

# PARISH MESSENGER

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(SUPPLEMENT TO CHURCH NEWS)



## THE RECTOR'S LETTER



Dear friends,

We rejoice together with Marilyn and Craig Arnold in the safe arrival of Louise Emily on Wednesday, 20th February. I also take this opportunity to thank them for their love and ministry among us, but wishing them God's richest blessing in the new opportunities ahead in Hamilton Parish.

The Parish Consultation Weekend was an occasion of encouragement, heart searching and vision of possibilities ahead. Those who attended were re-affirmed in their present ministry and direction but challenged to re-think or examine priorities. The Primary Purpose of St. John's was stated as:-

"To honour and obey God through faith in Jesus Christ by -

- \* Helping people become Christians
- \* Building up Christians in their faith
- \* Showing God's love and concern in our community, overseas and elsewhere."

Now we have the task of, under God's guidance and direction, putting the Primary Purpose into action in every aspect of our Parish life and personal witness. How do we shape up and if we don't, what are we going to do about it?

Thank you for your encouragement and prayer. May this Lent give you the opportunity of a closer walk with the Lord, a richer relationship in His love.

Your friend and Rector,

- EASTER SERVICES -

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 4 April: 7.30 pm Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY - 5 April: 9 am Family Service

11 am Ecumenical Service (location to be advised)

2 pm Service of Meditation

7 pm Readings & Music of the Passion

EASTER DAY

- 7 April: 8 am, 10 am & 7 pm Holy Communion



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

Members of St. John's Auxiliary will commence their meetings on Monday, 11th March at 2.45 pm in the Parish Centre. Afternoon tea hostesses: Mrs. G. Atkinson and Mrs. M. Easter. Ladies wishing to join our meetings would be very welcome.

MOTHERS' UNION

Last month members enjoyed a most interesting evening with Mr. and Mrs. Dudley who showed us slides of Sussex, England. As usual our March meeting will be the Annual Meeting at 7.45 pm and we hope that as many members as possible will attend. Members are reminded, and asked to support, the M.U. Diocesan Council meeting on Tuesday, 26th March, commencing at 10.30 am with Holy Communion.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our first meeting for the year was held on 14th February with a good attendance. Plans are underway for the Mannequin Parade to be held on 23rd April at 8 pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets will be available soon. All parishioners welcome. Cost \$4.00 including supper. Next meeting will be 14th March. Supper hostesses: Miss B. Parramore, Miss D. Butler and Mrs. J. Fletcher.

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FIRST NATIONAL ANGLICAN YOUTH SYNOD (NAVS) JANUARY 21-27 1985

Over 150 Youth from every Diocese in Australia attended the first NAVS held in Sydney. They came from faraway places such as North West Australia, Torres Strait and Bunbury. We were even visited by a Kenyan minister, Jephthaka Gethaka, who works with youth in Kenya, and a CMS missionary on furlough. One delegate had only moved to Australia from England the previous week. The Primate opened Synod on the Monday, but was only able to stay for twenty-four hours, so for the rest of the week, Bishop Harry Goodhew led us whenever Synod was in session.

Each person participated in a small group to discuss "what it means to be young in Australia today" in a theme area of their own choosing. The themes were based on the focus of Responding to God, and were divided up as follows, with the theme of International Youth Year, Peace, Participation and Development as the basis of our discussions.

***Responding to Who I Am***

**SPIRITUALITY** — Me & God, worship, expression, identity

**SEXUALITY** — Me & my body, relationships, intimacy, friendship, sex

**MINISTRY** — personal and the ministry of youth

***Responding to Other People***

**SOCIAL JUSTICE** — unemployment, homelessness, welfare rights, human rights

**THE CHURCH IN MINISTRY** — ordination of women, ecumenical, lay ministry, role of clergy

**SHARING GOD'S WORLD** — lifestyle, evangelism, moral issues

***Responding to the World We Live In***

**PEACE** — world, community, personal peace, nuclear issues, international relationships

**ENVIRONMENT** — conservation, urban and rural living, natural resources

**TECHNOLOGY** — health, work, leisure

Synod was given ideas to follow in their group discussions by key speakers on each theme, and by the Friday each group had prepared a statement, covering the topic that they had discussed. (Some people went to bed very late, ensuring that the statements had the finishing touches before they were typed and copied.) The statements were then accepted by Synod, to be passed on to the National Anglican Youth Unit (NAVU) as first drafts. We decided that NAVU would be the best group to handle our statements, as they were set up by the General Board of Religious Education (GBRE)

To my knowledge, everyone who attended NAVS found it worthwhile and had a great time. To me it was great to be able to mix with Christians my own age, who shared similar beliefs, from all over Australia. Everyone felt God's power at work that week, and we felt glad to be His children.

MEG DOWNING

SUNDAY, 17TH MARCH, 7 P.M. — CHRISTIAN DANCE GROUP FROM ADELAIDE

SUNDAY, 24TH MARCH, 3 P.M. — PRAYERS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS, COUNCILLORS & PEOPLE

SUNDAY, 19TH MAY — PREACHER AT ALL SERVICES — BISHOP WITT