed Christian. **DON'T MISS THIS OCCASION.** It is guaranteed to be a great night.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday, 14th March at 11.15 a.m.

R. Cleary, A. J. Green, J. Phelps, L. Knowles, M. McMahon, J. McCabe, I. Routley, D. Sheldrick, A. Whittle, B. Easter.

If unable to attend please ring Lesley or Michael Perkins on 28 1358 (home).



PRAY POSITIVELY

Many negative and critical comments have been directed at the parish staff in recent weeks. Without your positive support, prayer and love they can easily become defeated and depressed.

We are a family and need each other. The staff are praying for you each day and ask you to remember them daily.

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PARISH PICNIC

Bring a basket lunch and enjoy fellowship with other parishioners in a picnic atmosphere in the Church grounds.

SUNDAY 14TH MARCH

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"Bitterness imprisons life; love releases it. Bitterness paralyzes life; Love empowers it. Bitterness sickens life; love heals it. Bitterness blinds life; love anoints its eyes."

Harry Emerson Fosdick

Finely tuned

Chris had been given an electronic kit for his birthday. He was very excited and pleased, and started to put it together straight away.

One of the projects was to build a crystal radio set, and he carefully followed the directions for wiring the connections between the spring terminals. When he had finished, he held the earphone to his ear and twisted the dial, trying to tune in to one of the local radio stations. He could hear nothing at all!

He took the kit to his Mother. "Why won't it work?" he asked. "I've followed the directions."

Mum checked the wiring. Everything seemed to be in the correct place. Then she saw the omission. There was no aerial! "Let's take it outside," said Mum, "where there will be a stronger signal, and where we can find something to which we can attach the wire."

by Joan Kirk

Chris took a chair for his Mother to stand on, and she wound one end of the wire around the pipe trellis supporting the vine over the back door. The other end was connected to the antenna coil terminal. She wound the ground wire around the cold water pipe and back to the ground spring terminal in the kit. "Try now," said Mum.



Chris held the ear-phone close to his ear, and turned the dial once more. Mum could tell when he found a signal from the look of delight on his face!

After that Chris was quite interested in various types of antennae and aerials as he rode or walked about. One day, as the family were going to church, he remarked: "You know, the cross on top of our church would make a good aerial." Dad agreed. "It is an aerial of sorts, Chris" he said. "We can pick up signals from God, if we are properly tuned in. The signals are always there, but we aren't always aware of them."

"I know what you mean, Dad," said Chris. "The radio stations are broadcasting all the time, but you need a receiver that's finely tuned to hear what they are saying."

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From the past . . .

Entry in the Burial Register

"Charlotte Steward buried by the Sexton without the knowledge of the Chaplain." !!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Owing to the Restoration Works Programme strict limitations on parking are now in force.

During weekdays please do not park in the grounds otherwise you will obstruct the workmen and also run the danger of damage to a car through falling materials or trucks turning.

- A WORD OF THANKS -

Miss Jenny Gill is spending large amounts of her time gathering together records, photographs and a vast quantity of information about St. John's. She has been speaking with some fascinating people and, as a result, has gathered a treasure chest of information.

A new leaflet about St. John's is about to go to the printer and we hope a book, in five parts, will become available in the future. All this will largely be the result of work done by Jenny.

Our sincere thanks.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion, followed by Bible Study based on 1 Peter (bring your own Bible).

NEW ORGANIST APPOINTED

The Rector has announced the appointment of Mr. William Pierce, B.A. (Syd.), F.R.C.O., F.T.C.L., L. Mus.A., as the person to succeed Mr. Christopher Ryland as Organist/Choirmaster at St. John's. Mr. Pierce is hopeful of arriving from Sydney late May or early June. Currently he is Organist and Choirmaster at St. Martin's, Killara, N.S.W. and Music Master at the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Pymble, N.S.W.

Born in Sydney, Mr. Pierce is aged 55 years, is married and has four children, one being married. He has a wide musical experience including Cathedral Organist, conductorships, and is currently an Examiner in theory, musicianship, piano and organ for the Musical Examinations Board of N.S.W.

Mr. Pierce has been Organist in the Sydney Town Hall for a Civic Reception in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. He is one of a panel of Sydney organists chosen to give the opening series of organ recitals on the new Grand Organ in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House.

The Rector in announcing the appointment stated, "We as a Church and City are very fortunate in gaining an organist of such wide accomplishment and qualification."

Mr. Horth also announced that he had asked Miss Gaylene Cohen to be Acting Organist until the arrival of Mr. Pierce.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW FORMAT FOR THE PARISH MESSENGER?

The Rector and Wardens would like your opinion.

★★ DIARY SPECIALS ★★

- Tuesday 9th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service for Mothers' Union.
- Sunday 14th 10.00 a.m. "Batman Festival" Service and Parish Picnic.
- Tuesday 16th 7.45 p.m. Holy Communion for Mothers' Union, followed by Annual Meeting.
- Sunday 21st Reverend Alf Chipman will be our Guest at all Services.
- Sunday 28th Electoral Synod commences.

REMEMBER ST. JOHN'S IN YOUR WILL

Have you ever thought of including St. John's in your Will so you can continue to support the ongoing ministry here into the future?

Have a talk with the Rector about it.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS (FEBRUARY)

BAPTISM

- 14th Karen Sellers
- 14th Benjamin Harold Sellers
- 28th Emily Naomi Long

MARRIAGE

- 6th Ronald James Nettlefold to Gail Maxine Booth
- 20th Greig Moore to Kristine Lorraine Cipura
- 27th John Charles Scott Wright to Patsy Ellen Parker
- 27th Stephen William Allen to Susan Karen Clarke

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REFLECTIONS

First Things – First

The old, African woman had given faithfully a tenth of her money to her church for many years. Then an injury to her foot put an end to her working. Eventually she recovered sufficiently to limp along the track to the Mission House. There she told the missionary that she was eager to make up for lost time.

Her plan was to make and sell bean cakes. Of the first three shillings she earned she would give not just a tenth – but a third.

Soon afterwards she returned and, with quiet satisfaction glowing in her wrinkled face, handed over a shilling. The missionary was puzzled.

"You can't have earned three shillings already!" he said.

The old lady was indignant.

"Do you think I would give my Lord the last of the three shillings?" she asked.

"The first shilling is his; the other two will be for me."

Dorothy O'Neill

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

The Reverend Bob McKay is the new Assistant Minister. Having arrived just prior to Christmas he and his family were confronted with many new learning experiences and adjustments.

While assisting the Rector, Mr. McKay is responsible for hospital visiting at the General and St. Vincent's Hospitals. Under the Rector's direction he is undertaking a comprehensive visiting programme around the parish, co-ordinating a Bible Study programme and has just commenced teaching Religious Instruction at local Schools.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

At the end of life we shall not be asked how much pleasure we had in it, but how full it was of sacrifice; not how happy we were, but how helpful we were, not how ambition was gratified, but how love was served. Life is judged by love and love is known by its fruits.

Hugh Black

SAM

by Mathetes

