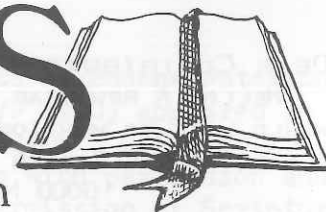


GOOD NEWS

from St. John's Anglican Parish, Launceston



F E B R U A R Y 1 9 9 1

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 39 1771
FAMILY SERVICE:
10am, 2nd Sunday
SENIOR YOUTH GROUP:
Sunday 5.00pm 272374
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 11am 31 4896
WELFARE AUXILIARY
2nd Monday 2.30pm 44 2827
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA:
2nd Tuesday 6.00pm 31 4566
MOTHERS' UNION
2nd Wednesday 1.00pm 44 7163
WOMEN'S GUILD
3rd Thursday 2.00pm 27 2484
GFS TOWNSEND
2nd Thursday 12 noon 26 1879

!! ST JOHN'S
PARISH
FAMILY DAY !!



Calling everyone from Grand-dad to little Mary-Jane !!

It's

ST. JOHN'S OUTDOOR GET-TOGETHER

"CARNACOO" - PAPER BEACH

SUNDAY - 10TH FEBRUARY

SERVICE IN OUTDOOR "CHAPEL"

(with Singing led by Music Group)

followed by BARBECUE/PICNIC MEAL

and time for RECREATION

B.Y.O. meat and salad to share or a Cut Lunch

Please arrive at 10 a.m.
ready for a Service of
Holy Communion at 10.30.

If transport is needed please
ring Basil Tkaczuk (31.1155)

"Carnacoo" (the Cub/Scout Complex) is a delightful setting close to the Tamar River. A hall is available if needed. EVERYONE WELCOME !!

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

DEAR CONTRIBUTORS AND READERS,
HELLO, A NEW YEAR HAS STARTED AND I
WOULD LIKE TO MENTION A FEW THINGS WITH
REGARD TO THE PARISH MESSENGER
'GOOD NEWS'

IN THE PAST YEAR YOU HAVE RESPONDED
WELL WITH SUFFICIENT AND INTERESTING
INFORMATION FOR THIS PUBLICATION. IT
WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF
INTERESTED PEOPLE COULD CONTINUE TO
FORWARD INFORMATION TO THE PARISH
OFFICE THE DAY AFTER MEETINGS AND
ESPECIALLY BEFORE THE ADVERTISED DEAD-
LINE. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW DATES,
TIMES, COMING EVENTS, GUEST SPEAKERS,
RESULTS OF PAST MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS
AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION RELATING TO
YOUR INTEREST OR GROUP.

OUR PARISHIONERS, OLD AND NEW, WOULD
LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INTERESTS, THE
GROUPS AND THEIR USEFUL FUNCTION IN THE
PARISH. PLEASE KEEP THEM WELL INFORMED.

IN FUTURE WE WILL NOT RELY ON OUR
GUESSES SO NO NOTES WILL BE WRITTEN
ABOUT GROUPS THAT DO NOT SEND A SHORT
REPORT. WE HOPE THAT THIS WILL ENABLE
PEOPLE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER ABOUT THE
CONTENTS OF THE 'GOOD NEWS'.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS, FOR EXAMPLE,
TOPICAL MEDITATIONS, REPORTS ON CAMPS,
PRAYER MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS AND
SERVICES ETC. WILL BE MOST WELCOME. DO
YOU HAVE A POEM THAT WOULD BE SUITABLE?

WE DO HOPE YOU WILL RESPOND TO THIS
REQUEST IN A POSITIVE WAY AS IT IS YOUR
PARISH MESSENGER AND SHOULD CONTAIN
CONTRIBUTIONS AND NEWS FROM THE PARISH
GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS. THIS WILL GO A
LONG WAY IN HELPING TO ENSURE ITS
CONTINUED SUCCESS.

YOURS SINCERELY,

Ed

THE EDITORS

PAUL, THE ROMAN CITIZEN

IN 1951 A DETECTIVE STORY WITH A
DIFFERENCE WAS PUBLISHED. IT WAS "THE
DAUGHTER OF TIME" BY JOSEPHINE TEY, AND
HER DETECTIVE, ALAN GRANT, SPENT HIS
TIME LYING INJURED IN HOSPITAL. HE WAS
BORED. ONE OF THE NURSES SUGGESTED THAT
HE SHOULD READ SOME OF THE BOOKS WHICH
FRIENDS HAD BROUGHT HIM - BUT NO, HE HAD
NO INTEREST. A VISITOR THOUGHT THAT HE
SHOULD DO SOME INVESTIGATING: 'FIND A
SOLUTION TO AN UNSOLVED PROBLEM, SOME-
THING THAT HAD PUZZLED THE WORLD FOR
AGES.'

SO IT HAPPENS THAT WITH THE HELP OF
NURSES, THE MATRON, THE DOCTOR, AND
VARIOUS VISITORS, HE FINDS A NEW
SOLUTION TO THE RECEIVED VIEW THAT THE
LITTLE PRINCES IN THE TOWER WERE MUR-
DERED ON THE ORDERS OF THEIR WICKED
UNCLE, KING RICHARD III.

NOW LET US CONSIDER A COUPLE OF
PROBLEMS IN THE ACCOUNT WE HAVE OF THE
MISSING JOURNEYS OF ST PAUL. LUKE WRITES
IN "THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES" (CHAP. 16)
THAT WHEN PAUL VISITED PHILIPPI HE CURED
A SLAVE GIRL WHO WAS TROUBLED BY AN EVIL
SPIRIT. THE SLAVE GIRL WAS USED BY HER
OWNERS TO TELL FORTUNES, AND WHEN THE
OWNERS REALISED THAT THEIR CHANCE OF
MAKING MONEY WAS GONE, THEY SEIZED PAUL
AND HIS COMPANION, SILAS, AND DRAGGED
THEM BEFORE THE ROMAN OFFICIALS COM-
PLAINING THAT PAUL AND SILAS WERE JEWS
AND WERE TEACHING THINGS THAT ROMAN
CITIZENS COULD NOT ACCEPT. THE OFFICIALS
HAD PAUL AND SILAS WHIPPED AND IMPRISON-
ED. WE KNOW THAT IT WAS CONTRARY TO
ROMAN LAW THAT A ROMAN CITIZEN SHOULD BE
SO TREATED. (ACTS, CHAP. 22).

PROBLEMS

1. WHY DIDN'T PAUL SPEAK UP AND TELL
THE AUTHORITIES THAT HE WAS A ROMAN
CITIZEN?
2. HOW WOULD PAUL HAVE ESTABLISHED
THAT HE WAS A ROMAN CITIZEN?

FROM LLOYD BATH.

PRAY FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

PRAY TO GOD WITH ALL OUR ENERGY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST THAT THE
NATIONS INVOLVED IN THE HORROR OF WAR WILL REACH A SWIFT AND
AMICABLE SOLUTION. PRAY FOR THE INOCENTS, THE BABIES, VERY SMALL
CHILDREN AND THE MOTHERS; AND PRAY FOR THEIR DELIVERENCE TO LIVE
IN PEACE AND FREEDOM. PRAY FOR THE SOLDIERS PREPARED TO FIGHT FOR
FREEDOM AND PEACE FOR OTHERS THEN PRAY FOR THE AGGRESSORS, THAT
THE DOVE OF PEACE WILL ENTER THEIR HEARTS AND PUT AN END TO GREED,
HATRED AND USELESS BLOODSHED. PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD FOR THE
FREEDOM AND PEACE OF LIVING IN AUSTRALIA.

PRAY FOR FREEDOM AND PEACE.



A LONG OBEDIENCE

IN THE SAME DIRECTION

Encouraging discipleship in an instant society

One aspect of *world* that I have been able to identify as harmful to Christians is the assumption that anything worthwhile can be acquired at once. We assume that if something can be done at all, it can be done quickly and efficiently. Our attention spans have been conditioned by thirty-second commercials.

It is not difficult in such a world to get a person interested in the message of the gospel; it is terrifically difficult to sustain the interest. There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness.

I don't know what it has been like for pastors in other cultures and previous centuries, but I am quite sure that for a pastor in Western culture in the latter part of the twentieth century the aspect of *world* that makes the work of leading Christians in the way of faith most difficult is what Gore Vidal has analysed as 'today's passion for the immediate and casual'. The persons whom I lead in worship, among whom I counsel, visit, pray, preach and teach, want short cuts. The Christian life cannot mature under such conditions.

Friedrich Nietzsche, who saw this area of spiritual truth, at least, with great clarity wrote, 'The essential thing in heaven and earth is . . . that there should be long obedience in the same direction; there thereby results . . . something which has made life worth living'. It is this 'long obedience in the same direction' which the mood of the world does so much to discourage.

In going against the stream of the world's ways, there are two biblical designations for people of faith that are extremely useful: *disciple* and *pilgrim*. Disciple (*mathetes*) says we are people who spend our lives apprenticed to our master, Jesus Christ. Pilgrim (*parepidemos*) tells us we are people who spend our

The following brief extracts of Eugene Peterson's book of the above title (IVP 1980) appeared in a recent issue of SCRIPTURE UNION's DAILY NOTES, adapted and printed by them with permission and reproduced here with the permission of Scripture Union.

lives going someplace, going to God, and whose path for getting there is the way, Jesus Christ. The letter to the Hebrews defines our programme (Hebrews 12:1,2).

Acting yourself into a new way of feeling

Worship . . . nurtures our need to be in relationship with God. Worship is the place where we obey the command to praise God: 'as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord' (Psalm 122:4 RSV). This command runs right down the centre of all Christian worship. A decree. A word telling us what we ought to do; and what we ought to do is praise . . . 'A Christian' wrote Augustine, 'should be an alleluia from head to foot'. That is the reality. That is the truth of our lives. God made us, redeems us, provides for us. The natural, honest healthy, logical response to that is praise to God . . .

I have put great emphasis on the fact that Christians worship because they want to, not because they are forced to. But I have never said that we worship because we feel like it . . . Feelings are important in many areas, but completely unreliable in matters of faith . . . We think that if we don't feel something there can be no authenticity in doing it. But the wisdom of God says something different, namely, that we can act ourselves into a new way of feeling much quicker than we can feel ourselves into a new way of acting. Worship is an act which develops feelings for God, not a feeling for God which is expressed in an act of worship. When we obey the command to praise God in worship, our deep, essential need to be in relationship with God is nurtured.

Cultivating a biblical memory

In important matters such as answered prayer, God's judgment, Christ's forgiveness, eternal salvation, the only person many Christians consult is themselves and the only experience they evaluate is the most recent ten minutes. But we need other experiences, the community of experience of brothers and sisters in the church, the centuries of experience provided by our biblical ancestors. A Christian who has David in his bones, Jeremiah in his bloodstream, Paul in his fingertips and Christ in his heart will know how much and how little value to put on his own momentary feelings and the experience of the past week . . .

Biblical history is a good memory for what doesn't work. It is also a good memory for what does work . . . A Christian with a defective memory has to start everything from scratch and spends far too much of his or her time backtracking, repairing, starting over. A Christian with a good memory avoids repeating old sins, knows the easiest way through the complex situations and instead of starting over each day, continues what was begun in Adam. [The Bible] activates faith's memory so that obedience will be sane. 'Each act of obedience by the Christian is a modest proof, unequivocal for all its imperfection, of the reality of what he attests' (Karl Barth).

Eugene H. Peterson is pastor of Christ our King Presbyterian Church in Bel Air, Maryland, USA, and adjunct professor at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. He is the author of several books, including *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*, *Earth and Altar*, *Travelling Light* and *Run with the Horses*.

WOMEN'S GUILD

THE FIRST MEETING FOR
1991 WILL BE ON
THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
COMMENSING WITH A
SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL
AT 2.00PM.

ALL MEMBERS ARE
REMINDING THAT THE
DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
WOMEN'S GUILDS WILL BE
MEETING AT HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH ON TUESDAY 19TH
FEBRUARY.

PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND
THIS MEETING IF
POSSIBLE. ON THAT DAY
WE HAND IN THE KNITTED
RUGS SO FAR COMPLETED.
EVERYONE WITH FINISHED
SQUARES PLEASE TAKE
THEM TO THE PARISH
OFFICE OR PHONE 44 2827
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE SECRETARY.

"SAVE THE DATE"

Anglican Women's Fellowship

The next meeting will be held at Longford, on Thursday 28th February 1991. A bus will leave from St John's if enough people require transport.

"SAVE THE DATE"

10-00am Morning Tea
10-30am Holy Communion
11-30am 1st Session

The Revd Honor Yearsley

TURN TO GOD - THE SOURCE OF LIFE"

12-30pm Lunch to share
1-30pm 2nd Session
more of "... THE SOURCE OF LIFE"
2-30pm Afternoon Tea
3-00pm Homeward Bound.

Don't forget to ring the numbers below for transport.

Vice President Bev Blizzard 98 2463
Secretary Tiny Kennedy 31 1177

MOTHERS' UNION

On Tuesday 12th March 1991 the Annual Diocesan Council Meeting will take place at St John's. The day will begin at 10-00am with morning tea followed by Holy Communion at 11-00am. The meeting is scheduled to conclude at 3-00pm. All members are urged to attend.

Our Branch Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 13th March at 1-00pm, beginning with a short Mothers' Union service in church. New members will be made most welcome so come and join us this year and share in our many activities.

Our first special Communion service will be on Wednesday 27th March 1991 at 10-30am, during Holy Week and we would like to know of anyone requiring transport on this occasion. Please phone Marj Easter, 31 5750.

C E B S

Last year parishioners sponsored members to take part in a WALK-A-THON for the Murgwanzia Hospital for tuberculosis patients in Tanzania. \$486.06 was raised by this event. Congratulations!

Meetings for 1991 will re-commence on Thursday 21st February. Enquiries should be directed to **GLENN CLARK** phone 31 8996

JANUARY REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Christopher Jeremy Darlow
Richard James Darlow
Adam James Seymour
Patrick John Jacobs
Benjamin Nolen Allen
Karen Elizabeth Olajos
Joshua Allan Olajos
Joshuah Dallas Gough

MARRIAGES

Ian Stewart & Jane Hortle
Michael Upson & Jane Easter
Kenneth White & Duerrice Roney
Peter Robinson & Carolyn Ryan
Tony Young & Kylie Eaves
Simon Kendall & Janine Browne
Matthew Wright & Diedre-Anne Arendt

BURIALS

Eileen Jean Brown
Nellie Florence Peck
Olive Ord
Percyrene Lily Waddle

MEALS ON WHEELS

Sunday 13th January 1991

J. Ball, H. Burke, J. Green/H. Pitt,
A. Neale, M. Perkins, P. Phelps,
J. Roberts, D. Sheldrick, L. Knowles

Sunday 10th February 1991

W. Cowell, W. Donaldson, M. Jansson,
R. Mansfield, S. Perkins, J. Preece,
J. Smith, J. Stevenson, M. Willson.

Please note: IF YOU ARE FOSTERED ON A DAY THAT DOES NOT SUIT, PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR OWN SUBSTITUTE.

!!! THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT !!!

G. F. S. TOWNSEND

PLEASE NOTE NEW DAY AND TIME.
Our first meeting for 1991 will be on Thursday 14th March 12 noon-2:00pm in the Parish Centre. Please bring your own lunch. We will be planning our activities for this new year.

Celia Hill.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Parishioners are reminded that the deadline for the MARCH issue is Sunday 17th February 1991. Please leave items for publication at the Parish Office BEFORE that date.

Ed