

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

325 STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM 2049

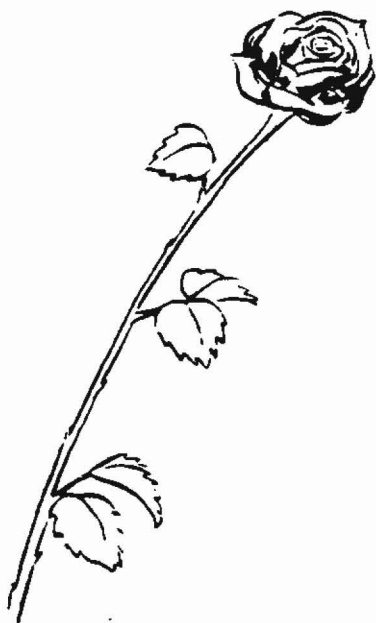
Acting Rector Revd. Walter Collier 798-8519

MAY 1993

To Mother—On Mother's Day

For all the things you've been to me,
My guardian and my guide;
For truths you have so gently taught
And all the tears you've dried;
For faith and understanding
When I faltered on my way,
I owe you more thanks, Mother,
Than words can ever say.

So on this day that's set aside
Especially for you,
I send a wish for happiness
In everything you do.
May each hour bring you pleasure
Every day of every year—
For all the things you've been to me.
I love you, Mother dear.



My Dear Friends,

While Paul was waiting in the city of Athens for Timothy and Silas, he did a bit of sight-seeing, but his heart was soon "stirred in him" at the sight of countless idols - one in every corner it seemed. So he began to discuss the faith with both Jews and Greeks. He was led to Mars Hill, the place of inquiry and dispute, to be heard publicly.

There he proceeded to announce the Christian message and in doing so, spoke of three things: the one God who is creator; the fact of a future righteous judgement; and the man Christ Jesus, who was raised from the dead. At the mention of the Resurrection, the meeting was broken up; many mocked, some weighed the matter in their minds, others believed.

Such is the normal pattern whenever the Gospel of the risen living Lord Jesus is preached. Some turn away, but some believe. There are always "some" when we faithfully proclaim Him who is our Saviour and Lord. For let there be no mistake, He is our message. We do not preach a dead Christ, but a living Saviour.

Throughout the early era of the Church, as recorded in Acts, this was the apostle's message. They preached the Resurrection of Christ. "Resurrection" and "Life" were the key words of the ministry. *"Go, stand in the temple... tell the people the full message of this new life"* the angel said to Peter (Acts 5: 20). *"This man you put to death, nailing Him to the Cross, God raised Him from the dead... God exalted Him to His own right hand as Prince and Saviour"* (Acts 2: 23, 24. 5: 31).

This is the message, not only for Easter, but for every day - that Jesus Christ is alive, raised from the dead to be exalted at God's right hand, now as Saviour, eventually as the judge of all men. We at All Saints' preach Christ! Not His life, not primarily His death, but Himself, crucified but risen from the dead. Alive forever more.

Pray for me. as I do for you.

**Your friend and acting Rector,
Walter Coller.**

THURSDAY 20TH MAY - ASCENSION DAY.

Thursday 20th May was 40 days after Easter, called in the Christian Calender ASCENSION DAY. It commemorates Jesus' return to Heaven, recorded in Acts chapter 1...

"...as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight..."

The movement from... the space/time existence Jesus entered the first Christmas in order to identify with us to be a representative substitute for us on the Good Friday Cross ..

...to the eternal unrestricted no space/time existence
that is heaven...

is too big for our finite human minds to comprehend
exactly what happened on Ascension Day.

We DO know that His Return to Heaven was for the believer's benefit. Not only did it seal the end of His earthly mission but

* "it is to your advantage that I go away, so the Spirit will come to you." John 16:7. The Spirit being unlimited by physics, can bring God's presence to ALL believers EVERYWHERE, not only in Palestine as Jesus did. We celebrate the Spirit's coming on Sunday 30th May, Pentecost Sunday.

* "he always lives to plead with God for us" Hebrews 7:25.

Praise God for Ascension Day.

Pentecost - Whitsunday 30th May.

THE NAME PENTECOST was taken over by the Church from Judaism and means, literally, "fiftieth" day. Among the Jews that festival was known as the Feast of Weeks, and it was a thanksgiving for the wheat harvest. In the time of Our Lord, the Jews also commemorated at this Feast the giving of the Law of Moses and thus marked the foundation of the Jewish segment of our Judeo-Christian tradition.

The importance of this Feast for Christians, observed from the very beginning of the Christian Church, comes from the passage in Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-4 when Christ's promise to His Apostles of the power and gift from above was fulfilled, the time when the Church was infused with the Holy Spirit. Like its Jewish feast of the same name, the Christian Pentecost marks the time of the foundation of the Christian era. It is also interesting to note that this Feast (and not Christmas!) ranks second among Christian festivals, after Easter itself. (cont. on page 6)

WHAT IS ON AT ALL SAINTS'

EVERY SUNDAY.

- 9-30am Holy Communion on the First, Second and Fourth Sundays.
Family Service, which is a Service of Prayer and Word, on the third Sunday.
Morning Prayer on the Fifth Sunday.

- 6-30pm Evening Prayer is said in the Side Chapel.

DURING THE SCHOOL TERM.

- 9-30am Junior Sunday School every Sunday except the Third Sunday when there is a Family Service.

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING.

- 7-30pm Home Bible Study held at the Home of Mrs. Willis.
All welcome.

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING.

- 7-30pm Youth Fellowship in the Parish Hall.

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday 16th May 1993 - A Picnic in Petersham Park will be held following the Family Service. Please bring your own lunch.

Sunday 30th May 1993 - A Confirmation Service will be held at 9-30am. The Confirming Bishop is The Rt. Revd. John Reid.

Saturday 5th June 1993 - A Car Boot Sale will be held in the grounds from 8-00 a.m.

June 1993 - There will be a day coach tour to Mudgee. Tickets sales will be announced in the Weekly Bulletin.

THANKS

Mrs. Carr is unable to continue on the flower roster. We would like to thank Mrs Carr for her help in arranging the flowers, and hope her health will improve. We also thank Julie Carr.



FLOWER DONATIONS.

MAY 2 - In memory of Miss Nisbet from Jean and Maria. In memory of my mother Mrs. Linda Barran from Mrs. Joan Norden
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

MAY 9 - In memory of our grandparents and uncles from Debbie & Joy.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam

MAY 16 - In memory of my mother Ivy Hills from Mrs Carr.
Arranged by Miss D. Harrop.

MAY 23 - For Frank with love from Edith.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

MAY 30 - No donation.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

Flowers in the Church on Sunday 21 February were donated by June Granger for her daughter's wedding.

WALTERS & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Office and Chapel:

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.

Australian Prayer Book page 128.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING.

IT IS SO RIGHT as to be inevitable that our first utterance after receiving “the spiritual food of His most precious Body and Blood” should be a prayer of thanksgiving. Our first words are words of gratitude. In the expressing that gratitude our prayer dwells upon what we have received, reminding us for the privileged status that is ours, and it closes with a petition for strength to make real in action that holy fellowship of which we are part. “Privilege” is too mild a word to describe what this prayer declares is assured us by God’s “favour and goodness.” Rather it is the richest of all blessings which are named – membership “in the mystical body” of God’s Son, that Holy Catholic Church (here rightly and literally defined as “the blessed company of all faithful peoples”) and the inheritance of life eternal in God’s Kingdom of Heaven. But it is characteristic of the whole tenor and emphasis of the Eucharistic service that the joy and exaltation which accompany such religious experience in its highest forms should be tempered and disciplined by the practical force of Christian morality.

We give thanks for the assurance that we are “members” and “heirs”, but lest any enjoyment of that undeserved status should lead us to complacency of mere satisfaction, as though we had attained, we close our prayer by asking in humility that God will help us to “continue in that holy fellowship.” And the way to continue is not to point with pride to our ecclesiastical standing or our religious privileges, nor yet to rest content with the enjoyment of religious emotion, however genuine. In plain practical monosyllables it is to “do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in.” Here again at the close of the service, as at the beginning when we hear the Summary of The Law, the truth is driven home that no Christian can ever say, “I am so close to God and so favoured by God that I need not be too much concerned with mere morality.” The emphasis of the Sacrament of Holy Communion is insistent and continuous.

(Cont. from page 3)

The secondary name of the feast - “Whitsunday” - was derived from the English and other northern European peoples who called it “White Sunday” from the white garments worn by the newly-baptised on this day, since the climatic conditions in the northern lands made this Feast much more highly favoured than Easter for the conferring of baptisms.

This is one of the three Feast Days of our Anglican tradition that are so important to the spiritual and liturgical life of committed Churchpeople. We encourage all communicants to be present on this happy and Spirit-filled day.

PENTECOST

O Holy Spirit of God,
 come again to my heart and fill me.
I open the windows of my soul to let thee
 in; come and possess me;
 fill me with light and truth.
Of myself I am an unprofitable servant, an
 empty vessel:
Fill me that I may live that life of thy Spirit,
 the life of truth and goodness,
 the life of wisdom and strength,
 the life of beauty and love.
And guide me today in all things:
 guide me to the people I should meet and help,
 to the circumstances in which I may best serve God,
 whether by my actions or by my suffering.
But above all make Christ to be formed in
 me, that I may dethrone self in my heart
 and make Him King.
Bind me to Christ by all thy ways, known
 and unknown,
 by holy thoughts, and unseen graces, and
 sacramental ties, that He may be in me,
 and I in Him, this day and for ever.

-Walter Julius Carey, Bishop of Bloemfontein
(1921 - 1934)

TRINITY SUNDAY falls on 6 June, 1993 - Unlike most of the festivals of the universal church, Trinity Sunday does not commemorate a particular historical event, like Jesus' birth, death or resurrection, or the gift of the Holy Spirit. For this reason, it is a latecomer to the list of Christian festivals, having been observed only from the 10th century and becoming general (in the Western Church) only from the 14th.

But Trinity Sunday has a secure place in most denominations today. It serves to tie together the events of our salvation. Pentecost marks the end of the great events, and Trinity Sunday, which immediately follows, reminds us of the structure of our faith; although many religions worship one God, only the Christian community worships God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

