

BRIDGEWOOD ROAD

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

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

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

JUNE, 1979

Service Arrangements

at All Saints



MORNING WORSHIP is at 9.30 a.m.

Holy Communion on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Morning Prayer on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

(Family Service is the 3rd Sunday)

SUNDAY SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN is at 9.55 a.m.

EVENING WORSHIP is at 5 p.m.

(This changes to 7 p.m. during summer months.)

Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Evening Prayer on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.

From your Minister's Desk



My dear friends,

Well, I guess we all feel "that's that—the Crusade is over, and what has it given us?"

Of course, that isn't true. Maybe we can say that the "intensive phase" of the Crusade is over—but certainly the crusade is not. There are days of real challenge ahead—both for those who worked so diligently leading up to and during the great public meetings, and also for those who were led to respond at one of those meetings to the preacher's invitation to set out on a new direction in life, following the Lord Jesus Christ. Both of these groups of people need one another for support and encouragement and growth in their experience of how God can be a vital force in a person's life for strength, development and joy.

This is the period more than others when we'll all discover from experience the great difference between believing and receiving. Some believe, prompted by all manner of differing motivations, but the belief stays in the mind and produces only decent churchgoers. That's sad, because such people have taken an important preliminary step. Others will be different—because they've truly received Jesus Christ. That is the genuine transforming faith which Paul tells us comes from God—Ephesians 2:8 "Because of His kindness you've been saved through trusting Christ. And even trusting is not of yourselves; it too is a gift from God."

By receiving the transforming presence of the Spirit of the Risen Christ into your life, the whole perspective changes—and new dimensions not before realised (maybe not even imagined) open up before you.

You are, as the New Testament expresses it, "born again" to a new life in Christ—you become the child of God in a very special sense. Jesus assured us that this is super important. "With all the earnestness I possess I tell you this: unless you are born again, you can never get into the kingdom of God." (John 3:3).

By the way, do you remember when you were born physically?—Do you recall the colour of the nurse's eyes?—Did the doctor slap hard?—You can't recall?! Well no doubt the easiest thing that ever happened to you was being born—but it cost your mother plenty. So with being born into God's family—it's easy—for you.

A simple and honest prayer of turning to Jesus is enough. But that new birth cost God a great deal—the death on a cross of His only Son. The penalty of your sin was taken by Jesus to spare you. Now you can be free to live with Him forever (Romans 3:23 and 6:23).

But spiritually, you are very young and need nourishment, encouragement, exercise and training. No one becomes an adult overnight—but they don't quit the human race on that account. So now is when you need to give God a chance to prove what a difference He can make to life. As you walk with Him you'll be amazed how quickly you can grow. And you'll begin to grasp and understand things that are foggy and uncertain at the moment.

The growing Christian life is exciting. And just as the growing physical life is most successfully done in good sound family relationships, so with the growing spiritual life. God's family is the most satisfying and helpful relationship for the Growing Christian life.

Your Father wants you to be happy—to share His joy. He wants you to be strong—to share His life. He wants you to be successful—in the highest sense. You can, by growing into the image of His Son, your Saviour and Lord (Romans 8:29).

So on with the crusade—that great adventure with God. Expect the best—both of God and of yourself. “Long to grow up into the fullness of your salvation—cry for it as a baby cries for his milk!” (I Peter 2:3).

Let us all do so—together—as Charles Wesley sings in his hymn:—

All praise to our redeeming Lord,
Who joins us by His grace,
And bids us, each to each restored,
Together seek His face.
He bids us build each other up;
And, gathered into one,
To our high calling's glorious hope
We hand in hand go on.

Your sincere friend in Christ Jesus

S. W. GISSING.

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PRAYER SAID BY THE BUILDER

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement.
Then with a precise stroke of his trowel, spread another layer
And without a by-your-leave, laid on another brick.
The foundations grew visibly,
The building rose, tall and strong to shelter men.

I think, Lord, of that brick buried in the darkness at the base of the big building,

No one sees it, but it accomplishes its task, and the other bricks need it.
Lord, what difference whether I am on the roof-top or in the foundations
of your building, as long as I stand faithfully at the right place?
Amen.

—From “Prayers of Life”, by Michael Quoist.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

When a boy gets up at six o'clock in the morning to do a paper round to "better himself", people say he is a go-getter. If some Christian organisation should ask that same boy to get up at six o'clock to do some work for the Lord, they would say, "That's expecting too much of the boy."

If a woman spends eight hours away from her home working in a factory or office, she is called a helpful and energetic wife. If, however, she is willing to do the same thing for the Lord they say, "Religion has gone to her head."

If one ties himself down to making payments of \$4 each for some time on items for personal enjoyment, he pays willingly. But if that same person placed that much in the collection plate each week, many people would say he is crazy.

A crazy world indeed, where first things come last and last things come first!

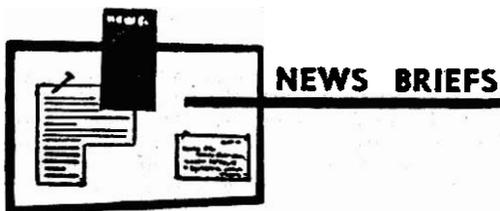
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Flowers in Church



- June 17.—War Memorial—anonymous.
Mrs. Hillary, in memory of Miss Katie O'Neil.
- 24.—Mrs. D. Reid, in memory of her parents.
- July 1.—Stella and Barbara, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter, sister Ena and friends, Sally and Dorrie.
- 8.—Misses Nisbet, in memory of their parents.
- 22.—John and Lindsay, in memory of their mother, Mary Joan Nance.
- 29.—Mrs. Mary Rowan, in memory of her husband, Les Rowan Snr.

Those who would remember their loved ones by contributing to the flowers in church are asked to contact Rector about six (6) weeks prior to the desired date.



NEWSPAPERS AND ALUMINIUM CANS

Members of the congregation have been collecting these two items with a view to turning them into cash for parish funds. In three months the efforts have resulted in nearly \$300 being raised. We invite all readers to help us in the project. Each week aluminium cans are brought to the church and then delivered to the re-cycling depot.

NEWSPAPERS are collected once a month on a Saturday—preferably in tied bundles about 12 inches deep. If they can be delivered to the Hall, that's a great help—but we do have a “pick-up” organised. A call to 569-5057 will ensure your collection gets picked up—the date for June is Saturday 9th. In July it will be Saturday 14th, and in August Saturday 11th.

WILL YOU HELP US BY COLLECTING THESE ITEMS, AND THEN 'PHONE US TO ARRANGE A “PICK-UP”—THANKS.

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Holy Trinity, Dulwich Hill. On Sunday, 10th June next, at 2.30 p.m., Holy Trinity Church will be consecrated by the Rt. Rev. J. R. Reid, B.A., Th.L., Assistant Bishop of Sydney. All interested are invited to attend. We offer our sincere congratulations on this significant occasion.

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CLOTHING NEED

The “Care Force — Charlton Centre” (our Diocese's group serving the needy) has sent a special appeal for good used clothing and blankets, etc. Due to a growing call upon such help, the stocks are very low. June has been designated as a special appeal time. If you can help, bring your gifts to the Rectory or 'phone 569-4735, and we'll arrange to collect. PLEASE.

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SENIOR PARISHIONERS' CLUB

Thursday, 11th May, we celebrated Mothers Day, combined with our 22nd Birthday, which was really in April.

Owing to bad weather and quite a lot of illness amongst our members, our numbers have been down, but we hope this won't last for long. One bright ray was that we had the pleasure of welcoming

three new members during May. We wish them long and happy membership with us.

Miss Glad Hunt is still in "Eversleigh" Hospital. In fact, now she is improving. I am sorry to report Mrs. Lillian Pearn is in Lewisham Hospital after a very bad fall. We wish you a speedy recovery, Lillian. Mrs. Vi Brassington is still far from well, but we hope to see you soon, Vi. Mrs. Marge Gath is out of hospital now, after undergoing a very nasty operation. We hope to see you as soon as possible Marge.

New members are still being sought. We assure you of a warm welcome. You don't need any qualifications, lady or gent, any age. If you need to fill in an afternoon a week, just 40 cents will make your Thursday afternoon very happy. Prizes and afternoon tea included—1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please come and join us, we are waiting for you.

IDA BARRETT,

Hon. Secretary.



WOMEN-IN-FRIENDSHIP

The new Women-in-Friendship got off to a good start last month, with quite a good attendance. We hope that ever more ladies (of any age) will come along and join us—First Tuesday of the month at 1.30 p.m. We plan to have something interesting and instructive at each meeting.

At our meeting on 5th June Mrs. Gwen Williams will be our Guest and will show us how to make artificial flowers. While demonstrating this art she will share her testimony of her spiritual pilgrimage with us.

The July Meeting (Tuesday, 3rd) will take the form of a mutual sharing together over a short passage of scripture.

Both these occasions promise to be happy and meaningful, so please take this as a personal invitation to come and join us.

We ask all women in the parish to keep the date—Tuesday, 17th July—to share with us at our Women's Luncheon—mark it on your diary now!

IDA BARRETT,

Hon. Secretary.



FAREWELL JOHN AND SUE MARTIN

John Martin has for some time now used his gifts in the field of journalism in producing our "Chronicle" each month. We've all valued this help greatly. He inaugurated our church Book Stall and has managed it for us. He also assisted by taking services during the Rector's vacation.

Sue, his wife has been a parish councillor, Synod Representative and also looked after the Hall bookings.

This young couple has contributed positively in both practical and spiritual spheres.

We will miss them very much. They are leaving Petersham to go to England, where John will be taking up a new position that has just been established with the Anglican Consultative Council. He is to be the Communications Officer, and takes up the task about the middle of June.

On behalf of parishioners we farewelled John and Sue at the family barbeque held on Sunday, 20th May. We repeat here a published expression of our gratitude for their "fellowship in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ". We look forward to hearing from them periodically as to how life in the "old country" is going.

Miss I. DUPRE

A. Mus. A., A.T.C.L., Dip. T. G. (N.S.W.)

Do You Wish to Learn Singing? Or a Musical Instrument?

Make preparations for this by studying Musicianship or Theory of Music Now.

ADULTS MOST WELCOME

SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES

(The following letter has been received seeking support for refugees in our community in a simple and practical way.)

Dear Rector,

The Home Mission Society is seeking parishes to take part in a hosting scheme for refugees.

Hosting by a parish involves members being introduced by our Social Workers to a refugee family in one of the Commonwealth Migrant Hostels and getting to know them.

The Host Church shows them around the suburb or town and, if they are interested in settling there, helps them to:

- (a) Find suitable accommodation and employment;
- (b) Enrol the children in school;
- (c) Enrol for local English classes;
- (d) Find friends and fellowship.

Counselling staff are available for information or assistance where needed. Individual Australian families may also host a refugee family.

Fellowship youth groups can also play an important part in this scheme by including refugee young people in their activities. Young people separated from their families may also be hosted by the fellowship.

Financial assistance is needed for a number of refugee children who have been brought to Australia without their parents.

In the general confusion of battle they became separated from their parents and, in the rush to boats, they were picked up by passers-by. They therefore arrived in Australia without their parents and little hope of a family reunion.

We feel that these children should be placed with families from their own cultural background, but these families often lack the financial resources to include another child.

Social Security only grants \$11 per week to such families, which is insufficient to cover the costs of an extra child, especially where larger accommodation becomes necessary.

We feel that the addition of a few dollars to this pension would mean that a child can be kept within a familiar family situation.

This cost is very small compared with the cost of keeping a child in an institution. For this reason we are asking parishes or individuals to consider sponsoring a child by contributing \$20 per month towards his/her upkeep in a foster family.

Further information can be obtained by phoning 799-5222 or by writing to us at the Care Force Charlton Centre, 16 Brunswick Parade, Ashfield, 2131.

Yours sincerely,

CEC. SHEVELS,

Director of Welfare Services.

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 and James 188 Liverpool Road, Ashfield—798-8825