

# The Chronicle

## Of All Saints

### Petersham

**STANMORE ROAD, PETERSHAM (Opposite Fire Station)**

**Rector: BRUCE WOOLCOTT**

**Phone: 569-4735**

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**APRIL, 1982**

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### **EASTER SERVICES**

#### **Good Friday:**

7.30 a.m.: Holy Communion.

9.30 a.m.: Litany and Address.

#### **Easter Day:**

7.30 a.m.: Holy Communion.

9.30 a.m.: Family Communion.

7.00 p.m.: Holy Communion.

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Dear Friends,

This issue of the CHRONICLE comes out about Easter time. I trust this season of the Christian Year will be a great blessing to you.

Easter is, of course, the most important season. At Easter we remember the wonderful victory that our Saviour Jesus Christ won over death and sin.

Without the events of that first Good Friday and Easter Day there would be no Christian Church or Christian faith. The Christian Gospel is dependent upon Jesus the Only Son of God dying for us on the Cross and rising again three days later, the first Easter Day. By his victory over death and Satan Jesus showed he is able to breach the hold that Satan (the Devil) has

on the lives of men and women in the world today.

We ought to be sorry that it cost an innocent man his life to obtain the forgiveness of our sin. Sin (wrongdoing or the failure to do good when the opportunity presents itself) — Sin, is no little matter to God. We have no hope whatever of eternal life; or reaching heaven; unless our sins have been forgiven and we are clean from sin. "Thou whose eyes are too pure to look upon evil."—**Habukkuk, 1:13.**

We also can rejoice in the love God showed for us in sending His Only Son to die for us. Not only did God love and Jesus die for us, but in rising on the third day Jesus showed that the way is now open to heaven for us. Jesus did it all for us on the Cross.

Easter guarantees for all who put their trust in Christ, and Him, eternal life. What a glorious message,

No wonder that Christian men and women must come together with others to worship the Lord on Easter Day.

May you experience the joy of the Lord this Easter.

Yours sincerely, **BRUCE WOOLCOTT.**

### **RECTOR'S REPORT**

At Vestry Meetings in many parishes it is expected of the Rector to give a report — perhaps looking back over the past twelve months — perhaps looking forward (a challenge or a vision).

Looking back, not over twelve months, but only over three—firstly I would say that as a family we are glad to be here at All Saints', Petersham, and especially I would thank the Churchwardens and Parish Council for the work done to make the Rectory comfortable.

Secondly, I might add that there appears to me, even in a short time, a number of interesting challenges, or areas of ministry in the parish. I would hope that together we might be able to develop them. I believe that the bringing of such

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### **WORSHIP TIMES**

9.30 a.m. MORNING PRAYER.

(H.C. on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

9.30 a.m. KINDERGARTEN

7.00 p.m. EVENING PRAYER.

(H.C. on 1st and 3rd Sundays.)

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possibilities to fruition will be largely dependent upon our willingness to be led by the Lord and to be empowered by the Holy Spirit. Hard work alone does not necessarily achieve spiritual results.

The early Apostolic Church was faced with an impossible situation, but that group of believers not only survived but grew dramatically. Of these early Christians the comment was made, "how they love one another, unbelievers were attracted to the Christian family because they saw the difference — they loved one another. Such love comes from their commitment to Christ.

Looking then to the future and being very practical, I would mention three things: I would set as a goal for this year an average congregation of eighty per Sunday. Looking forward in the next two years to at least one hundred every Sunday.

As I have said before, we have a wide area of contact; for example, in the paper collection. We need to be so obedient to our Lord and Saviour that such contacts are seen as spiritual possibilities. We cannot do it alone, but the Lord can do it.

When folk come to Church services does it hold them? We are seeing a lot of visitors for one reason and another. Are we as a regular congregation alive? Is Christ in our midst as we worship? Do people sense His presence with us, either comforting them, convincing them or guiding them?

Thirdly, there must be an openness. As the slogan says: "Christians are not saints, just forgiven sinners." We ought always remember that about ourselves, and be honest, humble and forgiving towards each other. Failure to do this kills any fellowship we might have.

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### WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

The next meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, 6th April. This will be a business meeting to discuss the final details for the Annual Luncheon on 20th April, commencing at 12 noon. Donation: \$2. Entertainer: Mrs. Eileen Ritchie.

The Second-hand Clothing Stall held on Friday, March 26th netted \$173.00. The clothing left will go to the H.M.S. Many thanks to all who helped, donated clothing or goods to the Stall and helped distribute the dodgers advertising it. Special thanks to Mrs. Sue Ritchie for large sign which was hung in the corner of the Church grounds.

Following our meeting on 4th May at 1 p.m., Mrs. Scott from the Bible Society will speak to us on the situation in Poland.

As yet nothing is arranged to follow our June meeting, but in July the meeting will be followed by a presentation of "Shoppers' 'Carousel", by the Byron Parker Lecturing Services.

Goods displayed cannot be bought but samples will be distributed.

We hope to see you at the "Annual Luncheon" on 20th April, 12 noon in the Parish Hall.

IDA BARRETT,  
Hon. Secretary.

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### SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

We are still anxious to enroll new members. You do not need any qualifications. If you want to spend a happy Thursday playing cards or housie, join us at 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. I'm sure if you once come you will come again — 60c donation.

Congratulations to member Elizabeth Webb, who gained second prize for Patchwork Quilt at the exhibition held in the Leichhardt Town Hall during Senior Citizens' Week.

Gladys Bonser, who represented our Club at the Government House Garden Party, ended up in the Sydney Town Hall on account of the rain, but she tells us she had a very pleasant day and reported the concert was grand.

We are glad to see Doreen Jenkins back with us after her illness. Phill Lacey, Irene Condon, Alice Gavin and Marge Garth are still having health problems. We wish them all speedy recoveries.

Our Club this April is 24 years old, of which we are very proud.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

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### FLOWER DONATIONS FOR APRIL

- April 4: By Mrs. Beardow and family, in memory of Mr. Beardow. Arrangement by Mrs. Stead.
- April 11: By Iris and Colin, in memory of their parents, Cissie and Stan Walter.  
By Mrs. Hays and family, in memory of Sydney Hays. Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- April 18: Anonymous. Thanksgiving. Arranged by Mrs. A. Stead.
- April 25: No donation at present. Arrangement by Miss Nisbet.
- May 2: No donation at present. Arrangement by Mrs. A. Stead.

The flowers in the church have, in recent weeks, been supplemented by flowers grown in parishioners' gardens. In particular we have to thank Clarrie Richardson for supplying "Snow on the Mountains" and Miss Nisbet and Alice Stead for the chrysanthemums and strelitzer.

Anyone with an abundance of flowers or greenery who wishes to give some for the decoration of the church may deliver

them to the church on any Friday morning, or ring Mrs. E. Hearn on 569-1852 and arrange to have them picked up.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Family Service for this month will be held at 9.30 a.m. on Easter Day, 11th April. On the third Sunday in the month normal Sunday School lessons and activities will be held.

Sunday School pupils are reminded that the Lenten Boxes for the C.M.S. are to be returned on Easter Sunday.

The Annual General Teachers' Meeting was held on Sunday, 7th March. Matters discussed were: the revival of the Cradle Roll — a Fancy Dress Night on Friday, 4th June — a Sunday School Picnic on 25th September. There has been no decision on the location of the picnic.

There will be further details in next month's Sunday School News on the Cradle Roll and the Fancy Dress Night.

NOEL CRAGG, Superintendent.

### ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

It is with great pleasure that on a previous page the Rector's Report has been included in this month's Chronicle. Parishioners are happy to be informed of his hopes for All Saints' and targets to be attained.

The result of the election of officers was as follows:

Rector's Warden: Bruce Livingstone.

People's Wardens: Noel Cragg, Frank Hearn.

Parish Councillors: Mesdames Ida Barrett, Michele Essam, Cathy Hitchcock, Joan Livingston, Sue Ritchie, Alice Stead, Mr. V. Barrett and Ray Swankie.

Hon. Auditor: Bill Sopwith.

### COMING EVENTS

#### Confirmation Class

Arrangements are now finalised for the holding of Confirmation Classes, beginning on Friday, 2nd April, at 7.45 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a full member of the Church by the act of Confirmation should contact the Rector as soon as possible.

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### **Annual Luncheon**

The Women-in-Friendship will hold their Annual Luncheon on 20th April at 12 noon in the Parish Hall, at \$2 per head. Entertainment will be provided by Mrs. E. Ritchie and her husband.

### **"The Meaning of Easter"**

Professor Blaiklock, from New Zealand, will be speaking at an Easter Mission at Trinity Grammar School, Summer Hill. Parishioners are invited to attend meetings on Saturday, 3rd April, and Wednesday, 7th April. Meetings commence at 8.00 p.m. Contact the Rector for further details.

### **ENGLISH EVANGELIC ALLIANCE GIVES THE LEAD — PAPAL VISIT**

Evangelical Christians should take no part in "negative counter-demonstrations" against the Pope's visit to Britain in May, Evangelical Alliance has urged.

However, members of several Protestant societies are organising themselves to gather in Trafalgar Square on May 29 as the Pope returns to London after meeting the Archbishop of Canterbury and other Church leaders in Canterbury. And the Protestant Reformation Society issued an appeal recently for letters to be sent to the Prime Minister, calling for the upgraded diplomatic relations between Britain and the Vatican not to be confirmed.

The letters would also seek assurance that the Pope's visit would not alter the constitution and religious establishment in this country, said the Society's secretary, the Rev. David Samuel, who is the Rector of Ravendale, Grimsby. "It seems to us that these changes are precisely of that nature," he added.

The Evangelical Alliance, however, appealing to Evangelicals to stay away from "demos" and to show love, respect and courtesy to the Roman Catholic Church, asks also for "genuine openness". It tells Evangelicals "to listen with genuine openness to those who speak of renewal and reformation within Roman Catholicism and to welcome the work of God wherever it is to be discerned".

The Evangelicals should also "engage in a positive proclamation of the fundamental truths of the gospel to all people", the Councils statement says.

The Alliance asserts its belief in freedom of worship and the right of the Pope to engage in a pastoral visit to those who belong to his own communion. He should be welcomed, it says, "with appropriate protocol".

And it puts on record its recognition of the Pope's personal

qualities — which it calls “commendable” — and his influence for peace in the world, particularly in his own country of Poland. There is evidence, it believes, of “the renewing power of the Holy Spirit” within some areas of the Roman Catholic Church.

The statement does point out, however, that there remain “fundamental differences” between Biblical teaching and the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, and that these “cannot be lightly dismissed in a mood of ecumenical euphoria.”

Meanwhile Anglicans in the Midlands, who have been invited to the Pope’s open-air Mass at Coventry Airport, when 500,000 people are expected to attend, are wondering how they will manage to be present on Whit-Sunday.

Twenty-two Anglican bishops from Midland ‘dioceses have said they will go. But, according to the Lichfield Diocesan magazine ‘Link’, “Many Anglican clergy are disappointed that they will not be able to go because of its being Whit-Sunday. Perhaps the Rev. Terence Coyne of St. Gabriel’s, Walsall, voices the feeling of many when he says: ‘I desperately want to be there, but Whit-Sunday is hopeless. I shall certainly go to one of the other events, though, perhaps Liverpool.’”

An editorial in ‘Link’ (which is edited by the Rev. Robert Ellis for the Lichfield Diocesan Communications Committee) wonders “what the world will make of Christians who meet together at Pentecost ‘all in one place’, with the successor of St. Peter to celebrate, pray and worship, but who limit the sharing of the Eucharist to one particular sector”.

—Church Times.

## STRESS

### 4—Try Not To Inflict Stress Upon Others

Do you work on the principle, “If you want something done: find a busy person”? The Christian magazine ‘Family’ recently published the results of a survey which showed that its readers found the greatest source of stress to their family life to be church responsibilities. The place that should have provided the most support, actually caused most stress.

A capable Christian once explained to me how she felt abused by her church. If she was “up to her eyes” visiting sick and old relatives, the clergy would ask her to visit someone in hospital; if she came to church feeling like sharing her problems, a sidesman would ask her to look after a visitor. Because she was capable and felt unable to express her needs, it was assumed she could look after herself and be delegated to from time to time. In ten years the leaders had frequently called on her to help them, but never asked her if she needed help.

We must take care that we do not see our fellow Christians as those whom God has given to carry out our projects; but

rather as precious brothers and sisters in Christ, with whom we can share love, encouragement and faith.

### SICK OF ROUTINE? HAVE ANOTHER THINK

Dorothy O'Neill

You stand knee-deep in washing and wonder whether you can get it through the machine while the toddler is still busy with his Lego. It would be great if you could put it on the hoist without his "help".

After the washing — the beds. Then lunch to get, and maybe a trip to the shops. Later — the ironing and a cake to bake for the school fete. The garden looks a mess — but that will have to wait. Yes, the jobs are endless. Same old routine. If only life wasn't so ordinary.

"What can I do NOW Mummy?" You look down into the upturned face. No, you haven't made it to the hoist.

How often I felt like that when my children were young. How easy it was to become bogged down in self-pity and discontent. . . . One day when I was chafing at my bit I glanced across at my neighbour's house — and decided to go across to her straight away.

She was a good neighbour, helpful but never intrusive. Always kind to the children she would send over imaginative small gifts — including eggs pencilled with pictures of her cat, which made them chuckle.

This day there was no laughter. Instead an ambulance waited outside her home to take her to hospital. I went across and she told me what was happening. It didn't sound too good.

Then she looked around her house wistfully.

"I just want life to be 'ordinary'," she said.

And I knew what she meant. She wanted the chance to potter around her home and garden . . . to do some ironing . . . go to the shops, or bake a cake. Instead she was off to hospital . . . to white corridors . . . and concerned faces . . . and an unknown verdict.

Sick of routine? Think again. Perhaps you will find yourself saying, as I did, "Thank God for the 'ordinary'."

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