

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)

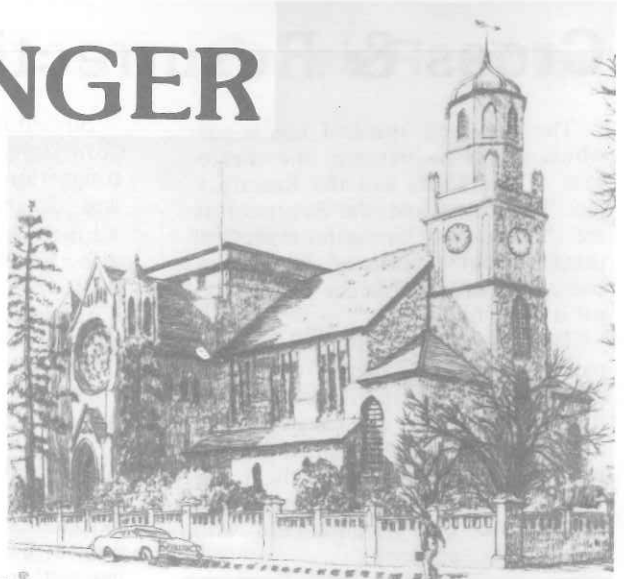
Assistant: The Rev'd Robert W. McKay, B.V.Sc., Th.Dip.
(Telephone: 31 4896)

Organist: Mr. William Pierce, B.A. (Syd.),
F.R.C.O., F.T.C.L., L.Mus.A.
(Telephone 31 1676)

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.)

Office Secretaries: Mrs. J. Ikin, Mrs. J. Kilby



Palm Sunday

There is in the Gospels a constant tension between the mission of Jesus as he himself understood it and the different categories into which other people were constantly trying to put him and his work. The story of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, which we relive each Palm Sunday, illustrates that tension very clearly. The crowds welcome Jesus as a national liberator. The action of some in spreading garments in his path recalls what the followers of Jesus did when he was proclaimed king in Israel (2 Kings 9:13). The palm branches (mentioned only by John) recall the welcome given to Simon Maccabaeus when he captured the Jerusalem citadel in 142 B.C. But Jesus chooses to ride into Jerusalem on a donkey, thus deliberately fulfilling the words of Zech. 9: 9-10, a passage which speaks of the cessation of war and of a message of peace to the Gentiles. Jesus will be kind, but on his terms not ours.

Dr N. Watson



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.

Cross & Resurrection

The balanced spiritual life is one which holds in tension the awareness of the Cross and the Resurrection. The Cross and the Resurrection are the two most profound aspects of the Christian experience. When they come together the essence of the Gospel is to be found.

The Cross represents all that is painful, hurting, angry, anguished, distorted and destructive in life. It is there that we are caught up in that which has the potential to destroy us. We find hope at the Cross when we find there One who enters deeply into our situation and who will not leave us alone.

by Ann Siddall

At the Resurrection there is all that is hopeful, joyous, celebrative, positive, creative and victorious. There we find God's fresh springs of new life welling up within us, bubbling over and moving us beyond our own hesitant boundaries.

Seen only from the perspective of the Cross life can be a grim fact of endurance. We suffer with meaning, but without liberation.

From the perspective of the Resurrection life is always triumphant and assertive. It is joyous, but bypasses questions, the grace of helplessness, and the acknowledgement of our real condition.

Sometimes we promote Cross-Christianity, encouraging guilt and resignation, preaching rigid morality and uncharitable attitudes. Cross-Christianity aims to bear the weight of life which only Jesus can carry.

If we focus on Resurrection-Christianity all is positive, successful and prosperous. We encourage bigger, brighter, better Christians. This is the "popular" Gospel, which promises a life free of care.

Balanced Christianity seeks to live in the tension between these two extremes. When we know that life moves beyond the Cross we can live with a hope which has no foundation in human endeavour and which, when human endeavour fails, does not leave us to save ourselves.

When we are willing to see the Resurrection as we stand at the Cross we know that resigned suffering is unnecessary. We also know that suffering is not to be dismissed, for it prompts us into asking life's deepest questions. These questions move us from the Cross to the Resurrection, for the One who helps us to form the question will, in His own time, reach back with the answer.

Good Friday must look forward to Easter, and Easter can only be celebrated after Good Friday.



DIARY SPECIALS AND PRAYER POINTERS

- Mar. 1 10.30 a.m. Senior Chaplains' Committee. 7.30 p.m. Parish Property Committee.
- Mar. 2 1 p.m. Site Committee Meeting.
- Mar. 4 2 p.m. Pilgrim Uniting Church Women's World Day of Prayer.
- Mar. 8 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Mothers' Union. 3 p.m. Rural Deanery, Invermay. 6 p.m. Men's Tea.
- Mar. 9 10.30 a.m. & 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lent Study, Vestry.
- Mar. 10 7.45 p.m. Guild.
- Mar. 12 10 a.m. Bishop's Consultation, Campbell Town.
- Mar. 13 "Mothering Sunday".
- Mar. 15 7.45 p.m. Holy Communion & M.U. Annual General Meeting.
- Mar. 16 10.30 a.m. & 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 1/2 p.m. Organ Recital. 8 p.m. Lent Study.
- Mar. 18/20 GFS Junior Camp.
- Mar. 22 7.45 p.m. GFS Townsend.
- Mar. 23 10.30 a.m. & 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lent Study.
- Mar. 24 11.30 a.m. Holy Communion, M.U. Lady Day Quiet Day.
- Mar. 25 The Annunciation, 7.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- Mar. 26 END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING.
- Mar. 27 10 a.m. "Batman" Service.
- Mar. 29 11 a.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity (Special Service for clergy with their Bishop).
- Mar. 30 10.30 a.m. & 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. 8 p.m. Lent Study.
- Mar. 31 MAUNDY THURSDAY
7.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

M. U. NOTES

- * **Diocesan Council** — 8th March, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. John's. Bishop Newell is Celebrant and Preacher.
- * **Mothering Sunday** — 13th March M.U. is again providing Simnel Cake for Services on this important day.
- * **Lady Day Quiet Day** at St. John's, Thursday 24th March, commencing at 11.30 a.m. with Holy Communion in the Chapel. Guest Speaker in Parish Centre: The Reverend Canon W. T. Letchford speaking on the subject "The Annunciation"

COME TO THE PARISH CAMP AT
*** ULVERSTONE ***

FRIDAY P.M. 6TH MAY TO SUNDAY P.M. 8TH MAY

Camp Speaker: The Reverend Brian Roberts Rector of Zeehan Parish

Children's Programme:

Mixed Activities:

Leaflet with details available at St. John's. Mrs. Pam Windsor is Camp Treasurer — Pay in instalments and lighten the load. Maximum for a family:—\$60.

THE
RECTOR'S
LETTER



My dear friends,

By the time this letter reaches you the election results will probably be known. No matter which political party wins the majority of seats there will still be a sizeable component in our society who are disappointed, frustrated or fearful. Our expectations of politicians is a growing concern. We have virtually come to the stage of forgetting God in our national and public life while asking the human agencies in leadership to be "like gods".

We in Australia are in a time of growing crisis. Our political situation is far from stable. Talk of social upheaval or revolution is openly debated in many forums. A sizeable component of Australian society is surrounding itself with material riches, security and power. The unemployed and poverty stricken also grow in number, their situation becoming more desperate, their pain and misery in many instances almost unbearable. Add to our social problems the complications of drought and bushfires, the implications of alcohol, drug abuse generally and sickness. No wonder many individuals are depressed and defeated. Even the Church is caught up in this gloom and doom. A fundamental disquiet grows in Tasmania over the "Dams" issue, the divisiveness of the question and the fear generated through media reports that politicians and police are manipulating or circumnavigating the Law. Are we free to protest anymore? Selfishness, greed and lostness are gradually dragging us down and causing disablement.

As individuals and as a Nation we need spiritual revival, a turning back to Jesus, repenting of our sins and a will to be followers of our Lord and His Word. Spiritual revival is not limited to filling

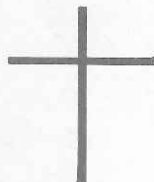
churches, it restores relationships, it heals wounds, it brings peace and purpose, plus the dynamic of hope, because spiritual revival is a renewed and vital relationship of love in Jesus Christ. Through Jesus we are given the love to care and the ability to share.

St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Chapter Two, is so relevant to our situation. I only quote a number of verses in closing but encourage you to read it all carefully and prayerfully.

"As for you, you are dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient . . . But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved . . . For it is by grace you have been saved through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no-one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (New International Version)

God's grace in Jesus Christ brings us into new life, salvation and forgiveness, but His grace also gives new life so we can be His followers in the closing years of this 20th century.

Your friend and Rector,



A PUBLIC MEETING
will take place at
THE CITY MISSION
8 p.m. Thursday 10th March
to hear representatives of
The Family Life Movement of
Australia
(previously Father and Son
Movement)
speak on their work
and its potential
for Tasmania.
The Rector is Federal
Chaplain to the Movement
and a Member of the
Federal Council.

Parish Register

Baptisms

- 6th Feb — Kelly Maree McLeod
— Naomi Cabalzar
— Mathew Joseph McVilly
- 13th Feb — Daniel Colin Maher
— Kimberley Jane Chugg
— Courtney Jane Chugg

Marriages

- 5th Feb — Dale Faulkner to Sandra Gail Jinks
- 12th Feb — Colin Alexander Burston to Sharyn Pamela Beaumont

Deaths

- 1st Feb — Trevor Lewis Rattray
- 5th Feb — Gordon Cedric Warren

PARISH MESSENGER

Donations to the Parish Messenger help us to defray the cost of printing, postage and distribution together with "Church News". Any contribution towards this cost would be very much appreciated. Donations may be given to the churchwardens or sent to the Parish Office.

- Dr. & Mrs. D. K. Wall \$2.00, Mrs. H. C. Tuting \$10.00, Miss B. Parramore \$5.00, Mrs. B. P. Gordon \$5.00, Mrs. O. Chambers \$5.00, Mrs. J. Roach \$5.00, Mrs. J. R. Darlow \$10.00, Mr. A. Thollar \$10.00, Mrs. J. Gatenby \$10.00, Mr. H. V. Jones \$6.00, Anon \$3.00, Mrs. J. L. Walton \$20.00, Mrs. H. T. Cox \$5.00, Mrs. G. Jones \$6.00, Mrs. J. Moxon \$5.00, Mrs. C. Latta \$5.00.

THANK YOU.

BUSH CHURCH AID SOCIETY

Many thanks to all box holders for their generous giving to B.C.A. Following the November box opening the amount of \$165 was sent to the Society for which they are most grateful.

Celia Hill
Box Secretary

ST. JOHN'S ON TELEVISION
The 10 a.m. Service of Holy Communion on Sunday 17th April will be recorded for replay on **SUNDAY MAY 15TH.**
Maximum attendance would be appreciated on the 17th April and the congregation needs to be seated by 9.40 a.m.

**** EASTER SERVICES ****

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY

9 a.m. Family Service.
12 noon/3 p.m. Devotional service. (Bishop P. K. Newell)
7 p.m. Readings and Music of the Passion.

EASTER DAY

8 a.m. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Holy Communion.
7 p.m. Holy Communion.

THE PERFECT CHAPLAIN

A recent survey has compiled all the qualities that military members expect from the perfect chaplain. Here we share some of them with you.

Results of a computerised survey indicate that the perfect chaplain preaches exactly 12 minutes. He frequently condemns sin but never upsets anyone. He works from 0730 until 2400 hours. He is preferably a Captain, makes \$400 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives about \$500 a week to the poor.

He is 28 years old and has been preaching for 30 years. He is wonderfully gentle and handsome. He gives of himself completely, but never gets close to anyone, lest he be criticised. He speaks boldly on social issues but never becomes politically involved.

He has a burning desire to work with teenagers. He spends all his time with commanders. The perfect chaplain smiles constantly with a straight face, because he has a sense of humour that keeps him seriously dedicated to his work. He makes 15 calls daily on parish families, visits shut-ins and the hospitalised, spends all his time evangelizing the unchurched, is always in his office when needed, and is committed to the ministry of presence.

(from USAF Chaplain Interchange via US Navy Resource Board's Porthole)

BUSHFIRE APPEAL MONEY CAN BE SENT TO

- * "The Anglican National Disaster Fund" St. Paul's Cathedral Buildings, Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000 or
- * "The Bishop's Bushfire Relief Appeal" See Parish Treasurer or the Parish Office.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS (Some recommence in March)

Meeting Weekly:

- Home Bible Study — 7.30 p.m. Monday.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study, C.M.S. House 9.15 a.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. Thursday.
- 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.

ANONYMOUS:

We asked for strength that we might achieve:
God made us weak that we might obey.

We asked for health that we might do great things:
He gave us infirmity that we might do better things.

We asked for riches that we might be happy:
we were given poverty that we might be wise.

We asked for power that we might have the praise of men:
we were given weakness that we might feel the need of God.

We asked for all things that we might enjoy life:
we were given life that we might enjoy all things.

We received nothing that we asked for — all that we hoped for:
and our prayers were answered.
We were most blessed.

GUILD NOTES

- * A Cake Stall was held at St. John's on Polling Day, 5th March. Many thanks to all those who contributed goods and gave their assistance.
- * Next Meeting 10th March at 7.45 p.m. The Rector will attend to discuss Guild commitment and function. Supper Hostesses: — Miss D. Butler, Mrs. J. Fletcher, Miss B. Parramore.

THE DIFFERENCE

Jim Smith went to church on Sunday morning. The organist missed a note during the Prelude and he winced. A teenager talking when everyone was supposed to be kneeling in silent prayer appalled him. He just knew that the usher was watching to see how much he would put into the offering plate, and it made him boil. The priest mispronounced five words in the sermon, by actual count. As Jim slipped out through the side door during the closing hymn, he muttered to himself, "Never again! What a bunch of clods and hypocrites!"

Ron Jones went to church on Sunday morning. He thrilled to the majesty of the organist's arrangement. A young girl touched his heart by taking a moment during the service to speak her simple, moving message of the difference her faith made in her life. He was glad to see that his Parish was sharing in a special offering for hungry children in Nigeria. The sermon that Sunday was especially appreciated by him — it answered a question that had bothered him a long time. As he walked out the doors of the church after greeting his friends wammly, Ron thought, "How can a man come here and not feel the presence of God?"

The interesting thing is that both these men went to the same service in the same church!

Some bishops and clergy make such heavy weather about reconciling the Bible story with modern scientific and historical knowledge.

"Why do they want to reconcile them?" If you are the recipient of a message which cheers your heart and fortifies your soul, which promises you reunion with those you have loved in a world of larger opportunity, and wider sympathies, why should you worry about the shape or colour of the travel-stained envelope, whether it's duly stamped, whether the date on the postmark is right or wrong?"

Winston Churchill in My Early Life.
