

All Saint's Church of England, Petersham

STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)

Two minutes from Petersham Railway Station

FETE

for

**PRE-CHRISTMAS
BARGAINS**

THE BIGGEST AND BRIGHTEST IN SYDNEY

Parish Hall and Grounds

SATURDAY, 15th NOV., 1980

9.00 A.M. — 4.00 P.M.

COME & BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

FREE TO THE LUCKY PERSONS

**TWO POULTRY DINNERS & HAMPERS OF
GROCERIES**

All you do is sign the book as you enter the Hall. Drawn 4.00 p.m. Winners notified.

NOVEMBER, 1980

From your Minister's Desk



My dear friends,

I imagine that the thought uppermost in the minds of the people belonging to All Saints' Petersham this month is the annual FETE on 15th November. I know that there is a great amount of thought and energy that is put into it by a considerable number of those who work for it — and not only at this time of the year, either, but almost throughout the twelve months since the last one. It has justifiably earned a reputation for being a source of well worthwhile articles. There are many who travel long distances each year to be able to take advantage of the well-stocked stalls.

And if we are truthful we must admit that the Parish is dependant on the financial success of the effort. That it has been successful for many years is a cause of thanksgiving and at the same time a danger. It is a danger to those of us who value and use the ministry that flows around the activity and worship of this lovely old church. We can easily get to the stage of expecting that ministry to be maintained and kept available for us by the success of the Fete, which success depends on the support of many for whom that ministry means little or nothing. The ethics of such an attitude are made acceptable only by the fact that most of the effort behind the stocking of the stalls is personal endeavour of our members. As that endeavour becomes less possible because of the passing of time the result will be less dependable. Then that third of our needs which is met by the Fete proceeds will be a huge hurdle for us to overcome. Present income trends are a warning to us. The increase of return from the Fete is not keeping pace with the inflation rate. And the increase in direct giving from our own people is certainly not either. Personal incomes are indexed to cover the erosion effect of inflation; however, this is not reflected in the giving of our people to support and extend the work of God in the

Cont. on P. 3

parish. These sobering thoughts press themselves on your church officers at such times as this. They need to be put clearly before the minds and hearts of all who love the Lord in this parish also. A thoughtful prayerful response is urgently needed.

Most of us want to be busy for God. We sit down and consider what we can do to help forward the Kingdom. Our minds begin to devise work we can do; poor people we can visit — sick folk we can cheer — under-privileged children we can help. There is an endless variety of good works to which we can give ourselves. But that is beginning at the wrong end. Our first and urgent duty is to get into right relationship with God. It's hard to learn this lesson. We seem to be doing so much more when we are busy, going here and there on this errand and that, than when we sit quietly and find out what is keeping us out of touch with Christ. Yet only as our activity is the fruit of our quiet waiting before God will it give maximum results for the Kingdom.

God does not need hands and heads so much as He needs hearts. When God gets the right of way in any life, the efficiency of that life is increased in an incredible way as far as the progress of the Kingdom is concerned. Many Christian people get tired of their service and often the reason is that their service for God is not God's Will for them. God may have other plans of far greater importance for them, but He can't get them to be still enough to listen to His voice.

The fundamental thing in Christianity is a personal relationship to Jesus Christ. Until that is right we may be busy, but we are not doing our best work for Him.

Is God dictating your activities?

Your sincere friend in the Name of Jesus,

S. W. GISSING.

N.B.: AS FROM 26th OCTOBER, the time of the Evening Service is 7.00 p.m. for the Summer Months.

WALTERS & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Offices and Chapels:

433-35 NEW CANTERBURY ROAD, DULWICH HILL—560-9999

890 CANTERBURY ROAD, LAKEMBA—759-4044

You are invited to enquire about our funeral fund.

People of all ages are accepted without medical examination.

FETE NEWS

Mrs. Humphreys is looking for items for the White Elephant Stall at our coming Parish Fete (15th November next). A phone call to 560-8756 will enable arrangements for pick-up or delivery to be made.

Mrs. Ruhle is seeking Lavender to make Lavender Bags. If you have, or know of someone with, a lavender bush, please contact Mrs. Ruhle (569-4324).

Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard are seeking donations of suitable items for the HOOP-LA stall, as well as books, comics and magazine for the BOOK stall. Phone 569-7307.

Mrs. Essam would like to hear from folk who have suitable china or pottery items for the POTTERY stall. Phone 569-1852 to arrange collection.

Mrs. Willis is seeking donations of plants for the PLANTS stall. If you have any to donate please phone 560-2436.

The Sunday School now has enough bottles and sugar for the jam and honey, and would like to thank all who helped.

Now we are seeking donations of grocery items for the stall. If you have any donations, please phone 560-9972.

Mrs. Humphreys would like to hear from people who have suitable items for the WHITE ELEPHANT STALL. If you have any to donate, please phone 560-8756.

Mrs. Barrett is seeking donations of sugar for home-made sweets and also cake ingredients for the cakes. Phone 569-2291.



SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

Now that the warmer weather is at hand, we look forward to better attendances. Some of our members are back with us again, too, after illnesses. We are glad to see Doreen Jenkins after her long illness, and sincerely hope she doesn't get up to that nonsense again. We were glad to see Nora Dixon, too. Hope it wasn't just an only visit, Nora, after all this time. Welcome back to Madge Whittle, don't go living too far away any more, Madge. Norma Matthews is sparking on all fours again after her long break away. A hearty welcome back to all. I hope I haven't missed anyone. Please forgive me if I have.

Don't forget, only 50 cents gives you a happy afternoon of cards or housie and a lovely afternoon tea to chat over. Every Thursday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

IDA BARRETT,
Hon. Secretary,

WHAT KIND OF SOCIETY DO WE WANT?

By REV. FRED NILE

Australia is now at the crossroads. The die is being cast which will affect our nation for generations to come. Already certain national characteristics are taking shape.

What kind of society are we building — for our families and future generations of Australian children. These are the possibilities:

A **Materialistic society** which is the greedy face of capitalism. A society where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, where people and resources are exploited for the dollar motive. An acquisitive greedy society which is blinded by advertising to believe happiness can be found in "things" or possessions.

Thousands of people worship the Almighty Dollar through their pyramid gift money rituals. Others worship the poker machine or stare mesmerised as the numbers tumble from the lotto machine or the winning results are announced by the T.A.B. or Fool offices.

Even the Church is in danger of this spirit through its increasing dependence on the income for market shares and multi-million dollar property investment projects.

Such people have forgotten the 10 Commandments which say "You shall not worship idols," or "You shall not covet." They ignore the warning of Jesus "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul."

Another possibility is the **decadent society or permissive society**; the dirty face of capitalism. A society characterised by promiscuity, exploitation, pollution and corruptness; where even children are abused through prostitution, drugs, pornography, homosexuality, as well as T.V. and film violence. Apathetic citizens have allowed corrupt businessmen and the heads of organised crime to set the moral and social standards of our community.

Our society staggers like a punch drunk boxer under the heavy blows of widespread violence, mayhem, rape, robberies, dishonesty, anarchy, vandalism and delinquency; forgetting the warnings from God the creator of life — "You shall not kill, steal or tell lies."

On every side we see the dramatic increase in divorce, marriage and family breakdown, and adultery, because people have ignored the Commandments which say "You shall not commit adultery or desire another man's wife" and "You shall honour your father and your mother."

The child-exploiters have also forgotten the serious warning of Jesus that they deserve to be drowned with a millstone around their neck! (Mk 18).

These pressures building up in our Australian society could push us into the hands of a totalitarian dictatorship — "a **TOTALITARIAN SOCIETY**" under the fascists in pre-war Germany or Italy; or the communists from within or without. In many nations a dedicated, atheistic minority have imposed their wills on the apathetic majority — for example: Chinese Peoples' Republic, 2% of the population; Cuba, 1% : U.S.S.R., 6% ; Poland, 6%, etc; through their ruthless control of the positions of power in the government, education, mass media and military.

Professor E. M. Blaiklock, O.B.E., Litt.D. (Classic Historian), has warned us about the future by saying "that the increase of

permissiveness, i.e., a condition of society which permits the open practice without shame, rebuke or chastisement of what was once regarded as wrong, marks the beginning of the end unless, intelligent enough, endowed sufficiently with courageous leadership, frightened enough or swept by a revival of faith, a people rallies and returns to strength.

"Unless that happens that people dies. There is always another race disciplined, moral, rigid in its attitudes, waiting to apply its strong thrust to the crumbling structure." (i.e., China?)

The Australian Federation of Festival of light — Community Standards Organisations in company with Churches and other concerned community groups is seeking to build as co-workers with God a caring, responsible society — in the simplest terms a **Jesus society**, which truly cares for its young in fulfilment of our Lord's Prayer — **Your will be done on earth.**

O.———

FLORAL TRIBUTES

We are most grateful to all who help beautify our church on Sundays by contributing towards flowers as a way of remembering loved ones.

1980

- November 9 — Mrs. E. Rhodes, in memory of her husband (Cecil Rhodes), mother (Mrs. L. Adams), and sister (Phyllis Allwood).
 23 — Mr. Bill Williams and family, in memory of Mrs. Aileen Williams.
 December 7 — Mrs. M. Willis, in memory of Mrs. Willis Snr.
 28 — Mrs. M. Willis, in memory of Mrs. Shiels.

Friends who would appreciate the opportunity of making remembrance of folk by placing floral decorations in All Saints' are asked to contact the Rector as early as possible—say by six weeks prior to the selected date. This will help in organising the details and recording the Memorial in the Chronicle.

—oOo—

WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

The members of the Women-in-Friendship will be involved in various stalls at our Fete on 15th November. Some will be running the Cake and Sweet Stall. Gifts of home-made cakes, biscuits, scones and sweets — or the ingredients for making same — will be greatly appreciated. Donations may be left at the Rectory or at 59 John Street, Petersham (phone 569-2291). Other members of the group will be involved in the Tea and Coffee Room, and would also appreciate gifts of scones, small cakes or slices. Please let Betty Gissing know if you can help.

Our next meeting on Tuesday, 25th November, at 12.30

p.m., will be a business meeting to plan next year's programme. Members, please come along with your ideas.

Our Christmas Party will be at 1.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 2nd December, in the Parish Hall. Our Special Guest will be Mrs. Laurice Waller. We would like all women of the Parish to take this as a personal invitation to share in this occasion with us. Please mark the date in your diary and come and be with us.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary,

—o—

CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING BEE

In order that our grounds may be 'right' for the day of the Fete, we would appreciate help from as many people as possible in a Working Bee on the afternoon of Saturday 8th November. Saturday 8th November is the day of our morning newspaper collection and 'tying bee' in the hall. The grounds work will therefore be from 2 p.m. — please bring suitable tools to help.

—oOo—

SOME FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | | | |
|----------|------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November | 8th | — | Newspaper Collection (a.m.) and Grounds Working Bee (2 p.m.). |
| | 15th | — | PARISH FETE. (from 9 a.m.) |
| December | 2nd | — | Women-in-Friendship pre-Christmas Party (1.30 p.m.). |
| | 6th | — | Sunday School and Kindergarten Pre-Christmas Party (2 to 4 p.m.). |
| | 14th | — | FRATERNAL COMBINED CAROLS SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS (7 p.m.). |
| | 19th | — | Parish Family Bar-B-Q (6 p.m.) |

—oOo—

A saving faith is one which heeds the Divine commandments as well as relies upon the Divine promises.—A.W.P.

PRAYER FOR HUMBLE MEN AND WOMEN

Lord, Thou knowest better than I that I am growing older and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details — give me wings to get to the point.

I ask, for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains — they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint — some of them are so hard to live with — but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all — but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. AMEN.

**WORSHIP
ARRANGEMENTS AT
ALL SAINTS**



MORNINGS at 9.30 a.m.:—

Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Morning Prayer on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Family Service is the 3rd Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is at 9.30 a.m.

KINDERGARTEN is at 9.55 a.m.

EVENINGS at 7.00 p.m.:—

(This changes to 5.00 p.m. during winter months.)

Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Evening Prayer on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.
