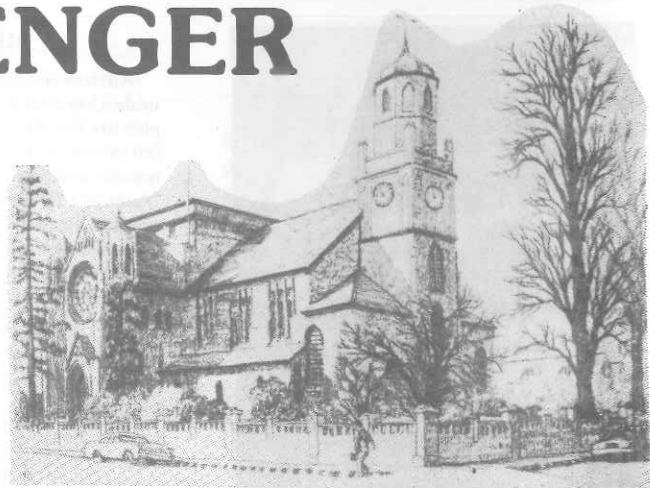


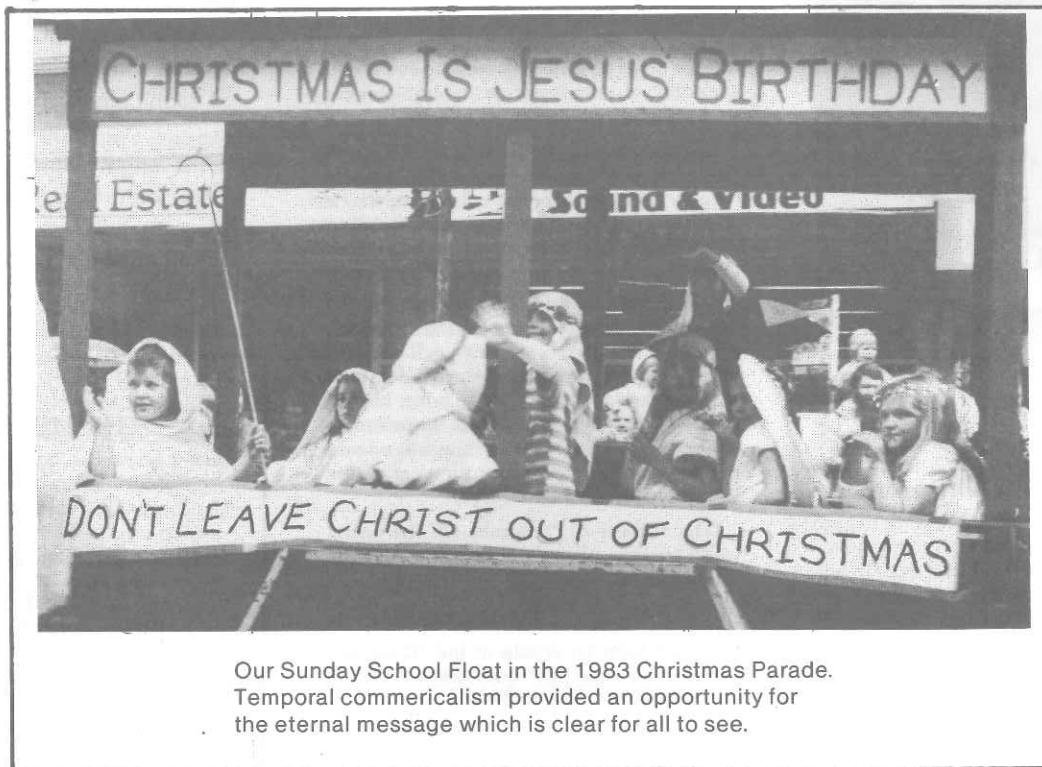
ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

PARISH MESSENGER

Postal Address: 157 St. John Street, Launceston 7250
Office Telephone: (003) 31 4896 (9 a.m. — 1 p.m.)



- Rector:** The Rev'd Ernest E. Horth, Th.L.
(Telephone: 31 5218)
- Assistants:** The Rev'd Robert W. McKay, B.V.Sc., Th.Dip.
(Telephone: 31 4566)
The Rev'd Craig J. Arnold, B.Th., Dip. Min.
(Telephone: 44 2712)
- Organist:** Mr. William Pierce, B.A. (Syd.),
F.R.C.O., F.T.C.L., L.Mus.A.
(Telephone: 31 1676)
- Assistant Organist:** Miss Gaylene Cohen, A.Mus.A.,
Assoc.Dip.T.C.A.E., L.T.C.L.
- Layreaders:** Mr. Bruce Proverbs, A.A.S.A., F.C.I.S.
Mr. Lloyd Bath, M.A., Th.L., A.L.A.A.
Mr. Ross Mitchell, B.E.(Civil), M.I.E.(Aust.)
Mr. Neville Windsor, B.Sc.(Hons), Dip.Ed.
- Officer Secretaries:** Mrs. J. Ikin, Mrs. J. Kilby
- Editors:** Mr. & Mrs. R. Mitchell, 74 Dion Cres. Riverside
(Tel. 27 3476)



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve
8.00 p.m. *Nine Lessons & Carols*
11.30 p.m. *Holy Communion*

Christmas Day
8.00 a.m. *Holy Communion*
10.00 a.m. *Holy Communion*
7.30 p.m. *Evening Prayer & Carols*

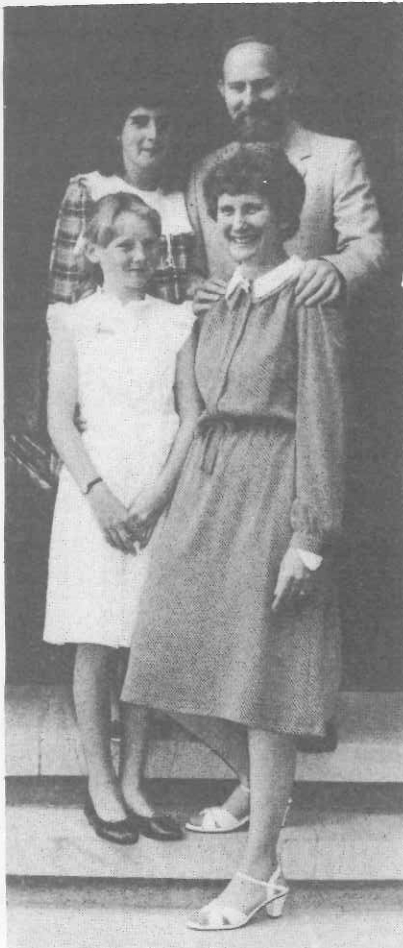
New Years Eve
11.30 p.m. *Watchnight Service*
(*Holy Communion*)

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

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



Dear Friends in St. John's,

After two years of ministry here the time is approaching for my family and me to leave and follow the Lord to a new area of work.

We thank you for your acceptance of us as we adjusted to a new life in a new city, and as I learned how to do the work of a deacon and then a priest. The work here has given us new perspectives for the future.

My prayer for St. John's is that it will grow in the Lord both spiritually and numerically. It is not the parish roll that we hope to see expanded but the size and sincerity of the worshipping congregation. The Holy Spirit of God is moving in your midst to point you to Jesus and to encourage you to worship God. Hear his voice, feel his prompting, respond to his urging and you will find renewal happening before your eyes.

May God bless each of you in your walk with Christ.

Your friends,

Bob, Jan, Bronwen and Catherine McKay

**FAREWELL LUNCHEON
FOR MCKAY FAMILY
Sunday 18th December**
after morning services
Bring some food to share

AUSTRALIA II

Australians have a tradition of backing the underdog and lopping the tall poppies. We also are the first to knock our own when they fail to live up to high expectations - our cricket teams have had a fair share of this treatment. "Australia II" managed a swing of Australian opinion from the "you've let us down" attitude when the score was 1 - 3, to national hero treatment as she crossed the line ahead of "Liberty" to take the series 4 - 3.

On Tuesday 27th September, "Australia II" brought home the Holy Grail of yachting - the America's Cup.

The morning before, Australian newspapers carried the story of a call by the nation's three largest churches - the Anglican, Catholic and Uniting churches - for the introduction of a capital gains tax as well as other measures aimed at achieving a more just society. Opposition was quickly voiced by the former Minister for Social Security, Senator Chaney, "a committed Catholic", who is reported as saying: "I do not believe that Christian doctrine or belief give clear answers to social and economic questions such as unemployment or distribution of wealth."

Clear answers? Perhaps not. But we as God's people have a responsibility to share his concern for justice, and act in a way that is consistent with God's nature as revealed in Scripture and in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ.

We must side with the oppressed, the underdogs. Jesus, at the start of his ministry, read from the Scriptures, saying: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." (Luke 4:18,19)

The success of "Australia II", the yacht, was a breeze - Australia II, the **just society**, will not be so easy.

David Coombe

(Adapted from an article in the "Covenant News" (Church of the Holy Covenant, A.C.T.), Oct. '83. Used with permission.)

HIS NAME AT THE TOP

I had the nicest Christmas list -
The longest one in town -
Til Daddy looked at it and said,
"You'll have to cut it down."

I knew that what he said was true
Beyond the faintest doubt,
But I was amazed to hear him say,
"You've left your best friend out."

And so I scanned my list again,
And said, "Oh that's not true!"
But daddy said, "His name's not there
That Friend who died for you."

And then I clearly understood
'Twas Jesus that he meant;
For Him who should come first of all
I hadn't planned a cent.

I had a lengthy Christmas list
And left the Saviour out!
But, oh, it didn't take me long
To change the list about.

"THE MESSIAH"

by

G. F. Handel

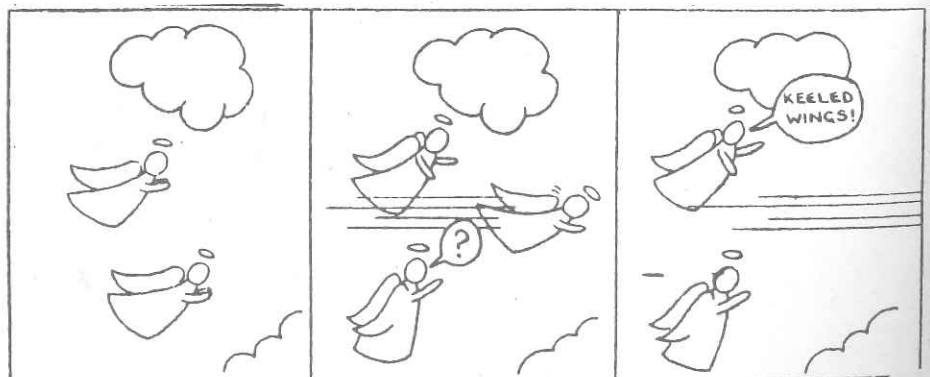
Friday, 9th December, 1983

8.00 p.m.

in St. John's Church

The Launceston Philharmonic Society

Admission by programme through members and at the door - students and pensioners \$2.00; Adults \$6.00; Family \$15.00





My dear friends,

This is the last issue of "Parish Messenger" prior to the departure of the Reverend Robert McKay and his family to Sheffield Parish. I have rejoiced often in the Lord's directing Bob, Jan, Bronwen and Catherine to St. John's. They have, as a family, entered into the life of the parish, making a considerable contribution. I cannot express enough the deep gratitude I personally owe to Bob for the manner in which he has ministered during these past two years. He has carried heavy responsibility with confidence and I thank parishioners for the manner in which they have prayed for and supported Bob and his family. Our loss is Sheffield's gain.

On Sunday, 18th December we are having a Luncheon in the Parish Centre and will on this occasion "officially" farewell the McKays. I hope you will come. They will not actually leave the parish until the afternoon of Sunday, 15th January, however, their furniture and belongings will have been moved earlier. On Wednesday, 1st February the Service of Institution will take place at Sheffield commencing at 8 p.m. and I hope St. John's will be well represented on the occasion. Some of you, because of incapacities, are unable to take part in these special events where they happen but you are able to pray for and uphold the McKay's wherever you are.

Bob, Jan and family, our very deep gratitude for giving of yourselves to us. We hope we have given you that something which will stay with you for the rest of your life.

The Reverend Craig Arnold has been appointed to replace Bob as Assistant Curate. Craig has already made himself known to many of you as he has helped on the two occasions I've been absent on sick leave. He brings to the parish many gifts which will help equip our congregation in its service for the Lord. He was made Deacon early in 1981 and Priested later in the same year, serving as Assistant Curate in the Parish of Glenorchy. Earlier this year he was overseas and has just concluded three months assisting in the Parish of St. Mark-on-the-Hill. We welcome Craig and assure him of our prayerful support and loving encouragement.

Vestry has been giving serious consideration to the appointment of a third member of ministry staff. At the time of writing no final decision had been made as it is important to share this possibility with the congregation and gain reaction. One fact to be faced is the financial commitment involved. Without any other factor considered, the stipened alone would demand an approximate increase of \$250 per week. This means 125 parishioners willing to increase their giving per week by \$2. Some of us believe the concept of a Church Army Captain is exciting because they seek to equip parishioners in their task for ministry. We will need to know the will of God in this important matter and I therefore encourage you to pray for guidance, and faith that God will make His way clear.

This has been an eventful year. People have been brought back to faith in Jesus who loves them. Many in the congregation can tell of deep, meaningful spiritual experiences as they have received answers to prayer, been healed of infirmities and strengthened in daily witness. There has been a noticeable increase in lay participation in ministry. We can do no other than lift up our hearts in thanksgiving.

Christmas for some of you will seem empty because you have lost a loved one during the past year or suffered a very deep hurt. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. In Him may you find your emptiness comforted, your hearts healed, the anger softened by the special touch of His love.

All at the Rectory, Ida, Kathryn, Louise and myself extend to you our deepest love and joy for a Christmas that is special because Jesus has touched your celebration, a New Year full of hope and confidence because Jesus goes before.

In His love,

Ernest E. Horth
Rector

Did you realise that **Sunday, 4th December** marks the commencement of our Rector's third year at St. John's?

We give thanks for the past two years and pray for God's continued hand of blessing on Ernest and his family and on us his congregation.

HOME COMMUNIONS

For those who are unable to attend services during this Christmas season, the clergy will endeavour to bring Communion to the home. Please notify the office of your name and address as soon as possible.



- CHRISTMAS BOWL 1983 -

Donations to this appeal can be made at St. John's by using the special envelopes provided and returning them in the offertory plate - or the Parish Office

People are reminded that donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible. If you wish to take advantage of this, you will need to put your name and address on the envelope and **request a receipt**. Receipts will be issued by the Tasmanian Council of Churches once the total contribution from St. John's is forwarded to them after Christmas.

ST. JOHN'S CONTRIBUTION . . .

1980 -	\$2,382
1981 -	\$2,189
1982 -	\$2,514



Don't let your Christian fellowship stop at the Church door.

Come and join the worshippers of St. John's in the Parish Centre after any of the Sunday services for a cuppa. Breakfast is also available after the 8 a.m. service and before the 10 a.m. service.

It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another and makes you really feel part of the Church family.

**Stop & Listen
CHRISTMAS**

Governments
stockpiling nuclear warheads,
reviewing scales of destruction,
might have laughed . . .

Trans-national business men
nervously negotiating
power over power, and safety
in ever-increasing dollars,
might have scorned . . .

The poor, the weak, the oppressed,
the sick, and those who knew
their power was finite,
will rejoice . . .

at the birth of a tiny Baby
who within His small hands
holds a greater power
than the world has yet seen.

Ann Siddall

MOVED???

Please notify the Parish Office of your new address if you have changed your address in the last twelve months.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our slide evening on Thursday 10th, augmented our bank balance by \$80.00 and for this we again thank our speaker, Mr. Len Clarke, for his showing of beautiful gardens in U.K. We were happy with the attendance, and the evening was obviously enjoyed by all. We hope Mr. Clarke will give a repeat performance of gardens in other parts of the world later in the year, and, of course, all are invited.

There will be no meeting in December, but members will meet at "Rowell's", George Street, for our Annual Dinner at 6.45 p.m. First meeting of the year will be on Thursday, February 9th, at 7.45 p.m., meeting to be preceded by Communion in the Chapel. No speaker, but we hope for a good turnout, as the programme for the year will need to be discussed and individual ideas presented.

Hostesses

Mesdames Dulcie Butler, Cornish and Peck.

To all, from officers and members of the Guild, our best wishes for a joyous Christmas and Happy New Year.

GFS TOWNSEND

GFS Townsend members wish to thank all people who helped to make our Annual Fair on October 22nd so successful. We were happy to bank \$600 in our Church Carpet Account and since then with donations received it is now \$635.00 which is very pleasing indeed. Thank you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kindergarten Christmas Evening

7.15 p.m. Thursday, 8th December

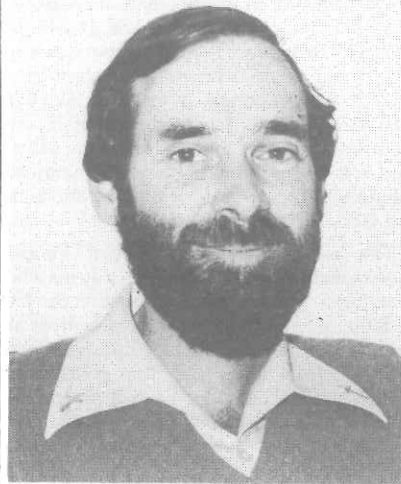
Parents and friends - please come
with the children
and enjoy
a happy evening

TO THE FLOWER GUILD

Grateful thanks are expressed to the Flower Guild for your ministry over the past year. The congregation appreciated the special gifts you exercise week by week.

Our love, thanks and best wishes.

**HAVE
YOU
SEEN
THIS MAN?**



If so, you will probably know he is **CRAIG ARNOLD**, our new staff member.

Craig commenced working in our parish in a temporary capacity but is now the new assistant priest. His continued ministry with us is very welcome.

If you have not seen him or met him he really is as friendly as he looks.

**DIARY SPECIALS
FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY**

Tuesday, 6th December
Diocesan Council (Hobart)

Thursday, 8th December
Induction of the Rev'd Adrian Hill - Franklin Kindergarten S.S. Christmas Evening
GFS/CEBS Break-up - BBQ at Punchbowl Reserve.

Friday, 9th December
"The Messiah"

Tuesday, 13th December
Rural Deanery

Wednesday, 14th December
Vestry

Friday, 16th December
Ordination (Hobart)

Sunday, 18th December
Farewell Luncheon for McKay Family

26th December to 2nd January
Keswick Convention, Port Sorell

27th - 30th January, 1984
CMS Summer School, W.E.C.

1st February, 1984
Induction of the Rev' R.W. McKay, Sheffield

WANTED

Volunteers to help on the **LAWN MOWING ROSTER** usually only three times a year at the most. Please phone John Smith (44 7062) if you can help. It takes a maximum of three hours to cut the grass - the church has the mower.

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

6th Nov —Angela Maree Lawrence

Marriages

12th Nov —Stephen Greig Brumby
to Debra Jane Targett
19th Nov —Gregory Michael Vollmer
to Debra Lee Gossage

Deaths

31st Oct —Douglas Stewart Gill
2nd Nov —Renie Russel-Arnot
12th Nov —Kenneth Gordon Maynard
13th Nov —Loni Matha Marie Stoltenberg
16th Nov —Leonard van Steenberg

FROM THE EDITORS

Thanks to all those who have assisted in the production and distribution of the Parish Messenger during 1983.

The next edition of the Parish Messenger will be printed for Sunday, 5th February, 1984. Contributions will continue to be welcome.

Wishing you a happy and holy Christmas.

Ross and Rosemary Mitchell

PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Bible Studies

- * Monday Home Study 7.30 p.m.
- * Wednesday morning at CMS House 9.15 a.m.
- * "Know your Bible" series for women 10.15 a.m. Thursday.

Weekly Meetings

- * GFS — 6.00 p.m. Wednesday.
- * GEBS — 6.00 p.m. (Pages) 6.30 p.m. (Esquires) Thursday.
- * Choir — 7.30 p.m. Thursday
- * Youth Fellowship — 7.30 p.m. Friday.

Monthly Meetings

- * 2nd Monday 2.45 p.m. — St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital.
- * 2nd Tuesday 6.00 p.m. — Men's Tea.
- * 2nd Thursday 7.45 p.m. — Women's Guild.
- * 4th Tuesday 9.45 a.m. — GFS Townsend.
- * 3rd Tuesdays 7.45 p.m. — Mothers' Union.

NOTE: Most organisations will be in recess, over the holiday period.