

GOOD NEWS

from St. John's Anglican Parish, Launceston



EPIPHANY

JANUARY 1990

DIRECTORY

RECTOR:
Rev. John A Brook 31 5218
ASSISTANT:
Rev. Paul Wood
CHAPLAIN TO TERTIARY STUDENTS:
Rev. David Hayman 31 3925
ORGANIST:
Mr William Pierce 31 1676
OFFICE SECRETARY:
Miss Valerie Murgatroyd
Office (9am to 2 pm) 31 4896
Address: 157 St. John Street Launceston. 7250

PARISH GROUPS

WEEKLY MEETINGS

SUNDAY SCHOOL:
10am, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday 44 8596
FAMILY SERVICE:
10am, 2nd Sunday
SENIOR YOUTH GROUP:
Sunday 5.00pm 272374
SAM SINGLES & MARRIEDS
Tuesday 7.30pm 44 8596
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Thursday 4.30 - 5.30pm 31 1676
GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY:
Wednesday 6.00pm 27 3883
PLAY CENTRE:
Thursday 10.30am - 12 noon 31 6173
CEBS BOYS' SOCIETY
Thursday 6.00pm 31 8996
ADULT CHOIR
Thursday 7.30pm 31 1676
JYFS YOUTH GROUP
Friday 7.30pm 31 2048
PARISH PRAYER GROUP:
Saturday 8.00am 31 1520
FAITH & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS: 31 4896
Several groups meet weekly at different times and places, so check your weekly Pew Bulletin.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

MEALS ON WHEELS
2nd Sunday 11 am 31 4896
WELFARE AUXILIARY
2nd Monday 2.30pm 44 2827
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA:
2nd Tuesday 6.00pm 31 4566
MOTHERS' UNION
2nd Wednesday 1.30pm 44 7163
WOMEN'S GUILD
3rd Thursday 2.00pm 27 2484
GFS TOWNSEND
4th Tuesday 9.45am 31 5279

January Organ Recitals

THIS YEAR, 1990, ST JOHN'S WILL BE HOLDING THE 7th IN THE PRESENT SERIES OF ORGAN RECITALS. GAYLENE COHEN HEADS THE LIST OF BRIGHT YOUNG ORGANISTS AND YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO SUPPORT THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE ON THE FOLLOWING WEDNESDAYS FROM 1 P. M. TO 2 P. M.:

10th JANUARY.
17th JANUARY.
24th JANUARY.
7th FEBRUARY.

GAYLENE COHEN, ASSISTANT ORGANIST AT ST JOHN'S. LAUNCESTON. TAS.

ANNE MORGAN, FORMERLY ORGANIST AT ST MARK'S SOUTH HURSTVILLE, N. S. W.

DAVID OGILVIE, ORGANIST AT ST JAMES' OLD CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE, VIC.

BERNARD KIRKPATRICK, ASSISTANT ORGANIST, ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SYDNEY, N. S. W.

JOHN SCHOLA, ASSISTANT ORGANIST AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, BRIGHTON, VIC.

KLOMP CLUB - 12

A HOLIDAY PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN
AGES 5 - 12 Years

FOR REGISTRATIONS PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE ON 31 4896 BETWEEN 9.30PM - 1.00PM.

BIBLE STORIES
GAMES
CRAFTS

CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED AS THERE IS A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN THAT WE CAN CATER FOR.

FILM STRIPS

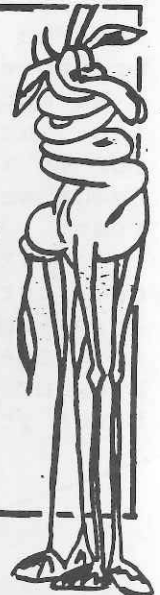
WHERE : ST. JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE
157 ST. JOHN STREET

WHEN : JANUARY 22ND TO JANUARY 26TH
9.00AM TO 12.30PM

(WEDNESDAY TO 2.00PM) PLUS
FAMILY NIGHT THURSDAY 6.30PM TO 8.30PM.

COST \$1:00 per day per child.

KLOMP CLUB, LAUNCESTON IS A SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME RUN BY ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH AND IS SUPPORTED BY A GRANT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION.



Join us in worship any Sunday
8am - 10am - 7pm
Wednesday 10.30am

The Rector Writes



EPIPHANY.

"Somebody up there must be looking after me!" Australians have a number of similar lines as part of their vocabulary, from the inane "Send 'er down, Huey" at the outbreak of rain, to the more direct "God help me!" and all its variations. Do they have any meaning? In fact, they express, however unintentionally, one of mankind's most essential yearnings, the desire to know God.

Dear Members of St John's Family,

Facing a new year sometimes is a fearful thing. It can be an experience which offers no joy or it may be just plain boring. Of course it can be exciting, it can be something which we are looking forward to because we have great plans or expectations.

Our attitude to a new year is usually shaped by what happened to us last year. The secret is to be able to critically assess our failures, acknowledge them to God as well as ourselves and others and seek reconciliation.

You can face a new year with confidence and joy when you allow Christ to clean up and cover the past. You can face the new year with excitement when you place your life firmly in the hands of Christ through faith and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus made special promises about facing the future; "I will never leave you or forsake you," simply means we have his abiding presence with us. "Nothing in all creation can expiate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord", means there is no power or circumstance which can shut out God's love from us. "My grace is sufficient for you", simply means Christ will supply the strength we need to cope with the pain and pressures which may afflict us.

We could go on to speak of all the ways in which Christ provides for us in the many and various needs we have as we move into a new year.

Go with Christ as your Saviour and your Lord and the new year will bring peace, joy, love and excitement. The excitement of knowing we do God's will. May God bless you each one in 1990.

Your in Him,

John A. Brook.

Christians need to have an opinion about the religions of the world, more so in an age where many religions have begun to argue "equal rights" in a secularised society. How do you answer the claim that "one religion is as good as another"? In a sense, they are as good, and as bad, as each other. Each is an expression of mankind's desire to know God. They express in their various forms, God as creator, God as provider, God as the prime mover of nature and history, but each in a clouded and insufficient way, the more primitive among them dominated by glaring inconsistencies, especially polytheism in its various forms in which gods are not all powerful, and are local in their influence, perhaps as the god of one tribe only, or of one nation.

At worst, religion deteriorates to "pay back", a kind of insurance against the wrath of the gods or evil spirits, or elitism whereby a priestly caste profits from traditions which establish it as the only means of access to the protection and blessing of the gods, sometimes at crippling expense to the faithful. Both these elements have crept back into Christian religion at various points of history.

The greatest of religions, characterised by the accumulated wisdom of millenia, achieve worthy, but still often inconsistent, rules for living, again accompanied by either ruthless legalism or ineffective ritual, sometimes to hopelessly inanimate statues. So the Christian may say, "yes, the religions of the world seek the true God, but they do not know God." And in truth, mankind can only know that there must be a God, but falls short of the knowledge that grows from relationship.

"...and the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father." (John 1:14) This is God's answer to religion! This is epiphany; God has manifested himself to us. Everything we need to know about God, his unrequited love for us, his forgiveness, his patience and forbearance, his provision, his coming judgement, we can know through the person of Jesus Christ, God and man. And more! We can approach the throne of grace with confidence by his promises, "for all the promises of God find their 'yes' in him." (2 Cor. 1:20) The greatest consolation of Christianity is that now our knowledge about God becomes a relationship with God, through Jesus Christ. Can we refuse that relationship?

Basli Tkaczuk

(For more on the nature of the religions of the world, read Romans 1. The World's Religions, Lion 1982 gives a fair and sympathetic Christian perspective on the religions of the world.)

"OUR WORSHIP IN MUSIC"

A JOINT LETTER HAS BEEN SENT IN REPLY TO MR BILL PIERCE'S COMMENTS IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE.

"IN RESPONSE TO THIS ARTICLE WE WISH TO PRESENT A CASE FOR CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC. IN COLLATING THIS RESPONSE WE HAVE AIMED TO PUT FORWARD OUR VIEWS IN A LOVING CHRISTIAN WAY AND DO NOT WISH TO CAUSE OFFENCE TO ANY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION.

STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES, EPHESIANS 5:19,20 [NIV] SEEMS APPROPRIATE; "SPEAK TO ONE ANOTHER WITH PSALMS, HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, SING AND MAKE MUSIC IN YOUR HEART TO THE LORD, ALWAYS GIVING THANKS TO GOD THE FATHER FOR EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."

OUR INTERPRETATION OF THIS PIECE OF SCRIPTURE IS THAT NOT ONLY ARE PSALMS AND HYMNS ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF WORSHIP, BUT ALSO THAT SPIRITUAL SONGS; CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN SONGS ARE ALSO ACCEPTABLE IN GOD'S SIGHT.

THE POINT OF WORSHIP IS TO GIVE THANKS AND PRAISE TO GOD AND THIS SHOULD BE FOREMOST IN OUR MINDS DURING WORSHIP, NOT STRUGGLING WITH AN UNFAMILIAR STYLE OF MUSIC. WE FEEL THAT GOD WANTS US TO BE CHRISTIANS FIRST AND ANGLICANS SECOND AND AS SUCH SHOULD BE DEVELOPING SPIRITUALLY.

AS YOUNG CHRISTIANS WE FEEL THAT THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH WITHIN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH REQUIRES CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC. TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SEARCHING FOR AN IDENTITY WHICH IS OFTEN FOUND THROUGH CONTEMPORARY MUSIC. AS CHRISTIANS, WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO FIND THEIR IDENTITY IN CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN RATHER THAN SECULAR MUSIC.

MOST YOUNG PEOPLE DO NOT POSSESS MR PIERCE'S VAST KNOWLEDGE OR BACKGROUND IN TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND AS SUCH IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THEM TO APPRECIATE TRADITIONAL MUSIC IN THE SAME WAY AS MR PIERCE.

WE UNDERSTAND THERE EXISTS A GREAT VARIETY OF PEOPLE AT ST JOHN'S AND THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THIS DIVERSITY ARE MET IN A COMPLEXITY OF WAYS."

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"IF ST JOHN'S IS TO BE EFFECTIVE IN OUTREACH, IT NEEDS TO OFFER VARYING STYLES OF WORSHIP TO MEET THE NEEDS OF BOTH THE CHURCHED AND THE UNCHURCHED.

TO A NEWCOMER AND ALSO TO YOUNG PEOPLE, TRADITIONAL HYMNS AND SUNG PSALMS ARE OFTEN TOTALLY FOREIGN, AND NO IDENTIFICATION CAN BE FOUND WITH MODERN-DAY MUSIC. THIS RESULTS IN A FEELING OF ALIENATION, HINDERING ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A CHRISTIAN BELIEF. BY INCORPORATING A BALANCE OF TRADITIONAL HYMNS, PSALMS AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, THE NEEDS OF THE UNCHURCHED, THE YOUTH AND THE CHURCHED WILL BE MET.

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC (AS SUNG AT SOUNDS OF PRAISE SERVICES) IS NOT IN OUR OPINION, TRITE, AND THE "INANE REPETITIONS" OFTEN SERVE TO REINFORCE IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF WORSHIP WHICH WE FIND BOTH MEANINGFUL AND SPIRITUALLY UPLIFTING.

IN CLOSING WE WISH TO QUOTE EPHESIANS 5:21 [NIV] "SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER OUT OF REVERENCE FOR CHRIST." CONCESSIONS MUST BE MADE TO CREATE A BALANCED MUSICAL WORSHIP, INCLUDING BOTH TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY STYLES AS BOTH HAVE THEIR PLACE IN THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."

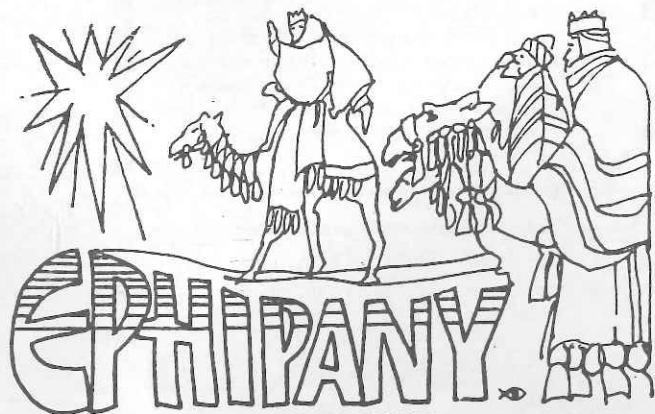
TANYA DAVIDSON & TANIA STEPHENS

MEDITATION FOR EPIPHANY.

FROM "AN AUSTRALIAN PRAYER BOOK"

O GOD, WHO BY THE LEADING OF A STAR MANIFESTED YOUR BELOVED SON TO THE GENTILES: MERCIFULLY GRANT THAT WE, WHO KNOW YOU NOW BY FAITH, MAY AFTER THIS LIFE ENJOY THE SPLENDOUR OF YOUR GLORIOUS GOD-HEAD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.' AMEN.

FATHER, YOU REVEALED YOUR SON TO THE NATIONS BY THE GUIDANCE OF A STAR. LEAD US TO YOUR GLORY IN HEAVEN BY THE LIGHT OF FAITH. WE ASK THIS THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

!! ANNOUNCING !!

MR TONY CLAYTON HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF SUPERINTENDANT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST JOHN'S. CLASSES WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY 1990 AT 10. AM.

THE PARISH TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS DEEP APPRECIATION OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY MR ROBERT DEAVIN IN THIS ASPECT OF CHILDRENS' MINISTRY OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS.

From the Register

MARRIAGES

THOMAS GORDON MILLAR & SYBIL JANE PALMER
STEPHEN HENRY RANDALL & DEBORAH BARNES

BURIALS

DORIS ELIZABETH MAIDMENT
EILEEN DOROTHY TYNAM
TODD SANDERS

SOME DON'TS FOR CHURCH ATTENDERS

- Don't visit; worship.
- Don't hurry away; speak and be spoken to.
- Don't dodge the preacher; show yourself friendly.
- Don't dodge the collection plate; contribute what you are able.
- Don't sit in the end of the pew; move over.
- Don't stare blankly while others sing; join in.
- Don't wait for an introduction; introduce yourself.
- Don't criticize; remember your own frailties.
- Don't monopolize your hymn book; be neighborly.
- Don't stay away from church because you have company; bring them with you.
- Don't stay away from church because the church is not perfect; how lonely you would feel in a perfect church.

PARISH OUTDOOR SERVICE & BARBEQUE on 11th February 1990 at 10.30 am.
at "Carnacoo", Paper Beach.
Come and join us, you and your friends.
B.Y.O. meat and drinks and some salad to share.

Body Parts News

KLOMP CLUB

THIS SUMMER KLOMP CLUB 12 WILL BE HELD FROM MONDAY JANUARY 22nd TO FRIDAY JAN. 26th.

LEADERS AND KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS ARE ASKED TO COME FORWARD BEFORE CHRISTMAS, PLEASE. IF YOU CAN ASSIST IN ANY WAY, PLEASE CONTACT GLENN CLARK ON 31 8996.

MEALS ON WHEELS

JANUARY 14th

LGH: M BRAIN, W COWELL, A CLAYTON,
J ROBERTS, J SMITH, A WHITTLE, J PREECE,
R DEAVIN.

QVH: S PERKINS, P PHELPS.

FEBRUARY !!th

LGH: B EASTER, W BAXTER, L PHILP,
W DONALDSON, V MURGATROYD, M WILLSON,
G WHEELDON, D PLUMRIDGE.

QVH: J BALL, M JANSON.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA

FIRST TEA FOR 1990 WILL BE TUES 14th FEB. 1990 AT 6 PM. BOOK AT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR CATERING AND A SEAT AT THE TABLE.

MOTHERS' UNION

PLEASE CONTACT EITHER:

Mrs JOAN BROOK (PRES.) ON 31 5218

PENNY CARLYLE (HON. SEC.) 44 7163

IF YOU REQUIRE TRANSPORT.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE FEBRUARY 7th 1990. "MOTHERS' UNION IS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED WITH MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE."

ST JOHN'S WELFARE AUXILIARY

NEXT MEETING WILL BE 12th MARCH 1990 AT 2.30 P.M. IN THE PARISH CENTRE.

ALL WELCOME - BRING YOUR FRIENDS.

WOMEN'S GUILD

NEXT MEETING WILL BE 14th FEB. 1990

CEBS & GFS

THESE GROUPS WILL RESUME AFTER THE ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS IN FEBRUARY 1990. DATES WILL APPEAR IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TONY CLAYTON, THIS WILL RE-COMMENCE ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4th 1990 AT 10. AM. PLEASE RING THE PARISH OFFICE, 31 4896 WITH YOUR ENQUIRIES.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

THE NEW COMMITTEE HAS NOT YET BEEN FINALISED TO TAKE OVER THE PARISH MESSENGER, "GOOD NEWS". THIS ISSUE AND THE FEBRUARY ISSUE WILL BE PUT TOGETHER BY CARETAKERS. THE DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 21st 1990. PLEASE LEAVE ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION AT THE PARISH OFFICE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE 'CHURCH NEWS'.