

*The Chronicle
Of All Saints
Petersham*

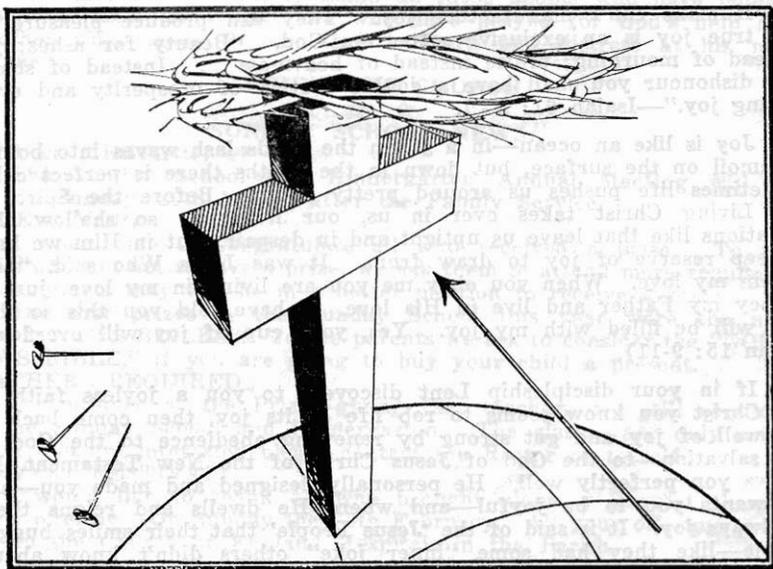
The Friendly Church

Rector: Rev. S. W. GISSING, Th.L.

The Rector, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—569-4735

Hon Assistant: Rev. A. E. C. GARDNER, B.A., Th.L.

MARCH 1977



THE RECTOR'S NOTES

My dear friends,

If they were completely honest many people would have to admit that God is to to them an almost entirely negative force in their lives. He seems to deny, to cramp and to inhibit their nature and their life so that, compared with others who are non-believers, they seem to have less life and colour—less spontaneity, and less confidence. God surrounds them with prohibitions and doesn't supply vitality and courage.

Such a god is a blight upon human life and no one is surprised that he fails to attract the loyalty of those with spirit, independence and a keen enjoyment of the colour and richness of life. Those who follow such a deity are bound to a negative god by upbringing, by tradition of church or party, by manipulation of isolated texts of Scripture, or by morbid conscience. They can only maintain a narrow loyalty by strenuous effort. At best they can only love and worship because their god is a jealous god. Their lives are cramped and narrow and joyless because their god is also.

All this is very unattractive and unpleasant—but is quite common among religious people. They don't get the chance to admire and love and worship in wordless wonder the One Who is overwhelmingly splendid and beautiful and lovable. The great question for such people is—"Dare they defy and break away from their imaginary god with the perpetual frown, and discover for themselves the One Who is the Great Positive—Who gives life, courage and joy—and Who wants His sons and daughters to stand on their own two feet?"

Humans can't manufacture joy. They can produce pleasure—but true joy is an exclusive gift from God. "Beauty for ashes; joy instead of mourning; praise instead of heaviness . . . Instead of shame and dishonour you shall have a double portion of prosperity and everlasting joy."—Isaiah 61: 3-7.

Joy is like an ocean—in a storm the winds lash waves into boiling turmoil on the surface, but down in the depths there is perfect calm. Sometimes life pushes us around pretty badly. Before the Spirit of the Living Christ takes over in us, our lives are so shallow that situations like that leave us uptight and in despair. But in Him we have a deep reserve of joy to draw from. It was Jesus Who said, "Live within my love. When you obey me you are living in my love, just as I obey my Father and live in His love. I have told you this so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your cup of joy will overflow." (John 15: 9-11).

If in your discipleship Lent discovers to you a joyless faith or the Christ you know seems to rob life of its joy, then come back to the well of joy and get strong by renewing obedience to the God of our salvation—to the God of Jesus Christ of the New Testament. He knows you perfectly well. He personally designed and made you—and He wants you to be joyful—and where He dwells and reigns there is always joy. It is said of the 'Jesus People' that their smiles bugged people—like they had some "inner joke" others didn't know about.

Right! That's joy, and Jesus is the One Who enables us to keep it deep and running over.

"Jesu our only joy be Thou
As Thou our prize wilt be;
Jesu, be Thou our glory now,
And through eternity."

(Bernard of Clairvaux)

May you be blessed with a meaningful and rewarding Lent,

Sincerely,
S. W. GISSING



CHURCH ATTENDANCE FIGURES 1976

The figures given below represents the regular attendance at All Saints when Batisms, Special Sundays, Dedication of Ashes and Easter and Christmas are omitted. This leaves 37 Sundays for ordinary regular attendance in the year. It will be seen that evening service has been extracted separately to show how attendance at this service has fallen away.

Average Attendance	Each Sunday, 1976	53
Average Attendance	Each Sunday, 7.00 p.m. 1976	12
Average Attendance	Each Sunday, 1977	55
Average Attendance	Each Sunday, 7.00 p.m. 1977	10



RETURN OF THANKS

Mr. Bert Shaw is making exceptional progress in his recovery. In this he is being aided by therapy and continous support and help by Dot and John; visitors will be most welcome to No. 10 Fenwick Street, Roselands.

Bert and Family wish to thank all those people who have phoned or written since his stroke, and who have prayed for God's help and in other ways made evident their concern and distress at his misfortune.

AROUND THE CHURCH



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Sunday School and Kindergarten Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, 20th March, after the Family Service.

PRIZE GIVING:

I would like to congratulate all who received a prize. To the pupils who did not receive a prize, we ask them to attend more regularly. By doing this they will be in a better position to receive a prize.

The first prizes in the Sunday School this year were the new "GOOD NEWS BIBLES". To the parents we ask to consider the "GOOD NEWS BIBLE," if you are going to buy your child a present.

TEACHERS REQUIRED:

I mentioned at the Prize-giving that teachers are still required for the Sunday School and Kindergarten. The classes are only small and if you are interested please contact the Rector or myself.

HARVEST FESTIVAL:

I would like to thank all who brought along a Harvest thanksgiving offering. On Sunday the 20th February. All your offerings were sent to the Church of England Hospitals in the Parish.

Noel Cragg
Superintendent.

		KINDERGARTEN PRIZE WINNERS	
CLASS	1	1st Sarah Essam	(4 years)
		2nd Nichole Scott	(5 years)
		3rd Stacey Sheppheard	(5 years)
CLASS	2	1st Debbie Granger	(6 years)
		2nd Grenevieve Freeman	(6 years)
		3rd Anthony Mangan	(7 years)
		3rd Peter Gruden	(6 years)
CLASS	3	1st Joanna Freeman	(8 years)
		2nd Jennifer Moore	(8 years)

		SUNDAY SCHOOL PRIZE WINNERS	
CLASS	1	GIRLS:	
		1st Kim Granger	(9 years)
CLASS	2	1st Samantha Freeman	(11 years)
		2nd Diana Baran	(10 years)
		3rd Toni Sheppard	(10 years)
CLASS	3	1st Tammy McMinn	(12 years)
CLASS	4	1st Elizabeth Granger	(13 years)
		2nd Julie Baran	(13 years)
		3rd Mary Gissing	(14 years)
CLASS	2	BOYS:	
		1st Stuart Mangan	(11 years)
		2nd Peter Moore	(11 years)
		3rd Graig Brown	(10 years)
CLASS	3	1st Paul Brown	12 (years)
CLASS	4	1st Richard McMinn	(13 years)
		2nd Alex Ralec	(13 years)
		3rd Clenn Cheetham	(13 years)

SPECIAL PRIZES:

Vicky Haseadt
Cameron Mangan
Richard Standish
Martin Standish

WOMENS EVENING GROUP

Our first effort for 1977 was a Jumble Stall mainly second hand clothing. Thanks to all those who helped in any way. The takings were \$66.00

On Tuesday 8th March a speaker from the Festival of Light will be our guest. Please come and bring your friends and neighbours, what ever denomination they are, all are very welcome at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The April meeting will be a business meeting and we ask all members to make suggestions for future meeting.

May Meeting is booked for Stanhome Party.

IDA BARRETT Hon. Secretary.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

The Senior Parishioners Club on Thursdays from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. is again in full swing. In three weeks we have 7 new members, although we are still waiting to welcome back some of our last years members. Our attendance last week was almost a record 48 members. We do hope this continues.

Don't forget Cards Housie and a lovely afternoon tea with your friends, all for 25c.

IDA BARRETT Hon. Secretary.

LADIES GUILD

Ladies Guild March 15th will be a business meeting, commencing at 1.00 p.m. Final details will be arranged for our Annual Luncheon in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, 29th March at 12.30 p.m. Guest speaker Mrs. Martha Nixon T.V. Personality. All welcome, come and bring a friend; donations 75c.

FLOWER ROSTER

- March 6th:—F. Hearn, a thanks offering arranged by Mrs. Clark.
 March 13th:—No donation arranged by Mrs. Nisbet.
 March 20th:—Donated by Mrs. Willis an anonymous donation for the War Memorial and a donation by Mrs. Mervyn in memory of her husband Kenneth, arranged by Mrs. Clark.
 March 27th:—Donated by the Craigie family in memory of their Father arranged by Miss Nisbet.
 April 3rd:—Donated by Mrs. Beardow and family in memory of Mr. Beardow, arranged by Mrs. Clark.
 April 10th:—Donated by Tris and Colin in memory of their Parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter, arranged by Miss Nisbet.
 April 17th:—Donated by Mrs. Hayes and family in memory of Mr. Hayes arranged by Mrs. Clark.
 April 24th:—Donated by Mrs. Hansson and family in memory of Mr. Hansson, arranged by Miss Nisbet.

Flowers on 20th February were donated by the Young family in loving memory of Husband and Father Mr. Toss Young.

I regret that flowers for Christmas from Mrs Colburt, were not mentioned in last Chronicle. I did not know in time.

E. BOSWARD

Attention is drawn to the lack of flower donations during March and parishoners are reminded that they are welcome as a thanks offering.

EDITOR.



A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION MISS GRACE NORMAN

In January at Cessnock where she now resides, Miss Grace Norman, a much loved and highly respected former parishioner of "All Saints" Petersham celebrated her 90th birthday with a family party.

Grace Norman grew up in and around All Saints and among her many achievements was a choir member and later was organist for the 8 a.m. Communion Service.

Her family for many years lived in York Crescent where now the Evan's family reside. Mrs. Evans being a member of the Norman "clan."

These days Miss Norman enjoys receiving the Chronicle, writing letters to her many friends in All Saints and caring for her flower garden.

We give her our love and congratulations, asking God to bless her in every way.

Anonymous

DONATIONS TO CHRONICLE

Mr. and Mrs. Ingoldsby-Brown	\$4.00
Miss Norman	\$2.00

ORGAN FUND ACCOUNT

Previously Acknowledged	3578.24
Mrs D. Pullen in Memory of her Husband, Mr. Ben Pullen.	50.00
Total to Date	\$3628.24

Bruce Livingston

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH of ENGLAND PETERSHAM

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS—JANUARY, 1977

Receipts:	\$	Payments	\$
Offertories	595.14	Stipend & Trav. Allow.	798.50
District Visitors	30.70	Parish Super'n Cont'n	19.15
Hall Rent	81.00	Organists	31.50
Donation	1.00	Organ Tuning	30.00
Deficit for month	325.77	Cleaning	56.00
		Printing & Stationery	1.19
		Floral Tribute	12.00
		Keys for Piano	4.50
		M. W. S. & D. B.—Hall	22.38
		Gas Hall	16.00
		G.I.O.—Public Liab'y	25.00
		Electricity—Church	17.40
	1033.61		1033.61

Balance of General A/c. as at 31/12/76	\$1340.53
Plus Investments	\$7924.04
	\$9264.57

Offertories for January, 1977.....	1/1/77	11.50
	2/1/77	125.98
	9/1/77	86.26
	16/1/77	123.63
	23/1/77	101.75
	30/1/77	146.05
		\$595.14

Average Weekly figure \$119.03

BALANCE OF OTHER ACCOUNTS AT 31/1/77

General Mission	\$ 50.55
Capital Reserve	\$3428.99
Endowment No. 1	\$7195.67
Endowment No. 2	\$2802.69
Columbarium Trust	\$1608.84
Organ Fund	\$2522.24
Special Purpose	1161.78
Sunday School	\$ 900.69
Kindergarten	\$1051.85
Plus various Stocks and Shares held by Churchwardens on behalf of the Endowment Fund.....	

The Rural Deanery Lenten Conferences will be held on the Wednesday evenings in March 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th. The 16th is not included as on that evening His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury is to be the special guest at the Home Mission Society Annual Gathering in the city. The Lenten Conferences this year will be led by Rev. John Webb, Assistant Diocesan Missioner, and his theme is "Great Expectations". The locations are in order of date—St. Oswald's Haberfield; St. Matthew's, Ashbury, St. Alban's, Five Dock and St. Andrew's, Summer Hill. Each evening will start at 8 p.m. and will conclude with a light supper. Some transport will be available from the Church.

The Service of Holy Communion will be held each Wednesday during Lent in all Saints at 7.30 a.m. This is a brief service designed to provide a special opportunity for quiet worship in the middle of each week during this special season.

Annual Vestry Meeting. This annual general meeting of the parish falls on Monday 14th March at 8 p.m. We trust that all parishioners will make a special endeavour to attend and help in the planning for the coming year. We are very much in need of young men with vision and dedication who will be prepared to serve their Lord and Saviour in the ranks of the Parish Council. Please pray about this.

Our regular Discipleship Meeting each week has been on Tuesday evenings. In 1977 this will be moved to Thursday evenings—same time, 7.45 p.m. —same place, The Rectory. All are most welcome.

TASTE AND SEE!!

Hope you're feeling like some goodies to try! Yes, I thought you might like to try a new recipe I found recently. But first I want to encourage the ladies to come and share with us at All Saints in two special occasions this month

Please keep Tuesday evening, 8th March free so you can hear Mrs. Lygo of Lindfield tell us all about the Festival of Light. "What on earth is that?" I can hear you saying. Well, do come and find out. We'll have a really happy time and a good old "cuppa" to end off the evening. We'll make sure you're taken home by car too—if you haven't transport.

Then on Tuesday, 29th March we have our Annual Luncheon in the Parish Hall. Martha Nixon is coming as our Special Guest Speaker and Soliost. You may have seen her on T.V. — she often appears with a cute little puppet in a snappy little segment presented by the Church of England T.V. Society. Some of our ladies went to hear her recently and were delighted. So keep the date and come and join us at the Luncheon—you're assured of a friendly welcome and a delicious lunch.

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Ginger Crunch Biscuits

4 oz. butter or substitute
1 cup plain flour
1 teaspoon ginger (ground)
2 ozs sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder

Topping:

4 tablespoons icing sugar
1 teaspoon ground ginger
3 teaspoon golden syrup
2 tablespoons butter

Method for base: Cream butter and sugar. Add sifted dry ingredients. Mix well until absorbed. Press into greased slab-tin. Bake in moderate oven until lightly browned for 15 to 20 minutes.

Topping: Place all ingredients into sassepan. Stir over gentle heat until butter melts and all mixed well. Pour over biscuit layer while both still warm. Cut into fingers when cool.

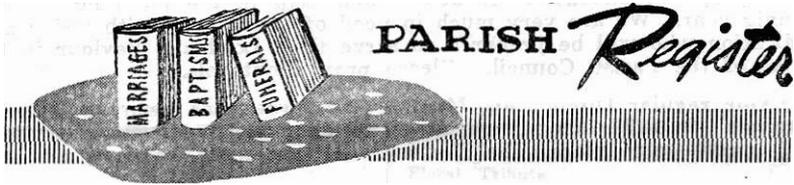
And now, something to share—from the pen of H.L. Gee—

“An elderly man in a Poor Law Institution once said to me with a rare twinkle in his eye: “Every Morning I ask God to bless me, but He never does.”

“Oh?”, said I

“No, never! He isn't content with just blessing me; he blesses me abundantly—far more than I ever ask or think.”

May He bless you all abundantly,
Betty Gissing



HOLY BAPTISM

“In token that he shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ Crucified”.

December, 5th 1976:—Michael James Bradley Bates of 2/16 Aubrey St., Stanmore. Bradley Wayne Peters of 17 Goodhall Avenue, Baulkham Hills.

HOLY MATRIMONY

“ Till death do us part, according to God's holy law, thereto I give thee my troth”.

February, 5th 1977:—Wayne Thomas Solah (Dulwich Hill) and Sharon Jan Purton (Dulwich Hill).

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all be made alive”

January, 15th:—Mrs Emily Beatrice McKinnon of 26 Bruce Street, Stanmore.

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.