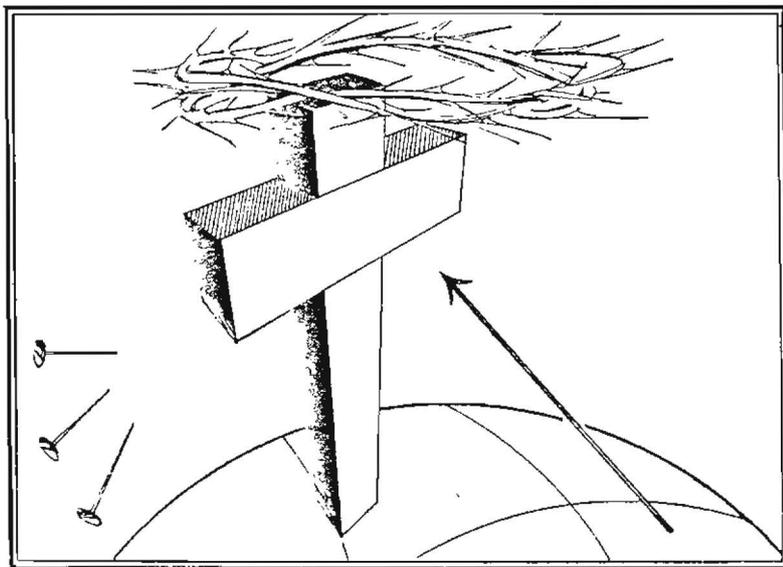


The Chronicle Of All Saints' Petersham

Rector: Rev. Paul Watson - Phone 569-4735
325 Stanmore Road, Petersham. 2049.

APRIL 1994



"HE IS NOT HERE FOR HE IS RISEN"

From your Minister's Desk



All Saints' Church
Petersham.
April, 1994

Dear Readers,

There is something terribly sad when an organisation loses sight of why it exists. So often, over time, the original purpose for which the organisation was established is no longer in the minds of the members. Rather, they continue to meet and operate because that is what they have always done. There is a routine and a pattern and an annual programme that keeps everyone busy, but it's only for the purpose of keeping it going.

A church can be the same. Many churches exist and operate simply because they exist and operate. They follow a yearly calendar of events and services, but are really only going around in circles. And unfortunately the circles get smaller and smaller, forming a downward spiral.

It has been said:-

- * If you plan to hit nothing, you generally do. And,
- * A church that fails to plan, plans to fail.

We need to keep focussed. That is why we have a Vision statement which we are striving to fulfil. I don't want our church to plan to fail by failing to plan.

Our Vision for All Saints' Petersham is that we will be

“A community of disciples of Jesus Christ which is growing in christian maturity, and which is striving to have a positive impact for God's Kingdom.”

Two important elements of this statement are, firstly, the inward aspect of our growth in christian maturity, and second, the outward aspect of reaching non-believers with the gospel message.

We need to set some goals and strategies for these two elements.

1. Growth in christian maturity.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer, bringing the person to be more like Jesus. As a church, we are to work together to encourage each other to grow in this way. (See Ephesians 4: 11-16). How doe we facilitate this?

- To be actively part of our church. Attend regularly so as to be fed from God's word, to minister to others, and be ministered to by others. Sermon series designed to teach, challenge and inspire us to growth.
- To be encouraged to read the Bible, and to pray - so as to grow in our relationship with the Lord.
- Small Groups are very important in helping christians grow. Our goal is to have at least 75% of our church members in TLC Groups by 1997. At the time of writing we have two groups operating, with two new groups to commence during April.
- Part of growing to maturity is growing in love for one another. We will encourage this through the TLC Groups, as well as by holding events which bring us together in a social setting. BBQs, Bush Dances, picnics etc are a great way of getting to know each other better.

This is a brief overview of the first element of our Vision. Next month I will explore some goals for the second, outreach, element of our Vision.

What about you? Are you on the path to Chirstian maturity? Are you growing in your relationship with Jesus? Remember, you can't do it on your own. You need to be part of your local church. As a glowing coal soon loses its heat when it is removed from the other embers, so too does a christian lose her/his glow when absent from fellowship with other christians.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you,

Your brother in Christ
Paul Watson.

What's On This Mo

Date	8-30am	10am
Apr 17	Morning Prayer	Morning Worship
24	Holy Communion	Morning Worship
May 1	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
8	Holy Communion	Morning Worship
15	Morning Prayer	Morning Worship
22	Holy Communion	Morning Worship
29	Holy Communion	Morning Worship

Month of Sundays?

Topic	6-30pm	Topic
"My Failures Aren't Fatal"	Holy Communion	Genesis
"Come Home"	Evening Worship	Genesis
"Respects the individual"	Evening Worship	Under Judgement Under Water
"Has Leadership"	Evening Worship	A Fresh Start?"
"Knows the Rules"	Holy Communion	Heal the World"
"Has Faith"	Evening Worship	"The Highpoint is the lowpoint"
"A Healthy Marriage"	Evening Worship	"A Covenant for Ever"



**FLOWER
MEMORIALS**



April 3 In memory of Mr. Beardow

April 10 In memory of Jack Williams. In memory of Sarah and Sydney Hays.

April 17 In memory of Jack Mitchell. In memory of George Thornton.

April 24 For Don with Love.



Parish News

Positive Family Life:

During the Sundays of May we will be covering a series of sermons in the morning services focussing on Family Living. We have 1500 brochures which we will deliver to homes in the parish, inviting people to come and hear the message. On the 31 May, Mr. Tom Smith, the Director of the Anglican Youth Department will be preaching on Marriage. These services are designed to allow us to invite our non-christian friends or relatives along to the service.

All Saints' 125 Years:

Next year is our 125th anniversary! We would like to have a special celebration in November 1995 to mark the occasion. It will need extensive advertising, and organising and preparation. The Parish Council is forming a sub-committee to begin the task. Do you have any photos, or other information that could be displayed during the festival? Please let us know.

Small Groups:

WE are starting two new TLC Groups this month. The first is for young people (Late teens, 20s) and meets Sunday afternoons. It is led by Scott Dunlop, who is in first year at Moore College.

The second group is for people of riper years, held fortnightly on Wednesday mornings in the Hall. Transport is provided. This group is led by Diane Watson. Activities will include short Bible study, sharing, prayer, singing, games, morning tea. Commences 20 April.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH PETERSHAM STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - MARCH 1994

RECEIPTS	\$	PAYMENTS	\$
Offerories	2,040.49	Rector's Stipend 2/94	2,245.83
Transfer of funds from -		Rector's Trav. Allowance 3/94	645.00
All Saints' Endow A/c	2,180.00	Rector's Petty Cash	30.00
May Rhule Endow	1,227.78	Organist	90.00
Sale of Church Histories	2.00	Church Cleaning	200.00
Wedding Fees	70.00	Hall Cleaning	200.00
		Telephone Account	69.90
		Cleaning Purchases	24.64
		Flowers	60.00
		Morning Tea Expenses	28.08
		Postage & Phone Calls	0.00
		Assessment March Quarter	89.00
		Stationery - Envelopes	28.00
		Hall Gas A/c	48.37
		Rectory Gas A/c	15.17
		Superannuation March Quarter	788.45
		Guest Speaker Easter Service at Petersham Public School	20.00
	5,520.27		4,582.44
Deficit for month	5,520.27	Surplus for month	937.83
			5,520.27
BALANCE 1-3-94	2,796.87		
Less deficit for month	0.00		
Plus surplus for month	937.83		
BALANCE 31-3-94	3,734.70		

