

PARISH MESSENGER

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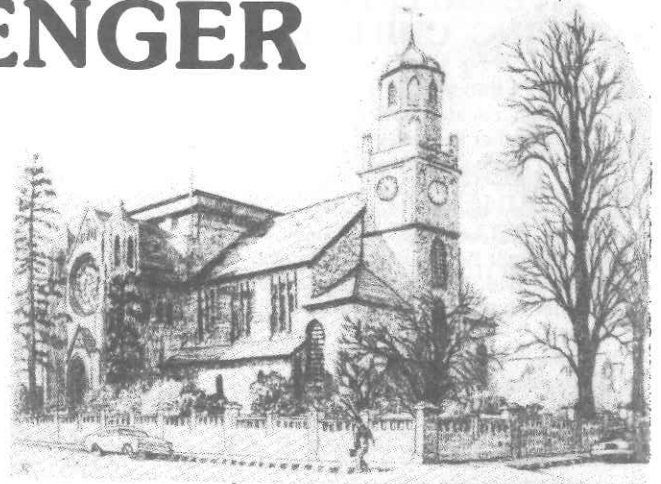
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Whatsoever a man
soweth that shall he
also reap. Gal. 6:7

"Help carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. If someone thinks he is something when he really is nothing, he is only deceiving himself. Each one should judge his own conduct. If it is good, then he can be proud of what he himself has done, without having to compare it with what someone else has done. For everyone has to carry his own load.

The man who is being taught the Christian message should share all the good things he has with his teacher.

Do not deceive yourselves; no one makes a fool of God. A person will reap exactly what he plants. If he plants in the field of his natural desires, from it he will gather the harvest of death; if he plants in the field of the Spirit, from the Spirit he will gather the harvest of eternal life. So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest. So then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith."

*St. Paul writing to the Church at Galatia
(Galatians 6:2-10)*



SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion: 8 a.m. Every Sunday; 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday; 7.00 p.m. 2nd and 4th Sunday
Family Service: 10 a.m. 2nd Sunday, Morning Prayer: 10 a.m. 4th Sunday
Evening Prayer: 7.00 p.m. 1st and 5th Sunday. Sounds of Praise: 7 00 p.m. 3rd Sunday
(Laying on of Hands — 7.00 p.m. 4th Sunday)

WEEKDAYS

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

FIVE MILLION STARVING CHILDREN

As a result of the drought in Africa, five million children could starve to death in 1984, while another five million people will suffer lifelong damage. In West Africa, few people eat more than once a day and malnutrition has become the norm. In response to this situation, a Combined Churches Drought Action in Africa Appeal has been launched. This is the first time in Australia that churches have combined in such a way.

From: "On Being" Magazine, 2 Denham St., Hawthorn 3122

Most people think because they are broke, they understand poverty, says Donald Vogel, a retired Presbyterian minister. So he points out the difference this way:

When you're broke, you can't pay your bills. When you're poor, you don't have any bills; you have no credit.

When you're broke, you can't paint your house. There are many poor who have no houses.

When you're broke, there are holes in your underwear. The poor have no underwear.

When you're broke, hope is a friend. When you're poor, hope is a stranger.



"All we have here are five loaves and two fish..."
Mt 14 17

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD



CHILDREN (Ethiopia)

too hungry to eat bitterness
too hungry
grit teeth world
hide head in sand - they can't eat sand
can't eat
can't sing you any songs
no music but dry retchings
ugly music starvation
can't even stretch out
skinny
arms
of
hunger
hungerhungerhungerhunger
world how could you
turn away
leave aching fly-blown silences
scraping empty air
hoplessness scratching even accusation
from deserted
brown eyes



- Marilyn Arnold

UNTO THE LEAST

Longfellow tells in his "Vision Beautiful" of a monk whose consuming passion was to have Christ visit him in person. The years came and went, and the man continued his daily tasks, saying his prayers, keeping his vows, and regularly feeding the poor.

One evening his dark and lonely cell became suffused with the light of a lovely presence. But alas, as he fell to his knees in adoration, the vesper bell began to ring, and the monk knew that the poor people were already gathered at the monastery gate. His soul rebelled. He would not go. Let the beggars go hungry, or let them fend for themselves this once! But no, the bell persisted to call him. The habits of a lifetime prevailed. He hurried to the kitchen and carried the food to the waiting throng, all the while fearful about what might happen in his absence from his cell.

When the last beggar had been fed, the monk hurried back. The presence was still there, and as he knelt again in adoration he heard a gentle voice "Had'st thou stayed, I must have fled." That is what the vision said - William F. Wills.

QUESTION: How on earth do you help five million starving children?

ANSWER: One at a time.

"The money required to provide adequate food, water, education, health and housing for everyone in the world has been estimated at \$17 billion a year. It is a huge sum of money - about as much as the world spends on arms every two weeks."



Dear friends,

With the increase in our personal security and comfortableness it is easy to become negligent of those less fortunate than ourselves. Because we have our so-called "act together" we can all too easily blame or accuse people of responsibility for their own unfortunate circumstances. As money and possessions become our god or captivating interest, we become trapped into a system which demands attention and energy for the upkeep of things at the expense of human relationships and compassion. There is increasing evidence in this society that too many of us walk by on the other side of the road to escape the cries for help, to protect ourselves from getting involved. Our heads can be held so high in pious religion that we either fail to see or don't want to see and respond to the hurting humanity all around us.

When in Matthew Chapter 25 Jesus is recorded as speaking to the crowds about His second coming He warned them of the judgement yet to come. His hearers were obviously shocked by what they heard because they cried out to Him (verse 44):-

"Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?"

Jesus then replied, (verse 45) -

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not for me."

He concluded His remarks in verse 46,

"And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Security and comfortableness remove us all from the realities being faced by the majority in our world society. Our conscience has been deadened by the repeated impact of television pictures depicting the hopelessness of famine and death. Even in the Church we are preoccupied with money matters relating to maintenance of plant and property, instead of ministry to people in need. In fact the Church is in most instances far removed from where the people really are especially

those living in poverty and deep distress.

There are two areas which give me particular concern.

1. **The Powerless** People with money soon get to recognise the power of money and bring pressure to bear on politicians and influential personalities so as to obtain their own selfish will. Those without money learn early in their experience that the only power available to them is the rule of the mob, vandalism and other hateful reactions. As the rich get richer and the poor get poorer in this Australian society, one day we will pay a very high price for greed and selfishness which generates neglect of the needs and dignity of our fellow man.

The Labour Party was once the champion of the working classes, but no longer. Those battling to exist and survive are revolted by the affluence of politicians and their hypocrisy. Instead of upholding integrity and truth, slowly the political machine destroys the inner fibre of the people, humiliates and hurts them, taking away their dignity and pride. As the trendies change the rules and make life far more complicated and devious, the "little people", who cannot fight back except with a fist or gun, are the innocent victims of power and greed.

2. **Vietnam Veterans** Once it was popular to make a hero of a man whose name had just been drawn for National Service in the marble gamble. Many in his local community used him for political advantage, yet as soon as he wore the Army uniform, instead of civilian clothing, he became the scapegoat of society. We now have revealed to us the cost of our behaviour. Human lives are being destroyed by the hurts and pain felt by Vietnam veterans. They were **sent** to war and their own countrymen hated them for going. They came home initially proud, but as the Vietnam struggle wore on, they returned home humiliated and broken because their own countrymen were working and marching against them. Now the politician in his comfortable existence couldn't care less and the veterans must fight hard to be recognised and heard. When will the society stop putting the boot into them and start loving them back into a humane, caring and healing family? The Coalition Parties sent our young men to war but what are they doing to heal the wounds and grief being suffered?

As Christians we cannot walk by on the other side and ignore these hurts. Jesus loved the people, lived among them, cared for them and healed them, He poured out His life for them and so must we.

"No one can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (money)." Matthew 6:24

Your friend and Rector,

Ernest E. Horth



**NORTHERN
TASMANIA
CRUSADE**

12th - 21st OCTOBER, 1984

Continue in prayer for —

- * Balance of about \$14,000 to be received, hopefully, before commencement of the Crusade.
- * Care of tent and equipment during transportation and use.
- * 1000 women to attend Women's Rally on 16th October in crusade tent.
- * The Christian community to get a vision of the map at CMS Bookshop as a potent witness to the city.
- * Good media coverage, particularly T.V., for entire crusade.
- * The Lord's guidance in publicising the crusade at the Launceston Show between 9th-13th October.
- * Response to invitation to mayoral breakfast (Tues., 16th Oct.) and businessmen's luncheon (Fri, 19th Oct.)
- * Community Day Rally (Wed., 17th Oct) - effective contact to be made with non-Christians, elderly citizens and handicapped groups.
- * Children's Outreach - planning for the children's program in the crusade tent on the morning of 20th Oct., the possibility of visits to High Schools by Bill Newman and musical artists; recently appointed co-ordinator, Mrs. Lorraine McGhie.
- * Those who will organise and work on the Creche
- * Personal contacts with those you can invite to the crusade.

Pray and Fast

Beginning from August 27th until October 11th, prayer sessions will be held concurrently 5 days a week at the Punchbowl Gospel Chapel and the Riverside Presbyterian Church in Eden Street. Both churches will open at 7 a.m. from Monday to Friday. Usually the person in charge of each prayer session will have commenced fasting with effect from 5 or 6 p.m. the previous day.



G.F.S. TOWNSEND

This year in place of their Annual Fair, G.F.S. Townsend are going to hold a "G.F.S. Townsend Market" on Saturday 27th October, 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Parish Centre, in aid of their Church Carpet Fund. There will be the usual stalls - including a 2nd hand stall (**not** used clothing) - and Morning Tea. Donations gratefully received.

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

The next meeting of St. John's Auxiliary to St. Luke's Hospital will be held on Monday, 10th September at 2.45 p.m. in the Parish Centre. Afternoon tea hostesses: Mrs. Nolan, Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Scott.

The Auxiliary has provided twelve electric blankets this month. These blankets provide warmth in beds for patients in acute wards returning from surgery.

On Thursday, 27th September, a "Morning Tea or Coffee" will be held in the Parish Centre from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. We cordially invite our friends of St. Luke's to our last function for 1984. You can be assured of the usual very well stocked stalls - cakes, preserves etc.

MOTHER'S UNION

Parishioners, are you aware of the Objects of the Mothers' Union?

- 1) To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of Marriage and to promote its wider understanding.
- 2) To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church.
- 3) To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service.
- 4) To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- 5) To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

We will warmly welcome any new members. The next meeting will be in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 18th September at 7.45 p.m.

Parish Messenger Deadline

The deadline for the next Parish Newsletter is **Sunday, 23rd September**. Please have contributions to Parish Office or Editors by that date.

ST. JOHN'S BASKETBALL CLUB

The 1984 season has just ended on a high note for us, with all four teams performing well to the end.

The A grade men's and women's teams both made it to the semi-finals. Both were defeated, the women by only one point.

Our Reserve grade teams fared even better. The women's team won their way into the preliminary final before being narrowly beaten. Our most encouraging news of all is that our Reserve grade men's team won their way into the Grand Final and won convincingly after a great effort, with Andrew Cowell, Luigi Spangaro and Kent Lillico playing particularly well.

We eagerly await next Season!



Sunday School

Teddy Bear Picnic

Saturday, 22nd September
from 12 noon
at the Punchbowl Reserve

B.Y.O. food — there are B.B.Q's there if you wish to use them

All parish are invited, but you must bring a teddy bear!
(P.S. See our church historian if you need a teddy to bring)



No Change to Evening Service Time

It was agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting in July that the Sunday Evening Service would remain at 7 p.m. throughout the year. There will be no change when daylight saving commences later in the year.

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

12th August —Katrina Joy Murfet

Marriages

18th August —Michael James Digney
to Jo-Anne Ruby Van Asch
18th August —Peter John Thomas
to Debra Maree Baker

Deaths

24th July —Hazel Jean Payne
26th July —Nerida Nadaine Postle
29th July —Isabel Marie Scott
15th August —Craig John Gillespie
16th August —Lynette Catherine Biffin
18th August —Eva May Stevens

MEALS ON WHEELS

The following are listed for duty on Sunday, 9th September:-

H. Bourke, D. Plumbridge, M. Easther, A. Green/ H. Pitt, L. Perkins, J. Moxon, K. Massey.

Q.V.H. P. Phelps, J. Main.

Michael and Lesley Perkins would appreciate someone taking over the organising of the roster. If you can help, please contact Lesley or Michael on 28 1358 or the Parish Office 31 4896.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The fashion parade due to be held later this year has now been postponed to March 1985.

At our next meeting we hope to have a demonstration of Elizabethan crafts by "Forever Lace."

Our catering of the Parish Tea at the A.G.M. was well supported by our members — thank you to the many involved.

(The fruit salad in particular was scrumptious! - Ed.)

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 (in recess)
- * Bethel (Mon. 7.30, Sun. 3 p.m.)

Weekly Meetings

- * GFS — 6.00 p.m. Wednesday.
- * CEBS — 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.