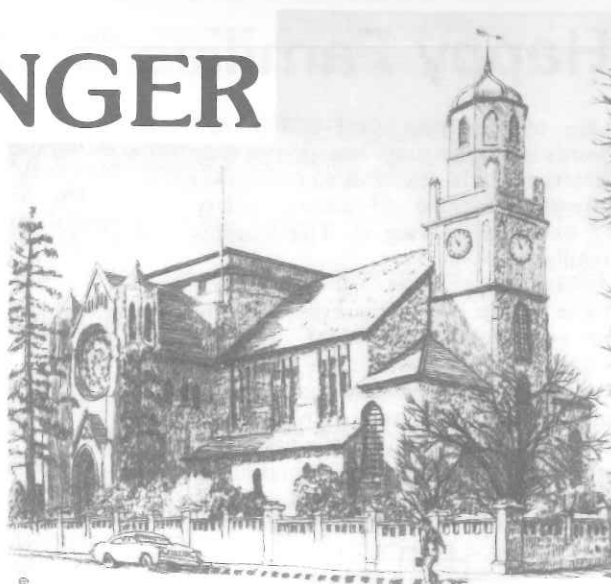


ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

THE RECTOR'S LETTER



My dear friends,

Easter Celebration was a deep joy and inspiration. The message of our Lord's Cross and Passion came home afresh and challenged many to renew their faith. Victory in the Resurrection of our Lord encouraged our own sense of victory and gratitude. No longer does the power of sin dominate us who believe, the power and presence of Christ abides in us. Yet we have much to learn.

It is my hope and prayer that we at St. John's will be increasingly known as "people of The Book". There is a need for us all to open our Bibles and read the message as through new eyes and with new understanding. We have overlooked too much of what God says to the Church. Over confidence sometimes hides our ignorance of the real message of scripture. When we compare the word of the Lord with the life of the worshipping congregation we should all be brought to our knees in repentance. How can we continue to look at the Glory of the Lord and continue in our self-sufficiency and human security.

The Gospel for May 15th, John 17 : 20-26, brings home how far we drift off from God's purpose for us. Verse 21, Jesus speaking, "I pray that they may all be one. Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me." Our inglorious divisions, our narrow minded parochial attitudes, our lack of love for each other in Christ, all contribute to the dishonouring of our Lord in the eyes of the world. Why should the worldly be interested in the Church if we are divided and fail to testify to the glory of our God and His Christ.

We have much of which we need to repent and find forgiveness, peace and freedom in Christ, a oneness together in Him.

Your friend in Christ,

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.

Happy Families

One of the most used and abused words in our language has six, not four letters to it. It describes an institution allegedly capable of saving society — or of destroying it. The word is family.

Like beauty, its significance has more in the eye of the beholder than in sociological definitions. It may bring to mind a whistle-clean, white-toothed glowing foursome occasionally visited by a comfortable plump, never irritable granny. It may mean for others a disintegrating, quarrelling couple with a sad-eyed child grieving for harmony.



We know it ought to mean more than simply a legalised system for orderly reproduction — that it ought to involve caring, nurturing and belonging. We are anxious that it is under siege from the consumer society, TV, the pill, drugs, divorce. We may fear that it cannot survive the sort of solutions handed out in newspaper advice columns.

Certainly alterations to the family are taking place (as they have done throughout history) and it is not yet clear what their effects will be. Effective means of birth control have

by Janet Wood

freed a marriage from a constant round of reproduction, but have also reduced the number of people within a family to a vulnerable level. One child often now has to bear parental anxieties and expectations which would once have been spread over five or six.

One of the less obvious influences on the role of the family in society is

the increasing years of survival of older people. As the number of couples with children at home proportionately decrease, the proportion of community interest and support might also decline.

Do Christians demonstrate any special insight into the nature and needs of the family? We use the term frequently. Each picnic is now a family picnic, and concert a family concert. We give a church a tick of approval if it provides family worship. Unfortunately there are both gains and losses from this latter activity. It may encourage the labelling of those who attend family worship as open and innovative and others as immobile pew sitters, (though given that most family worship services are early, they may be simply — late risers!).

The pattern of Christ's ministry clearly de-emphasises family units as objects of one's first loyalty. Jesus himself was a family drop-out. When his mother and brothers tried to keep him from being an embarrassment to them, it was necessary for him to shrug off their restrictions.

The fluidity of human relationships is illustrated succinctly at the time on the cross when Jesus commends his mother to the protection of John, but also presents Mary to the disciple as his "mother."

Christ does not eliminate the family. He enlarges it to encompass all.

ST. JOHN'S ON ABC TV
SUNDAY, 15th MAY
approx. 10.55 a.m.

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

Members of St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital will meet again on Monday, May 9th at 2.45 p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Afternoon Tea Hostesses:

Mrs. G. Wherrett, Mrs. J. Coombe and Miss M. Barclay.

Miss Bullock was welcomed to our meeting as a new member.

The amount of \$400 was sent to "Barclay House" towards new floor coverings in the sitting-room. Also members donated more parcels for our patients' Birthday Box.

Wednesday, May 18th will be our Morning Tea in the Parish Centre commencing at 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

There will be the usual very well stocked stalls. Proceeds for Barclay House. Admission \$1.00.

Parish Register

Baptism

24th April—Amanda Jane Gridley

Marriages

2nd April—John Robert Bensemann to Vanessa John

9th April—Gary Peter Josef Shouten to Penelope Coombe

—James William Brumby to Anne Maree Cuthbertson

16th April—David John Shepherd to Barbara Jane Simmonds

30th April—Daryl Edward Johnson to Lisa Jayne Turner

—Michael John Wyld to Pamela Nelson

—Shane Gregory Mackrill to Linda Anne Cox

Deaths

18th April—Wallace Dudley Viney

TELEVISION BLUES

A large congregation was in attendance for the recording of the 10 a.m. service, 17th April for use on television. As recorded elsewhere the replay is due at approximately 10.55 a.m. Sunday, 15th May.

Four cameras were in action and the congregation was confronted with a barrage of floodlights. It was reported that the electricity used by the ABC for the occasion could power a small town, it certainly saved our lighting and heating bill on the day.

Although the congregation had been instructed not to look at the cameras they had no choice in one instance. A cameraman appeared behind the Rector in the Pulpit while he was preaching. What did that camera see? What does the preacher see? At least, in reply, the Rector can watch himself in action. (Agony! — Rector)

FURNITURE RESTORATION

The Gill family have been patiently restoring some of the old chairs at St. John's. Some are located in the History Room while the old "scribe's chair" is in the Rector's Vestry.

Sincere thanks to the Gills for their labour of love.

GOOD FRIDAY WAS GREAT !

Those attending the Good Friday Services could not fail to be inspired and encouraged by the three services held.

The 9 a.m. Family Service was well attended and a deep feeling of meditation and waiting upon God was evident.

Bishop Newell led the three hour devotional service on the theme "Sounds of the Passion". The whole service was under his guiding hand and those present were fed from the word of God and the wisdom of their Bishop. New hymns were taught and the silences gave opportunity for soul searching and spiritual refreshment.

The evening service was also well attended for "The Readings and Music of the Passion". Once again the congregation was treated to a feast of good things. Bible readings were read well and the Choir was at its best. The Bishop joined the Choir for the service and also helped increase the atmosphere of worship by signing a solo from the Westminster Gallery.

As we reflected on the death of our Saviour, on the redemption He won for us, Good Friday was a great day indeed !

A SPECIAL NIGHT FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Friday, 20th May, 1983

in

ST. JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE

6.30 p.m. Dinner (bring food to share)

7.30 p.m. Programme led by team from Sydney

CONFIRMATION 1983

Bishop H. A. Jerrim will attend St. John's for the 10 a.m. Service, Sunday 20th November when those who undertake the commitment of preparation will be presented for Confirmation.

Application Forms are available from the Parish Office or at the rear of the church.

Classes will commence in June. The congregation is asked to pray for those considering Confirmation this year, and for the clergy as they prepare lesson materials.

**CAMP CLAYTON
HERE WE COME !**

Over seventy members of the congregation have booked in for Family Camp 6-8th May. The Rev'd Brian Roberts of Zeehan is leading the adult studies. A separate programme is provided for the large number of teenagers while the younger children will follow their own routine.

Excitement grows as the date comes nearer. New "units" at Camp Clayton provide modern accommodation for up to ninety people. A wide range of facilities is available, including tennis court, oval, obstacle course, outdoor and indoor games.

A film and concert is planned for Saturday night. Next issue of "Parish Messenger" should have a report on the hidden talent revealed.

Please remember the Parish Camp in your prayers especially the Reverend Brian Roberts.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our thanks to the Rev'd Bob McKay for a very interesting talk on his veterinary experiences, and how spiritual motivation led him into a new life in the ordained ministry.

It was good to have Mrs. Linda Cornish back in our midst again, bright and smiling in spite of a trying period of illness.

Preliminary arrangements were discussed re provision of supper for approximately 200 at the Youth Synod to be held on 24th June.

Annual General Meeting will be held on May 12th. Supper Hostesses: Mesdames Page, Swinnerton and Thompson.



"WHY NOT? WE HAFTA PUT SOMETHING IN HIS WHEN WE GO TO HIS PLACE!"

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

The following parishioners are rostered for Sunday, 8th May at 11.15 a.m. M. Brain, M. Jansson, D. Gill, A. J. Green, M. Willson, M. Clare.

FOUR VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR SUNDAY 8th MAY BECAUSE OF PARISH CAMP INVOLVEMENT OF SOME REGULAR HELPERS. CAN YOU HELP? PLEASE NOTIFY OFFICE (31 4896) OR LESLEY PERKINS (28 1358 —home)

If those named above are unable to attend, please ring Lesley on the above number.

— CITY MISSION — ANNUAL MEETING & THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL

46 Frederick Street 19 th May, 8 p.m.

ALL WELCOME

GUEST SPEAKER — THE RECTOR

(Ladies — a plate please)

CITY MISSION COLLECTION

SUNDAY, 1st MAY

Clothing, packet and tinned food (Leave it at the church)

DIARY SPECIALS AND PRAYER POINTERS

May

- 1 — City Mission Collection
— CEBS (Esquires) on Camp
3 — Diocesan Council (Hobart)
4 — Organ Recital
6-8 — Parish Camp
8 — Music Recital
10 — Rural Deanery (St. Aidan's)
12 — Ministers Fraternal
— Women's Guild — Annual Meeting
13 — Youth Ministry Consultation (Sunday School; GFS; CEBS; Youth Group and Adult participation)
15 — TV Replay
17 — Senior Chaplains Conference — Hobart
19 — City Mission Annual Meeting
21 — Special "Youth Ministry Night"
22 — Whitsunday
29 — Trinity Sunday
Organ recital — Overseas Guest

PARISH ORGANISATIONS

BIBLE STUDIES:

- * Monday Home Study 7.30 p.m.
* Wednesday morning at CMS House 9.15 a.m.
* Wednesday night at the Rectory 8 p.m.
* "Know your Bible" series for women 10.15 a.m. Thursday at the Rectory.

WEEKLY MEETINGS:

- * GFS — 6 p.m. Wednesday.
* CEBS — 6 p.m. Thursday.
* Choir — 7.30 p.m. Thursday.
* Youth Group — 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 p.m. — Men's tea.
* 2nd Thursday 7.45 p.m. — Women's Guild.
* 3rd Tuesday 7.45 p.m. — Mothers' Union.
* 4th Tuesday 7.45 p.m. — GFS Townsend.

THE EXODUS

Alas, it's that time of year again when many in the congregation head north to warmer climates.

However, this year we have at least two families moving permanently to Queensland, the Harris and Bethany families. We are sorry to say farewell as their departure leaves a hollow in our ranks and we have enjoyed their fellowship.

Bruce and Valerie Proverbs are currently attending a conference in England and Mrs. K. Sutton left on Friday, 22nd April to visit her daughter in England.

Mrs. M. Underwood is leading a group visit to China and Mr. Tony Walsh escaped to Coral Bay W.A.

We miss you all.

I SPY REPORTS

The news is out that nearly every Saturday night the Rector can be heard screaming for mercy. Mr. Glenn Clark is trying to teach him piano. Pray for Mr. Clark !

BUSH CHURCH AID SOCIETY

B.C.A. boxes will be opened in May and they may be left at the Parish office or with one of the sidesmen at church.

Celia Hill
Box Secretary
Telephone 26 1877



Pentecost

"Did you receive the Spirit when you became believers?" Paul once asked a group of would-be disciples in Ephesus. Some modern disciples would find the same question an embarrassment. They cannot say they know from experience what other Christians are talking about when they speak of the Spirit's power.

There were other Christians to whom Paul ministered who spoke about the Spirit too glibly. These were the Corinthians. They prided themselves on their spiritual gifts, but they had got things wrong. For them, the gift of the Spirit meant a power given to them for their own enrichment. Paul had to tell them that it meant rather the capacity to perform a service for the good of the community. God gives us his Spirit, or as Paul often puts it, a gift of grace (charisma) not to make us feel good, but to enable us to do a job. Only when we get on with that God-given task, will we know the Spirit's power in its fullness.

Dr. N. Watson.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Most churches in Australia are virtually saying, 'If you will sit in our pews, we will tell you about Jesus. But if you won't come into our precious building, you can go to hell'."

The Rev'd Sir Alan Walker.