

PARISH MESSENGER

from St. John's Anglican Parish, Launceston

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

DIRECTORY

RECTOR: Rev. John A Brook 31 5218
ASSISTANT: Rev. Paul Wood 31 4566
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN: Rev. Philip Blake 30 1663
ORGANIST: Mr William Pierce 31 1676
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Tony Clayton 39 1771
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
SUNDAY GROUP:
Sunday 6.00pm 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
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 10.30am 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 44 2827
GFS TOWNSEND
2nd Thursday 12 noon 26 1877

NOVEMBER 1991

!! A BIG THANK YOU !!

Many thanks for the opportunity of sharing with you in the ministry at St John's Church, Launceston.

Mary and I deeply appreciate your warm welcome and helpful co-operation during our 10-week stay.

We thank God for your vital witness for the Gospel at this strategic church, for the pastoral care of those in need and for the spiritual vitality of the Faith & Fellowship groups.

We shall continue to pray that God will bless you all, and many others through you, in your dedicated service to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

With Christian love,

Lane & Mary Shultz

EDITORIAL NOTE

Parishioners are reminded that the deadline for ALL ISSUES is the THIRD SUNDAY EVERY MONTH. Please leave items for publication at the Parish Office BEFORE that date. Thank you.

SUPPLEMENT TO "CHURCH NEWS"

CHANGE, ANGLICANS AND THE ESSENTIALS OF FAITH

A very challenging seminar was held in the Parish Centre on 21st September under the able leadership of Canon Lance Shilton. Those present were taken through the unchangeable nature of the Christian faith in the first session, in which the second chapter of Paul's letter to the church at Phillipi was used to illustrate the church's call to unity, humility and responsibility, and to investigate how to sort out the essentials from non-essentials subject to change in different social circumstances.

The context of change in the church was investigated further in the second session, with the various influences for change touched upon: political, economic, technological, sociological, religious and moral. There are enormous pressures in each of these areas affecting today's church. A brief examination of the history of the Anglican church since the Reformation was enough to highlight the fact that the church has been constantly subject to change, including revision of the services of worship. Canon Shilton's leaflet, "What it Means to be an Anglican", was a focal point of the session. Copies are included in the latest edition of our parish information folder, launched during this session, which contains a variety of information about the life of the parish and its groups, as well as personal testimonies and a short historical background.

The third session was devoted to the potential for outreach and growth at St. John's, including examination of the special opportunities presented by the nature of the parish as a city church, the potential for greater use of the media, an area in which Canon Shilton has specialised, and the opportunities for outreach through caring. Revd. Dr. Philip Blake gave added perspective to this, drawing on his widespread experience in chaplaincy ministry.

DISCUSSION GROUPS: CITY CHURCHES... A CHALLENGE

At the beginning of the final session for the day, those present broke up into small groups to discuss the following questions. Some of the responses were common to several of the groups.

- 1 In what ways do city churches differ from parish churches?
Do those who attend city churches have special obligations?

Responses:

- * City churches tend to be less personal, more transitory and anonymous, and must establish ways of dealing with that.
- * Parish boundaries can be a problem.. we tend to minister across them, but whatever the consequences, We have a responsibility to *ALL* comers.
- * A city church like St. John's can still carry out many parish duties.
- * There is potential for ministry to the Central Business District, and for further development of chaplaincies.
- * There is potential for ministry to the city "establishment"... the members of council, leaders of business organisations &
- * "Marginalised" people tend to gather in the city centre.. can we minister to them?
- * We should develop use of the media by having people ready to use the media.. trained and biblical!
- * There is always opportunity to minister arising from baptisms, marriages and funerals.

2. To what extent should Christians be involved in mass media controversial issues?
Is it right for Christians to argue about the Christian faith?

Responses:

- * Involvement is our responsibility, so respond per above, and also: (a) Respond immediately but thoughtfully to media questioning. (b) Beware of distortion by media (c) Don't "overkill"... too many releases or too long! (d) Use the book "Ears to Hear, Eyes to See" (e) Be co-operative with media
- * There is room for constructive, friendly disputation about the Christian Faith.
- * It is healthy to examine and test one's faith and viewpoints on specific issues as they arise. Following the Bible: (a) The aim should be to "build up the Body of Christ". (b) Test the spirits!
- * Don't be a bad example in front of non-believers or new Christians.
- * With non-Christians, it is legitimate to present beliefs and the evidence for the faith, and to demonstrate the difference it has made in our lives.
- * Training is beneficial to do this most effectively.

3. Can we learn from the idea of God as counsellor?
How can we best "come alongside" people today?

Responses:

- * Like Jesus, go where the people ARE!
His characteristic approaches:

Love
Listening
Prayerful
Compassionate
Forgiving
Non-judgemental
nor prejudiced
Sincerity
Sacrificial of time and talents

How to come alongside people?

- * Look for opportunities in everyday life
- * Accept the prompting of the Holy Spirit
- * "Be careful how you listen!" to find their real needs
- * Meet people where they are at
- * Be prepared to step out in faith, and to "go the extra mile"
- * Touch.. but appropriately, and not overdone
- * Use the talents you are given, and those of others
- * Improve your skills where possible and appropriate

MOTHERS' UNION

The last meeting for this year will be held on Wednesday 13th November Members will meet at St John's at 11.30 am. and proceed to 'Solomon House' Evandale for lunch at 12 noon.

On Wednesday 18th December at 10.30 am. we will have our "Special Communion Service". This will be followed by morning tea. Anyone requiring transport for this happy occasion should contact Mrs Marj Easter - 31 5750.

BUSH CHURCH AID SOCIETY

Box-holders are requested to bring their boxes for opening this month please in time for Christmas. - Celia Hill 26 1877

ST JOHN'S WELFARE AUXILIARY

The next monthly meeting of the Auxiliary will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday 18th November 1991 at 3 pm. Our afternoon tea hostesses will be Mrs Doris Dicker and Mrs Lyn Ikin.

On 20th November make up a party of friends for our special Morning Tea, 10 am. to 12 noon in the Parish Centre, cost \$3-00 each. There will also be a well-stocked stall.

WOMEN'S GUILD

A GARAGE SALE, MORNING TEA & CAKE STALL will be held at the Parish Centre on Saturday 16th November starting at 9 am. Guild members are urged to attend this special fund-raising function which will enable us to assist the Diocesan Guild project, the 'New Areas Ministry' - We have already sent \$500 for this and a further \$100 for Clarendon Home was sent recently.

The next meeting will be our final one for the year on Thursday 21st November in the Parish Centre at 12 noon. A short meeting will follow lunch. Members are asked to bring an item of linen suitable for use at Roland Home as we have done in previous years. Items need not be brand-new but be in good condition.

MELANIE MORRIS

Have you noticed Melanie's broad smiles, her inner excitement tinged with a little pride and the yellow book she carries around? The book is entitled 'QUILLING' and was written by none other than MELANIE MORRIS. Quilling is a relatively unknown art but Melanie's book will tell you all about it.

R. S. C. M.

ST JOHN'S CHOIR MEMBERS and friends attended a very pleasant 'country church crawl' on Sunday afternoon 20th October, with other members of the Royal School of Church Music from northern Tasmania.



The afternoon was hosted by Mr Craig Johnston, the conductor was Mr John Argyle and accompanied by Mr Bill Pierce who played the several organs at St Andrew's Carrick, St Mary's Hagley, and Holy Trinity (R.C.) at Westbury.

The singers tested some old and new music; including Christmas carols, listened to the charm and quality of the organs and explored the churches and their grounds.

It was a most enjoyable day and a similar excursion is planned early next year.

CONFIRMATION

We welcome into the congregation those who were confirmed last month. Please pray for those confirmed at St John's last month and include this prayer.

*"Defend your servants Lord
With all your heavenly grace;
Your ever present help afford,
And guide us all our days.*

*Defend your servants Lord
And guard us with your peace:
On us your Holy Spirit poured,
Our daily trust increase.*

*Defend your servants Lord,
So when our journey's through,
We may obtain your great reward:
Your kingdom share with you."*

Philip C. Blake.

Those confirmed were;

MICHAEL BROWN, KATHRYN COOPER, KELLY MOORE, HELEN GRIFFITHS, MARIE GRIFFITHS, SUSAN VALLIS, ROBERT JACKSON, MARY BEAGENT, IRENE CLARKE-WALKER, STEPHEN EAST, CLAIRE WALDRON, MEGAN WAKEFIELD, HAMILTON WAKEFIELD, MATTHEW BRAIN, MYLES MUMFORD, STUART CAMERON, LINDA McCREA, ELAIN MANSSON.

WELCOME HOME JOHN AND JOAN !

TO THE CONGREGATION.

Some time ago someone told me he had left St John's because it was 'unfriendly'. I was rather taken aback, but since then I have tried to see ourselves and the things we do through his eyes. I have come to the conclusion that there is some truth in his accusation. Superficially friendly, yes; we welcome people, we invite them to breakfast or tea/coffee; we talk to them.

But is that enough? Do we even know each other all that well? Do we want To?

I visited another church for a service once and was invited home to lunch with one of the families. I gathered that they had some sort of hospitality roster but I don't know how it worked. But I still remember the warmth and friendliness of that home - it meant a lot to me.

We have a large number of single people at St John's - Students, singles, divorced, widowed etc. Should we target Sunday lunch as a time when it is cost to have an extra person or two without making a great deal of extra effort? Or perhaps organise some more Sunday after church barbeques - Trevallyn Dam, Punch Bowl etc?

If you have any experience of hospitality rosters, or would like to make any comments or suggestions; would you mark them 'Hospitality' and leave them at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

**TRAINING
IN
EVANGELISM**

INCLUDES
DISCIPLESHIP EXPLAINED

Christianity Explained

"BOOTS 'N' ALL"

The Scripture Union Bushwalking Club
There are two walks left for this year:
Saturday 16th November - Lake Myrtle & Mt Ragoona - This is a medium to hard grade event.

Contact - Gary Fitzallen (003) 31 1863
Geoff Powell (003) 27 3355

Saturday 7th December - Mt Maurice - This is an easy family walk. How about a group from St John's planning to join this bushwalk? It is a very popular walk and very beautiful now with the Spring flowers.

Contact - Andrew Madden (003) 99 3315

SEPTEMBER REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Allyse Marie Fulton
Isobel Alice Stokes
Natalie Clare Jones

BURIALS

Edna Muriel Fenton

MARRIAGES

James Bik & Sharon Dennis

MEALS ON WHEELS

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
promptly at 10.30am.
M. Janssen, D. Plumridge, A. Neale,
J. Preece, R. Mansfield, J. Roberts,
J. Smith, L. Knowles, M. Willson.

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER
promptly at 10.30am.
J. Ball, W. Cowell, W. Donaldson,
H. Griffiths, D. Hindrum, P. Phelps,
J. Stevenson, M. Wing, D. Sheldrick,
V. Murgatroyd.

! DO NOT FORGET TO ARRANGE YOUR OWN
SUBSTITUTE IF YOU CAN NOT ATTEND TO THIS
IMPORTANT MINISTRY, SOME-ONE MAY RECEIVE
THEIR LUNCH AT TEA-TIME IF YOU FORGET !

COST

\$20 per person
\$35 for couple sharing the manual
\$10 if you already own the manual
\$15 each for 4 or more from one church,
registering together.

Pastor Bruce Spaulding
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
St John Street
Launceston 7250 Ph: (003) 31 5412

LAUNCESTON

Friday 22nd—Saturday 23rd November

Friday 7.30 p.m.—9.30 p.m.

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Launceston

Saturday 10 a.m.—12 noon, 1 p.m.—3 p.m.

St Andrew's "Branch", St John Street, Launceston