

The  
Chronicle  
of  
All Saints  
Petersham

February, 1978



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

The Rectory,  
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## What Keeps YOU Going?

Streamlined modern cars glide swiftly and smoothly along the highways, carrying men and women to business or pleasure — but only as long as the car has petrol and oil.

Without regular visits to the service station, the car becomes useless. Without fuel, it won't go, and without attention to its complicated mechanism it becomes a danger both to its users and to others on the road.

Some of us look after our cars, but neglect our souls. The result is that we try to go through life without any spiritual fuel, and with our mechanism all haywire.

Your church can be your spiritual service station. Attend it regularly, and let God have His way in your life.

## RECTORS LETTER

My dear friends,

It has been quite some time since I last wrote to you. Though it is mostly a one-way line of communication (I'd love to have more "feedback" as it is called) I have missed the contact.

Now we find ourselves entering on the Lenten season—that lead-up to the Rejoicing of Easter and its Triumph. Funny how Lent has come to have over-tones of gloominess and unattractiveness. The word comes from an old English word for Spring—can you envisage Springtime as gloomy and unattractive. I think we should hold that background clearly in mind in trying to grasp what Lent is meant to be for us. Surely it's meant to be a time of releasing of the Power that is within.

Now, if I have any understanding of the meaning of the splitting of the atom, it is that no new power is created through atomic fission, but a power already present has at long last been released. In the physical realm the main problem is not the creation of power—but its release and direction.

Of course we're interested in this from a much more important point of view than that of atomic energy. As men and women we're concerned with the ultimate aspect of power—spiritual power.

Paul concludes his prayer in the 3rd chapter of Ephesians with "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask, or think, according to the power that worketh in us." Note the tense of the verb—it isn't past (power that was once available)—it isn't future (power that may be developed)—it is here now. It is within us. It is already at work. It is the power of God himself—but we are the ones who hold the secret of its release.

One of the greatest discoveries of any life is that of finding an available power within oneself, waiting to be used. Whenever we observe that power is being released we know of a certainty that somewhere there's a source from which the power comes. That's a universal law. Spiritual power has its source, which is nothing less than the Presence of God Himself, in life, in the world, in the universe. The Bible has this as a constant theme. Psalm 62 says "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this: that power belongeth unto God."

There are hindrances to the release of this power—the two most potent are fear and animosity. We have to make it an act of will as to whether we will be governed by fear or by faith. If we choose fear we can't be men of power; if we choose faith, the power of God that worketh in us will find release. As to animosity, everyone who is concerned with the creation of electrical power knows that friction is one of the greatest deterrents. Friction in the heart, friction in the home, friction in the office—these are what cut down efficiency and limit power potential.

How can we throw the switch that turns the available power into actual power in the spiritual realm? It's an old old formula—and there's never been a substitute. To realise that formula is the purpose of our Lenten observance. The only way limitations can be removed and the power released is through three channels—faith, hope and love. Faith is the answer to fear; hope is the answer to despair; and love is the answer to animosity. Faith, hope and love are the three great circuits for the release of spiritual power. We can't achieve anything in the world unless we believe—Jesus said, "All things are possible to him that believeth." But not belief in oneself—the individual who truly is influential is the one humble enough to know that of himself he is limited, but "if God be for us, who can be against us." In such a life the power of God flows freely.

Power is also released through the channel of hope. We don't need superficial optimists, but we need Christian men who believe in God's purposes and are willing to work and wait. That kind of hope for the future produces power in the present. The final channel of release is love. This power within, remember, is the actual presence and power of God Himself within our lives. In order to release that Presence and Power, Paul says you are to know "the love of Christ that passes knowledge that you might be filled with all the fullness of God." Let's plan to use this Lent in such a way that by faith, hope and love we will release in ourselves that Presence and Power which will realise within us the great reality of Easter—the Life that overcomes and rejoices. Helen Keller who triumphed over practically every physical limitation that can come to an individual, once said, "A simple childlike faith in a Divine Friend solves all the problems that come to us by land and sea."

May you be blessed in this realisation in 1978.

Your friend and minister,

S. W. GISSING.

### **EASTER NURSING HOMES APPEAL**

At Easter several parishioners make a point of visiting local Nursing Homes and presenting the residents with a gift and greetings in the name of All Saints. Help with this project would be much appreciated. The most convenient practical support would be cash donations towards obtaining the gifts. Please forward in a marked envelope either to the Rectory or through the Offertory in the Church Services.

### **UNWANTED GREETING CARDS**

Mrs. Ivy Clark of John Street, has a need for unwanted greeting cards. In the help she gives to some hospital patients such cards can be put to good use. Cards may be passed to Mrs. Clark direct to her home or through the officer on duty at Church Services.

### **HARVEST THANKSGIVING**

In thankfulness for all the ways in which God blesses us and provides for our needs we have set aside Sunday, 19th February, as Harvest Festival. All parishioners are invited to acknowledge their gratitude by donating, over and above the usual offering, gifts in kind—vegetables, fruits, tinned foods etc. These are used to decorate the Church for the occasion. It is therefore helpful if they can be left at the Rectory by mid-day on the Saturday (18th). On this same Sunday at 10 a.m. we will be holding the monthly Family Service. Hope to see you there.

**SHARE AS A FAMILY IN PRAISING GOD IN WORSHIP ON THIS SPECIAL DAY.**

### **THE MONTHLY MEET**

Beginning February, on the first Sunday each month between the two morning services, a time to meet one another over a cup of tea or coffee will be held. The purpose is so that the two morning congregations will have a chance to get to know one another—and also that new worshippers will have the opportunity to get to know the other members of the church. We hope that all worshippers at these two services will support this venture so that it will provide a real ministry of friendship to all who share with us. The 8 o'clock-ers are asked to stay on, and the 10 o'clock-ers are asked to come early on this one Sunday each month: We'll be starting by having the cuppa in the Minister's Vestry.

### **MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES**

From Ash Wednesday, 8th February, there will be a Service of Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m. each Wednesday, at All Saints.

The Rural Deanery Series of Evening Conferences will be held at

St. Peter's, Burwood East (cnr. Acton and Queen Streets)—8 p.m. on Wednesdays, 22nd Feb., 1st, 8th, and 15th March. These Conferences will be lead by Rev. Robert A. Emery, and his theme will be "Causes for Spiritual Decline and Its Cure". Transport will be available from All Saints each evening at 7.25 p.m.—please contact the Rector (569-4735) if you wish to take advantage of this offer.

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Saturday, 11th February, a Family Bar-B-Q is to be held in place of the function cancelled in December. The Bar-B-Q will commence at 4.30 p.m. with games. The Annual Sunday School Prize-giving will be held on Sunday, 19th February, at the regular Family Service. We hope on this occasion that all parents will attend with their children. The Prize-giving is to be held in conjunction with Harvest Festival, when we ask the Sunday School pupils to bring along fruit or vegetables to decorate the Church. After the Harvest Service the offerings brought along will be sent to the Eversleigh Hospital, Addison Road, and Braeside Hospital, Cambridge Street.

Noel Cragg,  
Superintendent.

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### JEWELLERY

It is lovely to be back here again with my relatives and friends, and I would like to extend my personal thanks to all who so kindly contributed and purchased Jewellery before, and on the day of the Fete. Also, special thanks to my Sister, Brother-in-law and Niece who greatly helped me prior to and on Fete Day.

Sincere thanks to Mrs. Millarey. She is the one who introduced the Jewellery Stall to All Saints, preparing the Jewellery and working on the Stall consistently for over twenty years (most of which time I have been able to help her on the Jewellery Stall). Each year it just grew and grew. We greatly regret losing Mrs. Millarey but our loss is another's gain. She is now doing marvellous voluntary work for the Retarded and other deserving Charities, and we wish her good health and continued success with her wonderful work.

My very best wishes to one and all for a very Happy and Prosperous 1978.

Sincerely,

GLAD HUNT,  
(Jewellery Stall).

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### NEWS FROM BEYOND THE PARISH

#### EXILED BISHOP TO HEAD UGANDA REFUGEE APPEAL

Bishop Festo Kivengere, the Bishop of Kigezi, Uganda, will visit Australia in February to launch a nationwide appeal to assist Ugandan Refugees.

The Appeal is supported by the Standing Committee of the General Synod of the Church of England in Australia.

February 12 has been suggested as the date for the appeal. It is the Sunday closest to the first anniversary of the death of Archbishop Janani Luwun, the Archbishop of Uganda who was martyred early in 1977.

The appeal will raise funds for an Educational and Professional Scholarship Programme, Direct Relief Aid and a Partners in Mission Consultation.

**BUSHFIRE RELIEF**

The Anglican Church was involved in emergency relief for victims of the disastrous fires in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney, before Christmas.

\$5,000 from the Archbishop of Sydney's Emergency Funds was distributed to relieve distress through the Rural Dean of the Blue Mountains, the Rev. Ray Bomford.

**WOMENS DAY OF PRAYER**

The City Service for the Womens World Day of Prayer will be held at the Salvation Army Congress Hall, 140 Elizabeth St., Sydney on Friday, March 3rd, 1978. The theme for 1978 will be "Community Spirit and Modern Living", and the speaker will be Mrs. Betty Chekly from the N.S.W. Government Department of Youth and Community Services.

**COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP**

Dr. Sherwood Wirt, former editor of four-million circulation Decision Magazine and Mr. Tony Morphet, Australian Film and TV writer (works have included The Sullivans, Certain Women, and The Last Wave) are to be guest speakers at a Communication Workshop to be held at Moore College, March 3-4.

Workshops will include Print: Student Apologetics, Print: Parish Communications, Photography that Communicates and Radio and TV writing.

The Workshop is being sponsored by the Anglican Information Office in cooperation with Decision Magazine. Pilgram International and the Australian Religious Press Association. Details and brochures available from the Rector.

**AUSTRALIAN PRAYER BOOK**

211,000 copies of An Australian Prayer Book have now been sold throughout Australia. Printing is already underway—the first print run will be 300,000.

The Book will be launched nationally in April, and copies will be available by the end of that month.

As well as new editions, a number of different editions will be available later in 1978. These include a brown covered edition (similar to new edition) a black imitation leather edition, a white edition for the use of brides or confirmees, a denium edition for teenagers, as well as large print editions.

**I HAVEN'T THE TIME**

When as a child I laughed and wept,  
Time crept.  
When as a youth I dreamed and talked,  
Time walked.  
When I became a full-grown man,  
Time ran.  
And later, as I older grew,  
Time flew.  
Soon shall I find, while travelling on,  
Time gone.  
Will Christ have saved my soul by then?  
Amen.

From the old clock in Chester Cathedral Jesus came into Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God: The TIME has come; the kingdom of God is upon you; REPENT and BELIEVE the Gospel.

Christ's first sermon: Mark 1:15

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### THE PARABLE OF THE ROTTEN APPLE

I used to wonder why a rotten apple placed in a barrel of sound apples would make the sound apples rotten while a sound apple placed in a barrel of rotten apples would not make all the rotten apples sound. I also wondered why a man infected with smallpox when turned loose in a gathering of sound people, would—by his mere presence—make many of the sound people sick, while a sound man walking through a hospital of sick people would not—by his mere presence—make the sick people well.

In other words, I wondered why God, if He were a good God, had made a universe in which soundness and health seemed futile, and rottenness and sickness seemed contagious.

But one day I stopped wondering and examined the so-called sound apple and found it was not sound. It was lacerated, torn, wounded to the death. Oh, how the fruiterer would contradict me, he would see no defect. He might even sue me for slander if I persisted in spreading the report that he was selling apples that were not perfect. But if he pressed me for proof, I could prove it. I would ask him to look beyond the apple to the stem. There, in the most vital, the most crucial spot of all he would find the mortal wound that I refer to, He would find that the apple had been torn away from its parent vine, it had been hopelessly separated from its source of life.

When I discovered this I learned one of the truest facts of life: that nothing, whether it be fruit or vegetable or man, when separated from its source of life is sound! —Glenn Clark.

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### THE LOOM OF LIFE

Man's life is laid in the loom of time to a pattern we do not see,  
While the Weaver works and the shuttles fly till the dawn of Eternity,  
Some shuttles are filled with silver thread and some with threads of gold,

While often but the darker hue is all that they may hold.  
But the Weaver watches with skilful eye each shuttle to and fro,  
And sees the pattern so deftly wrought as the loom moves sure and slow,

God surely planned that pattern; each thread, the dark and fair  
Was chosen by His Master skill and placed in the web with care.  
He, only, knows its beauty, and guides the shuttles that hold  
The threads so unattractive, as well as the threads of gold.  
Not till the loom is silent, and the shuttles cease to fly  
Shall God unroll the pattern and explain the reason why  
The dark threads are as needful, in the Weaver's skilful hand,  
As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned.

## 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.

HOW CAN I FIND GOD?

You will never come to Christ unless you are convinced that you need Him.

If you feel that you are self-sufficient, capable of meeting life head-on under your own power, then you will probably never come face to face with Jesus Christ.

A reading of the Gospels will reveal that He only answered the cry of those who were conscious of their needs. We have no instance of Christ refusing help to anyone who saw in Him the answer to their deepest needs.

On the other hand, we have no record of His imposing Himself upon any person who refused His presence and power.

Every divine promise hinges on a condition:

"As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God."

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

We have a promise if we meet God's conditions.

We must receive before we have Christ.

We must walk in the light before we are cleansed, and we must confess before we are forgiven. There are three little men that live down in each one of us One is INTELLECT, another is EMOTION, and a third is WILL.

Intellectually, you may accept Christ. Emotionally, you may feel that you can love Him.

However, until by a definite act of your will you have surrendered to Christ, according to the Bible you are not a Christian.

Christ offers you the best in life . . . do you want to be satisfied with second best?

Jesus said: "I am come that they might have Life to the full."

LADIES GUILD

Guild will resume with our Annual meeting on Tuesday, 21st February, at 1 p.m.

We look forward to all members being present as we will be arranging for our Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, 14th March.

E. M. Bosward, Sec.

FLOWER ROSTER

February, 5th Donated by Mrs. Willis in memory of Mrs. Sheriff.

February, 12th Donated by Mrs. J. K. Scott in memory of Mr. Norman Scott.

February, 19th No Donation.

February, 26th No Donation.

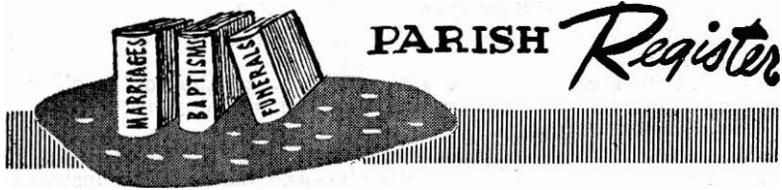
March, 5th No Donation.

March, 12th Donated by Mrs. Willis.

March, 19th An anonymous donation for War Memorial.

March, 26th Donated by the Craigie family in memory of their Father.

Our grateful thanks to Mrs. Colburt for flowers at Christmas.



## PARISH REGISTER

**Baptisms:**

1978

January, 15—Sidney Jason Galway of 14 Charles Street, PETERSHAM.  
Shayne Warren SOLAH of 17 Grove St, DULWICH HILL.

**Marriages:**

1977.

November 12—Robert Lindsay James (St. Peters) and Kerry Anne  
Upton (Alexandria)

November 26—Alan Graham Moore (Leichhardt) and Kerry Eleanor  
Read (Campsie).

1978

January 7—Terry Keith Spinks (Enfield) and Lynne Joan Cheetham  
(Greenacre).

January 14—William Dennis King (Ashfield) and Debra Maree Bernie  
(Petersham).

**Burials:**

1977.

November 23—Amy Warren Johnston of 66 Palace St., PETERSHAM.

November 23—Elizabeth Julia Theophilia Carolus of 23/3 Wylde Street,  
POTTS POINT. (by Rev David Anthony).

December 9—Lydia Charlotte Kent of 1 Sadlier Crescent, PETERSHAM.

## PARISH INFORMATION

Holy Communion— Each Sunday at 8 p.m., 2nd and 4th Sundays at  
10 a.m., 3rd Sunday at 7 p.m.

Morning Prayer—1st and 5th Sundays at 10 a.m.

Famuy Service— 3rd Sunday at 10 a.m. Sunday School and  
Kindergarten on other Sundays at 9.55 a.m.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.  
Church Wardens—Messrs. B. Livingston (Rectors and Treasurer),  
F. G. Hearn, N. Cragg.

Parish Council—The Church Wardens and Messrs. F. Evans, R.  
Swankie, H. Spill, Mesdames I Barrett, E. Sopwith and J.  
Livingston.

Hon. Treasurer—Mr. B. Livingston.

Hon. Secretary—Mrs. J. Livingston.

Sunday School Superintendent—Mr. N. Cragg.

Kindergarten Leader—Mrs. Freeman.

Organist—Miss I. Dupre.

Publicity Officer—Mr. H. J. Shaw.