

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

WOMEN AT WORK



- (1) To unite Australian women in their allegiance to their Lord & Saviour, Jesus Christ
- (2) To help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life & mission of the Church

By the time you receive this, it will be well into Advent, so, perhaps a bit late to encourage you to make an Advent Wreath: or do you have one? It has been a custom in many families over the years, particularly those from European countries. Just a simple circle of evergreen, with a purple ribbon and four candles is all you need: and, of course, your Christmas Bowl in the centre. Have it on the table at each meal.

Especially in this, the IYC .. remember the starving children of the world.



"LIGHT JUST ONE LITTLE CANDLE"

The circle represents eternity ..
The evergreen the sign of life & hope
The purple a reminder of penance,
a time of preparation ...
The candles ..CHRIST .. the light
of the world ..
A new one is lit each week ..
getting brighter as we get closer
to .. to ..

THE CELEBRATION OF THE INCARNATION.

A Happy and Holy Christmas to you all, and may the New Year of 1980 bring all the Peace you long for in your hearts.

" SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD"

As you probably know, this title given to the book written by Malcom Muggeridge about Mother Teresa, this year's recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. We are not all called to do great things: but, if each morning we say in faith "Lord God, I give you all my thoughts, words, actions for this day, use me for Thy Will, through Christ Our Lord", and honestly do our best: we too are doing something beautiful for God.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta was born Teresa Boyax in in Skopji, 69 years ago.

In 1971 she was awarded the first Pope John XXIII Peace Prize: earlier in 1962, she was awarded \$10,000 in Manila for promoting understanding in Asia. Again, in 1973, she stood before Prince Philip in London to be the first person to receive the Templeton Foundation Prize for "progression in religion".

So, with all this behind her, why did this woman have darns in her cardigan when seen in Melbourne? Why was she out amongst her poor in the streets when she got the news of her last and greatest award? ... Why did she simply look up and say "thanks be to God".

Perhaps an extract from the Catholic Leader Oct.28th will answer some of these questions:-

"It was the terrible world of the poor that brought Mother Teresa from a convent school to the streets of Calcutta. Born in what is now Southern Yugoslavia, she joined the Sisters of Loretta, trained at Rathfarnham, Ireland, and went to India in 1929 to teach, and eventually became head-mistress of a girls school. In 1948 word came through from Rome releasing her from her Loretto Convent, to don the cheap white cotton sari edged with blue; a small Crucifix attached to the left-hand shoulder with a safety-pin is her only ornament: open sandals on her feet"

As we come to this the end of the Year of the Child and we look back:- yes, we have tried.

We have listened to talks on radio and T.V. We have read a lot. We have been to lots of meetings and a few beautiful Church Services, in order to make this world a better place for our children and grand-children to live in. But, have we really done something practical for some child less fortunate than our own? It is'nt easy, but there are plenty of opportunities, if we look around us and really try. Our own street, our neighbourhood, could become another street in Calcutta.

R E M I N D E R

The person chosen to collect material for use in the Silver Jubilee Celebration Booklet has had NO response.

You are reminded that contributions of anecdotes, poems, incidents or human interest stories etc. should be sent to:-

Mrs Jean Chwan
Shin Chen,
57 Peking Road 2/F
KOWLOON, Hong Kong

by 30th June 1980

Pictures, slides or photographs to be sent prior to above date. Songs and paintings are to be judged and displayed at the Manila celebrations.

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THANK YOU
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WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

(from our N.S.W. convener)

On the 3rd Oct. the Rev. Mary Au, who has been awarded a W.K.S. (limited) for 1980, arrived in Sydney, with her friend Rev. Jane Hwang.

Rev. Au was ordained a minister in the Anglican Church in Hong Kong in 1976. She was born and educated in China. A parish in the resettlement area of Hanloon has been the scene of Mary's labours. She has a great concern for the large number of "teddy" boys and girls in the colony where she has been a school chaplain.

In order to help with their problems, she has enrolled in the Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. Here she hopes to undertake studies in educational psychology and counselling. During holiday periods, she expects to do some theological studies in St. John's College, Auckland.

The former A.S.W. Working Committee entertained the Rev Au and her companion at morning tea at the Women's Club and later they met members of the N.S.W. Executive at a luncheon at the C.M.S. restaurant.

It was a pleasure to meet Mary, who is a gifted, loving person: for whom, I believe, God has a very important Ministry. She is grateful to A.C.V. for the scholarship.

MISS BARKAT DASS

Recently I received a tape from Barkat, in which her appreciation and love was expressed to all who made her time in Australia so worthwhile. Last year she lost her home in the floods: now she has just moved into her new one (cont. page 6)

Barkat was able to participate in a Youth for Christ rally in Murree in July ...Seventy young people registered but one hundred and thirty five were in attendance. It was a time of great blessings: Barkat had many opportunities for counselling.

In Karachi, Barkat is involved in a Campus Crusade as prayer co-ordinator. They are planning a campaign there 12th to 22nd Nov (past ED)

This fine woman is still the director of nursing at the Holy Family Hospital, but, asks for prayer for guidance, as she has been offered other positions, and her health has caused some concern of late. She has suffered from angina.

Speaking of Prayer:- Just a reminder:-

AUSTRALIA AND BURMA ARE PRAYER PARTNERS

This was decided at the 1978 assembly in Japan.

And again:- Our former editoress of Women at Work Joan Curtin has not been at all well mainly due to over-work and the nursing of her late father. She didn't ask me to say this but I thought you may like to know. A speedy recovery Joan.

"Lord help me to live simply
That others may simply live"

Our President's Christmas Message

Greetings and good wishes to all who read "Women at Work" from the Working Committee in Tasmania!

May the Christmas Season be for you and yours all that you want for yourself and for them. It will be ~~---be---~~ because we are Australians! One dares hardly to think what it will be like for so many others whose allegiance like ours is to the Babe who became our Lord and Saviour.

The bright picture of Christmas rejoicing has dark smudges over so much of it. The bright anticipation of Christmas joy for us is shadowed by the knowledge of their flight.

May the Christmas Bowl be at the centre of every table, and may the prayer for peace with justice, reconciliation and good-will rise constantly from every heart

*Love
Peace
Joy*

Rachel Cocks

YOUR WORKING COMMITTEE FOR 1980 -81

President Mrs Rachel Cocks
33 Forest Rd.,
WEST HOBART

Vice President Mrs Dorothy Hartam
12 Boatta Rd.,
LINDISFARNE

Secretary Mrs Tine Dobber,
9A Seventh Ave.,
WEST MOCNAH

Treasurer Miss Deidre Nairn
1 Amelia St.,
WEST HOBART

(W. Kiek Sch.) Miss Margaret Geddes
C/o Secretary at present

(F. Least Coin) Mrs Marie Price,
13 Corinna Rd.,
LINDISFARNE

(Special Days) Mrs Roma Hickman,
31 Duke St.,
SANDY BAY

(Women at Work) Mrs Loyce Goldsmith,
3 Burgan Circle.,
CHIGWELL, GLENORCHY

There will be no edition in January, but,
we look forward to your letters, articles
and news items for February. We would ask
that you get all correspondence in early in
each month.
