

The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

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

The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Rd., Petersham, 2049—569-4735

JULY 1978

Don't bother about the idea that God 'has known for millions of years exactly, what you are about to pray,. That isn't what it's like. God is hearing you **now**, just as simply as a mother hears a child. The difference His timelessness makes is that this **now** (which slips away from you even as you say the word **now**) is for Him infinite.

C. S. LEWIS

SERVICE TIMES:—

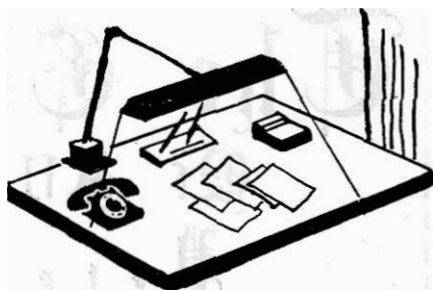
8 a.m. — HOLY COMMUNION.

10 a.m. — 1st & 5th Sundays — MORNING PRAYER.
2nd & 4th Sundays — HOLY COMMUNION.

5 p.m. — EVENING PRAYER.
(3rd Sundays — Holy Communion).

10 a.m. — 3rd Sunday — FAMILY SERVICE.
(on other Sundays at 9.55 a.m. Sunday School).

From your Minister's Desk



My dear Friends,

The other day I was visiting in one of those houses that have been 'reclaimed' to a delightful condition revealing something of its original 'glory'! The restoring was very pleasant indeed—as is its aspect. It is facing just the right way to gain the benefit of the sun in the 'living areas'.

Aspect is very important in a house I'm sure we all agree. It can make or mar the place as far as getting the most out of it in living.

I recall a verse in Ezekiel 43—verse 4—"The glory of the Lord came into the house, by way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east."

There are some places that catch the morning sun—and some that catch the evening sun.

There are gates which look toward the east, and there are some that look toward the west.

When life fronts the west it is contemplating old age—when it fronts the east it's contemplating youth! When Christ enters the temple of the heart we always have an eastern prospect! It doesn't matter how old we are—how dilapidated the temple!—the moment Jesus enters the prospect is eastern!

The first longing of the Christian is to get back to the morning. What do you mean by the prayer to have your sins forgiven?—simply the desire to re-tread your past—to go back to the morning sun! Why don't you merely say "Let the dead past bury its dead—I'll try to live better in the future"?—because you want, not just a golden west, but a golden east—not merely a fine evening to life, but retrieved morning! That's why we long for cleansing of the past. We want to have the sense of beginning again—of being a child again. We want to feel, not merely that there are no spots on our present page, but that there are no spots on our past page. Because nothing causes us to blot our new page like the memory of blots on the old one!

We seek a fresh start—a morning prospect—a window toward the east—a view of the rising sun. Nothing else gives a sense of glory..

In Christ this glory can be ours. Other masters promise a golden west. Others may point to the hope of a new day when this day is closed—but they all leave the present day in the blackness of darkness—none point back to a retrieved morning. Jesus does! He offers to re-kindle our east. He offers to wash our past blemishes away—to erase the blots from the page of yesterday. That eastern prospect is your



glory. Go and meet it—with youth's elastic step. That's the step that belongs only to feet on the threshold—there's lightness of tread that beginners alone can possess. It may be yours today. However old—however broken—however shaken—you may be, it may be your today—shall be if you will it. The kindling east once more is waiting—the Star of Bethlehem is shining still. The race of life is opening once more for you. A second birth is offered you—a new name!

You will retrieve the waste of vanished years—your glory comes from the "eastern gate"!

Get your life's aspect right—in Him. ' .

Your sincere friend in Christ Jesus,

S. W. GISSING.



OLD AGE AND MODERN SOCIETY

Most people see Australia as a growing country. It's seen as a young person's country too. Most advertising in the Media is aimed at the young and features young people.

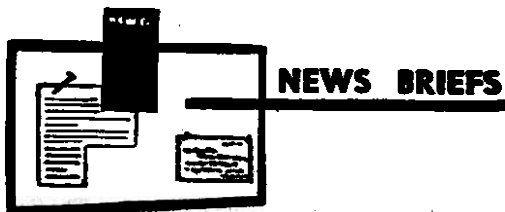
Population experts are now saying that the average age of Australians will be much higher by the year 2001. This is attributed to the small rate of births and the fact that with modern medicine people are living longer.

In 1901 only 4% of the population were over 65. By 1976 the figure had reached 8.6.

In 1901 average life expectancy was 51 years for men and 54 years for women. The 1976 figures were 69 years for men and 76 years for women.

Within the United States of America it is interesting to note the growth of a number of Associations of older people. These have been very effective in obtaining political reforms for the benefit of older people. The American Association of Retired persons has grown from 3 million in 1972 to 11 million in 1978. Another group known as The Gray Panthers has succeeded in bringing to public notice the objections of many workers to enforced retirement. Its charter includes a policy to have "age" included as one of the areas on which it will be illegal to discriminate along with sex, religion, race, colour etc.

The N.S.W. Council for the Ageing has recently produced a series of booklets on planning for retirement.



WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

How would you like a one hundred mile drive—over very rough roads—to your Parish Church each Sunday? This is the experience of a young property owner and his wife and family who live one hundred miles out of the town of Winton in western Queensland. We heard and saw some very interesting things about life in the Outback as shared by the Bush Church Aid Missioner and his wife at Winton—The Rev. Robert and Mrs. Rigmor George.

Our Guest Speaker at our June Meeting was the Rev. Theo Hayman and we are grateful to him for sharing his story—by word and film.

What about coming along to our July Meeting—the date is Tuesday, 18th? Our Business Meeting starts at 1.15 p.m. in the Guild Room—yes, nice and cosy with a radiator glowing—and at 2 p.m. Mrs. Freda Rees will be our guest speaker. We had the pleasure of having Mrs. Rees speak with us last year and she brings with her a real warmth of personality and vitality of faith in her living Lord.

—BETTY GISSING, President.



SENIOR PARISHIONERS CLUB

It has been very rewarding to see the attendances of the club so good on these cold winter days. All who help in the running of the club feel so happy to see their efforts are rewarded in this way.

If you want to spend a happy afternoon any Thursday, just call and see us. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. afternoon tea provided and it is still only 30 cents.

—IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.



WOMEN'S AFTERNOON GROUP

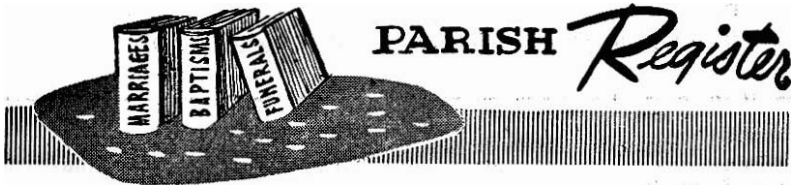
The next meeting of the Women's Afternoon Group on the first Tuesday in July. July 4th will be conducted by Mrs. Messenger of Pan Public Relations on Shop Spy 78. We hope to have a good attendance, please come, 2 p.m. for visitors 1.30 p.m. meeting.

Don't forget our next Jumble Stall on Friday, 14th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

—IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

FLOWER ROSTER

- July 9 — Mrs. Ansell, in memory of her husband.
Misses Nisbit, in memory of their parents.
- July 16 — Mr. W. Williams and family, in memory of Mrs. Aileen Williams.
- July 23 — Jack, John and Lindsay, in memory of Mrs. Joan Nance.
- July 30 — Mrs. E. Miller and family, in memory of Mr. F. Miller.
- August 6 — Mrs. R. Roberts, Beryl and Gary, in memory of Mr. William John Roberts.
- Mrs. Willis, in memory of Mrs. Shiels.



BAPTISMS

- 1978
- March 19 — Fiona Jean Graham, of 5 Hanlon St., Toowoomba.
(by Rev. E. Champion).
- April 2 — Jillian Louise Hawkings, of 13/81 Trafalgar Street.
16 — Shannon George Thomas Joyce, of 15 Livingstone Road.
- May 7 — Benjamin Shane William Kennedy of 1/193 Trafalgar St.,
Tracey, Louise Trevena of 77 New Canterbury Road.
- June 4 — Jodie Anne Lanyon, of 6a Beethoven Street, Seven Hills.
Debra Louise Rowe, of 27a Telopea Street, Telopea.

MARRIAGES

- 1978
- March 10 — Neil Lawrence Bell, (Green Valley), and Vicki Ellen Gweneth King (Belmore).
- 22 — Phillip George Hugh Ward (Denistone East) and Rhonda Denese Blackman (Marrickville).
- April 22 — David Bruce Reid (Northbridge) and Althea Lily Geddey (Arncliffe).

BURIALS

- 1978
- March 6 — Reuben Joseph Dobson, of 1 Hopetoun Street.
- April 6 — Elsie Eliza Kiely, of 2/21 Shaw Street.
- May 25 — Ian Robert Krahe, of 21 Salisbury Road.
30 — Harold Edward Grant, of 199 Corunna Road.
- June 6 — George William Sharpe, of 1/45 Cavendish Street.
9 — Ross O'Halloran, of 203 Albany Road.

Put this on your musn't miss list

THE B.C.A. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

CHAPTER HOUSE, ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

George Street, Sydney

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19th

from 10.00 a.m.

FEATURES:

Great variety of Stalls—everything from produce to potholders. Revive your drooping spirits at the Tea and Coffee Bar.

Hot Lunch \$1.0, Sandwiches with Sweets \$1.00.

WINTER APPEAL TOPS \$100,000

Donations to the Archbishop of Sydney's Winter Appeal have now passed \$100,000.

This is made up of \$91,000 in general donations, and more than \$11,000 in donations from companies for advertising and administrative purposes.

Grants have already been made to Parish Clergy for distribution to people in need, the Camperdown Family Centre which provides short-term accommodation for family groups, and relief work by the Anglican Counselling Service and the Anglican Bishop in Wollongong, the Rt. Rev. K. H. Short.

The Archbishop is expected to announce further grants shortly.

NEW MUSIC NEEDED

An Australia-wide quest has been launched to encourage composers to write music for An Australian Prayer Book.

Under the title "Project Liturgivall Music" advertisements are being placed in the media, inviting composers to devise settings for "Holy Communion Second Order".

It is hoped that three settings will be ready for publication by Easter 1979; one for choir and congregation, and a unison setting for congregation in modern "folk" idiom.

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PRIMATE PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

The latest book by Archbishop Loane, The God Who Acts, devotional studies in the Book of Acts was released in Sydney recently. This is the fifth of a series by The Archbishop. Watch for it on the Parish Bookstall.

SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN

by Joy Davidman

This book is a truly notable interpretation of the ten commandments. Here is an extract:

How often we have heard that virtue is its own reward! By now we can hear it seriously at all; we made the cynical misinterpretation that there is **no** reward for virtue. For a long while we have thought of virtue negatively, as a saying **no** to various temptations, and the very word has come to have grim, joyless overtones. It seldom occurs to us that virtue might be a pleasure—that it is its own reward because no other reward could be so nice; that virtue is the state of mind in which the love of God can really be enjoyed.

In short, we have accepted the prohibitive Ten Commandments, in the sweat of our brows and the sorrow of our hearts. But the joyous, liberating commandments of Christ we have yet to learn.

And we fear that if we give up the self nothing will be left for us but a dry, empty husk like a dead snail shell. It seldom occurs to us that the Holy Spirit is only waiting till the self is out—waiting to rush in with luminous splendours. Throwing away the self is like squeezing the water out of a half drowned man's lungs, not because we want his lungs empty but because you want the air to get in so that he can live. For the self is asphyxiating and killing us; the only air we are designed to breathe is God.

Available from the Parish Bookstall \$1.40.



TODAY IS THE DAY FOR ACTION

"Many Christians today talk about the 'difficulties of our times' as though we should have to wait for better ones before the Christian religion can take root. It is heartening to remember that this faith took root and flourished amazingly in conditions that would have killed anything less vital in a matter of weeks. These early Christians were on fire with the conviction that they had become, through Christ, literally sons of God; they were pioneers of a new humanity, founders of a new kingdom. They still speak to us across the centuries. Perhaps if we believe what they believed we might achieve what they achieved."

—J. B. Phillips



KNOW YOUR GOD

The Spirit of God

It is a melancholy fact, but an obvious one, that even the revelation of God in the Bible is not enough to bring men to the knowledge of God. There are all too many people who have the scriptures, and who have read them perhaps with some care, and who still cannot be said to know God in the biblical sense. Their minds may be acute, and their scholarship weighty, but the Bible has not brought them beyond an academic knowledge of the nature of God. They may have acquired a full, even impeccably sound, theology, but they do not know God.

The answer to this problem emerges clearly in the New Testament, in the work of the Spirit of God. Not that the Spirit of God is absent from the Old Testament—far from it. But the New Testament reveals a further part of His work.

In the Old Testament the Spirit of God is the agent in the communication of the word of God to the prophet. Thus revelation is given by means of the Spirit. But the new dimension in the New Testament is His work in applying this revelation, once given, to the individual believer, bringing it to life, leading him through it to the knowledge of God.

R. T. FRANCE.

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.

James & James, Printers, Liverpool Road, Ashfield — 798 8325