

# The Chronicle Of All Saints Petersham

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The Rectory, 325 Stanmore Road, Petersham, 2049—56-4735

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AUGUST, 1973

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**"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise"**

## THE RECTOR'S LETTER

My dear People,

Life is full of surprises, isn't it? You never know when some new thing is suddenly going to come upon you. And perhaps even, more surprising is the surprise of an unexpected joy. Optimists live in daily expectation of such happy surprises. Did you know that Christianity is full of such things? One needs only to put the extraordinary teachings of Jesus to the test to experience the happiest surprise of all—the miracle of "Heavenly Reflections". **Ever heard of it?**

Jesus promised it in one of the most profound statements in the Bible. The principle must have figured greatly in the thinking of the earliest Christians because it comes up six times in the New Testament which they wrote. At first the statement sounds like an anachronism, that is, so out of harmony with obvious fact as to be nonsense. However, when we study it carefully its profundity becomes clear.

**"Whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life will save it."** One of the most extraordinary things about this statement is the fact that it rings strictly true to the highest Christian philosophy throughout the ages of the changing historical situation of the Church. Originally, St. Mark understood these words of Jesus to be a preparation of the Disciples for the facing of Martyrdom in the terrible persecutions which Jesus knew would surely come. In their original context, they meant that anyone who would renounce the faith in order to save his physical life intact, would thereby lose his spiritual soul's life on judgment day when he finally did die and face the Christ he had denied.

Conversely, those who in true faith bravely refused to recant their loyalty to Christ (and were therefore tortured and murdered, as many were), though they lose their immediate physical life, they gain the greatest life of all, eternal joy with Christ in Paradise.

Believers who knew this and therefore calmly accepted Martyrdom when it was thrust upon them were themselves thereby responsible for many thousands of conversions to the Christian Faith. Strangely enough, far from driving people away from Jesus, these martyrdoms attracted real and concerned attention to Him. For in those early days life was so rude and rough that one could scarcely find anything to live for. **But here was something worth dying for.** If it is so good that men and women would die for it, then it must surely be worth living for. And so in the face of the cruel martyrdoms which were meant to destroy the faith, the Church grew and grew strong, bound by invisible spiritual chains that the Roman sword could not even see to strike.

Now, however, in the Western World the age of Martyrdom is over. Not so in the Communist world. Now and then through the great curtain of secrecy that has descended around them, we hear of brave Orthodox Christians who have died for their faith in Christ and loyalty to Christian principles. We in the Western world face another kind of persecution—an insidious persecution of being ignored. In it we may not be murdered, but we shall suffer great physical loss and spiritual loss if we are not on our guard.

Those same great words spoken so long ago have a new ring in them today. They speak also of another fact painfully true of modern Christian life. The man who centres all his energies, physical and intellectual, on preserving his own selfish private life, will, in so doing, lose the inner radiance that comes with human life lived on its highest level of outgoing service to God and man. It is profoundly true that the surest way to lose all joy and deep fulfilment in life is to give all our effort to getting and preserving life's good for ourselves.

The best preserved thing in history is an Egyptian mummy, and the surest way to make a spiritual and intellectual mummy out of our life is to give all our attention to preserving it. Here is where the miracle of heavenly reflection comes in. We discover, to our great and happy surprise that the only way to get and preserve this personal good and joyful life that everyone so much wants is to give it away. Just as soon as we begin to pour it out to others, it begins to reflect right back to us. Indeed, the greatest surprise of all is that this is the only way to get it. "He who would save his life must lose it". He who really live life must throw himself away. And in casting himself upon the waters of life in service of others, he discovers that the waves of joy and inner contentment come rolling over him, filling him to the fullest, until he suddenly finds himself in Paradise. If we really want to have life we must give life away. If we want love, we must give love away. If we want joy, we must give joy away to others. If we want security, happiness, honor, whatever of life's deepest treasures we want, we can achieve them only as they are given back to us by other people, whose cups of life we have filled to overflowing.

The trouble with most of us is that we go at life backwards. We hope to gain by grabbing, when we only gain it by giving. But if we will open our eyes we will see that it is only as we give ourselves away, that we shall begin to gain our real selves, the selves we can really enjoy being. And we shall also see that the more we give away, the more we shall have to give away.

Love is a bottomless pit whose depths reach to the highest heavens and know no limits, And you cannot lose this life that you gain by heavenly reflection, not even at death. For this is the life of your soul that lives on to inherit eternal love in Heaven, after these bodies are dust. For the life to which Jesus refers is Eternal life, life with an eternal quality. It is the life of loving service to mankind in obedience to God; just like Jesus, the Son of God.

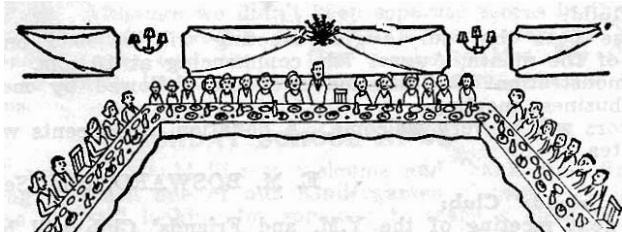
May God grant us all success!

C. A. Campbell  
Rector.

### 70th CONSECRATION FESTIVAL

This year we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Consecration of the beautiful Church of All Saints' Petersham, on 15th August, 1903, and are holding the following special events this month to mark the occasion:

- Friday, 17th August, Parish Tea.
- Sunday, 19th August, Consecration Festival Services.
- Sunday, 26th August, Pre-Church Tea.



The Tea is a parish-wide event, open to all parishioners and their friends and relatives. We will have a catered meal, featuring hot soup and a salad, commencing at 6.00 p.m., following which Mr. Christopher Sillince will give us a special recital on the organ.

Back in the Hall about 8 p.m., we shall be screening some colour movies selected to be of interest to all parishioners. Tickets for the Tea are \$1.00 for adults, 50 cents for children, and are now available from Church Officers on Sundays, or from the Rectory. Be sure to get your ticket in advance, so that we may order the required number of meals; last year, some latecomers who did not buy tickets unfortunately missed out on a meal.

#### Services

We always observe our Consecration Festival as "Back to All Saints' Sunday" and ask you to invite any former parishioners you know to come and worship with us on this special 70th anniversary. Services will be at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., with further details being published on the Weekly News on Sundays.

At the Evening Service, members of the Petersham Chapter of the O.E.S. will be worshipping with us. Following the Service, we are invited to be their guests at a supper in the Parish Hall.

#### Pre-Church Tea

Our Celebrations will conclude with the light tea at 5.30 p.m. on the following Sunday, 26th August. All parishioners are cordially invited.

#### PERSONAL NOTES

Mrs. Campbell would like to say how much she and the Rectory family appreciated the kind wishes and remembrances from the parishioners and Clubs, as well as the thoughtful help of parish friends during and after her operation on 30th May. God bless you all!

We are happy to hear that Mr. and Mrs. Millarey are thoroughly enjoying their overseas trip and visiting many interesting countries. We last heard of them from Norway. Our best wishes to them both for the remainder of their holiday.

There's also news that Lindsay Nance is leaving his teaching position in England, at least for a while, to spend what should be a novel and exciting period on a kibbutz in Israel.

#### CLUB NEWS

##### This Month with Your Parish Organisations

##### Younger Set:

Last month was a fairly good month for our group. After a virtual standstill, the group has been boosted from about 8 to 28 regular members. A Committee has been elected by the group, and outings such as skating, bowling, hikes, etc., have been arranged for the next few months, so please spread the word to your friends.

Donations for our Fete Stall, such as broken toys, paperbacks, and magazines, would be greatly appreciated.

D. G. MASON, Hon. Secretary.

##### Ladies' Guild:

Please note that our August meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of the month, August 7th, commencing at 10 a.m. There will be a demonstration of Stanhome Products, followed by morning tea and our business meeting.

Visitors will be very welcome. A donation of 30 cents will include morning tea.

E. M. BOSWARD, Hon. Secretary.

##### Y.M. and Friends' Club:

The next meeting of the Y.M. and Friends' Club will be held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, 14th August commencing at 8 p.m. New members are still urgently needed to build up our Club, and all ladies will be most welcome.

We ask you to keep in mind our next Street Stall, to be held on Saturday, 8th September at the corner of New Canterbury Road and

Gordon Street. Donations of items for sale would be greatly appreciated. This will be our final stall for 1973, and we would like to make it a special effort.

IDA BARRETT, Hon. Secretary.

#### Indoor Bowls Club:

**Held every Wednesday night — Visitors Welcome!**

If you haven't played indoor bowls before, come along and watch and then have supper with us. We are sure you will want to join.

The inter-church competition is still in progress and we now have one more match to go.

B. SEE, Hon. Secretary.

#### Bible Study Group:

A recent innovation has been the holding of our meetings at the homes of members. Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Willis and Mrs. Snape for being hosts at the first two such meetings away from All Saints'.

Also, last month we switched from our usual discussion format to welcome representatives from the Messianic Fellowship, who came and spoke to us about their evangelistic work amongst Jewish people.

This month, we shall be meeting on Wednesdays 8th and 22nd August, continuing our group study and discussion of the "Acts of the Apostles".

#### Young Churchmen's Institute (Y.C.I.):

**Australian Square:** This month's Y.C.I. function will be a "Visit to Australia Square", or to be precise, the summit lookout of the Tower Building located in Australia Square. This is the highest available lookout in the city, and provides a view from the coast to the Blue Mountains, the lights of both the city and suburbs being most attractive.

We chose a winter month for our visit because the air is usually clearer at this time of the year and it will allow us to see much more than usual. So please join our party for this unique outing. Details of the time and place of meeting, costs, etc., will be given on the "Weekly News" sheet.

**Car Drive:** Saturday, October 27th is the date tentatively set down for our 1973 Parish Car Drive, the proceeds being used to help stock our efforts for the Fete. All parishioners, including those who are kind enough to make their cars available, will be welcome.

Anyone with suggestions as to a suitable venue (where we can obtain hot water and find seating for about 60 people) is asked to contact either Geoffrey Gorman (639-2067) or Alan Jones (56-5218).

**Games Night:** The joint games evening of the Younger Set and the Y.C.I. on 13th July was a most successful night, with a total attendance around 35. Although we didn't keep separate scores in the various contests, the young folk clearly came out winners over the Y.C.I. as far as attendance was concerned. Our thanks to Mrs. Ivy Clark for once again so kindly looking after the supper arrangements for both organisations.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

**New Teacher:** I would like to welcome and thank Mrs. Brown for coming along to teach one of our Kindergarten classes.

Now we are still looking for someone to teach a class of 12 year old girls and boys. If there is any possibility at all that you would be interested, please contact Mr. A. Jones (56-5218) or myself (560-9972).

**Bottle and Sugar Appeal:** Once again this year, we are appealing for small bottles for our home-made jam. We are interested in the coffee bottle with screwed lid, or bottles of similar or smaller size.

Also, we are asking for donations of sugar for use by the people who make jam for us. Donations may be sent via any teacher or scholar.

This year, 13 letters were sent to grocery manufacturers, and this week, there was a surprise from Colgate Palmolive; usually we have to purchase their products, but three dozen cakes of soap were donated by the company.

NOEL CRAGG, Hon. Secretary.

### A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF EUTHANASIA

A recent publication in the Church of England's series of "Issues & Answers" deals with the subject of Euthanasia.

"The sanctity of human life is the very basis of a civilised society" the pamphlet states. "Euthanasia or mercy killing is the deliberate termination of human life so that suffering might be ended. Such an act could be administered to someone who is suffering massive physical pain or to a child who has been born with some serious deformity. Euthanasia has ancient origins and in pre-Christian civilisations the exposure of unwanted children and the abandonment of the useless aged was not uncommon.

"Euthanasia (today) . . . rests on the disputed case that life has become a burden to some people. How can we establish the case for "burden" of life? Euthanasia is just another word for murder. Many people do not come to a knowledge of the deep truths of life without an acquaintance with suffering . . . This does not mean that the Christian goes searching for suffering.

"It is often assumed that deformed or defective children can be thrown away like bits of broken china. No one should underrate the sadness, regret and strain which is involved for parents who have to rear such children . . . But often great strength of compassion, patience and even Christ-like characteristics are reflected in parents who care for such children . . . Many who care for such children testify to their great capacity to respond to love".

The Issues & Answers pamphlet stresses the fact that parents should be helped more. They should have additional resources provided to care for their handicapped children and should not be offered euthanasia as an answer. "Euthanasia sounds like a brave call to face suffering coldly and realistically. But it exposes the hollowness of humanism unable to cope with a basic fact of human experience . . . Throw away the sanctity of life and God's purposes for life and you have thrown away the basis for a just and enduring society".

### SANCTUARY FLOWER ROSTER

- August 5: Donated by Mrs. E. Robertson in memory of loved ones and by Mrs. Thompson in memory of her Mother; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- August 12: Donated by Miss V. Dobson in memory of Miss Doris Dobson, by Mrs. D. Jones and family in memory of Mr. P. Jones, and by Miss Butt in memory of her Sister and Brother; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- August 19: Donated by Mrs. I. K. Scott in memory of Mr. Norman Scott; arranged by Mrs. Clark.
- August 26: Donated by Mrs. Gordon in memory of Mr. Gordon, by the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hunt in memory of their Parents, by Mrs. Hillery in memory of Mr. Bertram Hillery, and by Mrs. Waterfield and family in memory of Mr. Waterfield; arranged by Miss Nisbet.
- September 2: Donated by the family of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Jones in her memory; arranged by Mrs. Clark.

## FETE NEWS

Everything is well in hand for our 1973 Gala Parish Fete, to be held on **Saturday, 17th November**. A meeting of stallholders and the Parish Council's Fete Committee last month finalised plans for the layout of the stalls and for this year's attractions.

The following are matters of special interest this month:

● **Sewing help wanted:** If there is anyone who would like to start now to do some sewing for the Fete, there are materials available in the Rectory, and Mrs. Campbell will be very glad to see you about it.

● **All day entertainments** at the Fete include train rides, pony rides, hoopla, and model railway exhibition. The Burwood Police Boys' Band will be playing during the morning, and the N.S.W. Ladies' Highland Pipe Band will march and play in the afternoon. Their performance will be followed by the fabulous trained dogs and monkeys, returning by popular demand following their initial Fete show last year.

● **Additional features** this year include a Doll Stall, lucky dips, and a balloon stall.

● **Plant Stall:** With the coming of the fairer weather, it's time to start potting bits and pieces, especially anything a little unusual or of a flowering nature, as these prove most popular. We will be most grateful for the additional help of donations of plants, so won't you please see what you can start for this stall.

If you would like to pot or weed plants in the Rectory backgarden, as was done last year, you will be most welcome. The ladies of the Plant Stall and Mrs. Campbell will be glad to hear from you.

● **Pottery Stall:** Can you help this stall with a donation of pottery, china, or similar goods. Anything in satisfactory re-saleable condition would be most acceptable. If you can assist, please ring Mrs. F. Hearn, tel. 56-1852, and she will gladly arrange collection.

● **Fete Signs:** Mr. Bert Shaw is once again kindly undertaking the big task of painting signs, for use outside in the grounds, and on the stalls inside. It would be appreciated if all stallholders would let Mr. Shaw know **before the end of this month** full details of all signs they will need, so that he may have sufficient time to get them all ready.

● **Guild Stalls:** The ladies of the Guild will be combining their clothing, gifts, and work stalls into one big effort this year, occupying half one side of the Parish Hall. We are pleased to know that Mrs. Bosward plans to be on deck again this year, and believe that she will be organising a most attractive competition with a valuable prize.

● **"White Elephant":** Mrs. Humphreys is ready and waiting for a lot more stock that is needed to make the "White Elephant" the success that is had been in past years. Don't let Mrs. Humphreys be disappointed; send her right now, immediately, everything around your house for which you have no further use. She will find a buyer without any doubt and so raise valuable funds for the Fete. Just ring Mrs. Humphreys on 560-8756 if collection is desired.

## ORGAN RESTORATION

Our thanks to all those parishioners and parish organisations who have responded so speedily to the Church Wardens appeal in the last "Chronicle". The organ restoration fund has got off to a good start, but much more is needed to meet the expected cost of just over \$1,000 which is needed for the current repairs.

If you would like to assist, no matter what you are able to give, your donation will be most gratefully received by the Wardens. Receipts will be issued for all amounts contributed to the Appeal.

Latest advice from our Organ Builder, Mr. Anthony Welby, is that he will be able to start work in early September and finish by the end of the month. The project involves the complete overhaul of three full sets of pipes in the organ: those connected to the Oboe, Great Clarinet, and Cornopean stops, and the supply of some pipes which have been missing from these stops.

As these stops are ones regularly used in our Services, we all look forward to the rapid and successful completion of the work.



#### BAPTISMS "Born Again"

July 1: Stacey Sheppard.  
July 22: Baby Shore.  
July 22: Darryl Peter Melvin.

#### FUNERALS "I am the Resurrection and the Life"

June 22: William Eric Horton.  
July 3: George Watson Dixon.  
July 6: Emily Louise Quill.  
July 16: Thomas Smith.  
July 19: Hilton Sydney Blackett.  
July 20: Cecil Leslie Richard Jones.

#### CHURCH FINANCES Period 1st - 30th June, 1973

Offertories and other receipts	\$701.55
Expenditure	\$915.14
Deficit on month	\$213.59
Accumulated deficit since 1st January	\$1150.59

## 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.