

The Chronicle

Of All Saints

Petersham

325 Stanmore Road, Petersham. 2049.
Locum: Rev'd Jim Holmes 797-0957

DECEMBER 1993



For Christmas Service times see page 4



Letter from Rev. Jim Holmes.

**All Saints' Church
Petersham.
December, 1993**

My dear Friends,

The festive season of Christmas is here and it is a time which my wife and family enjoy very much. Firstly it is an occasion of family reunion - the meeting of the oldies, their children and the newest arrivals, the grandchildren who are full of excitement and wonder. Secondly, we enjoy the carols and love to hear the message that the babe Jesus was born in our midst and came to save us from our sins. Then the Christmas tree with its presents is a source of anticipation, especially for the children as they eagerly unwrap their gifts.

In our church of All Saints' you may leave your gifts of food tins and presents at the Christmas tree which will bring cheer to the lives of the needy. In this year of recession may we bring cheer and goodwill to others. I commend to you the Carol Service and Christmas Day Service which will be conducted by your new Rector.

The message of Christmas is a glorious one for it recounts how God, Himself gave us His own Son to be our Saviour and friend. The story of our salvation starts from the book of Genesis of the promise of the Saviour who will rescue man from his sin and his fall. The Psalms and Isaiah promise the coming of the Anointed one, the Messiah that is the Christ. The gospels of Matthew and Luke relate the birth of Jesus, whilst John goes behind the manger to reveal that the babe Jesus is God himself, who has left heaven to dwell in our midst.

The Christmas challenge is that our faith and trust in Jesus be renewed and re-affirmed, "that as many as received Him (Jesus) God gave them authority to become His children." What a marvellous message to know that we are the sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father, that we have been adopted into His family.

Praise to the Lord Jesus for His birth, death, resurrection and his glorious ascension, May we sing from our hearts the Christmas carols and be filled with His love and power.

Joy to you all,
from Jim Holmes
Acting Rector.

PS. Thanks for your support and prayers, My last Sunday is December 12 and I leave you in the pastoral care of your new Rector, Rev. Paul Watson. It was a pleasure to share my short ministry with you all.

J.H.

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WEEKLY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES.

The Churchwardens have just received the weekly offertory envelopes from the Anglican Information Office for 1994. These envelopes are now available at the rear of the church during Advent.

If you've not previously use the weekly envelopes for your offertories we suggest that you take a set, and so help your church receive a regular weekly income. There are no names or numbers on the envelopes and your offering is between you and God.

To help extend the Christian work in the parish of Petersham it is important that the envelopes are use regularly, even if you are unable to attend church.

WHAT IS ON AT ALL SAINTS'

EVERYSUNDAY.

- 9-30am Holy Communion on the First, Second and Fourth Sundays
Family Service, which is a Service of Prayer and Word, on the third Sunday.
Morning Prayer on the Fifth Sunday.
- 6-30pm Evening Prayer is said in the Side Chapel.

DURING THE SCHOOL TERM.

- 9-30am Junior Sunday School every Sunday except the Third Sunday when there is a Family Service.

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING.

- 7-30pm Home Bible Study held at the Home of Mrs. Willis
All welcome.

Christmas Services

Sunday 19 December 1993

6-30 p.m. A Festival of Readings and Carols

Christmas Day 25 December 1993

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion

New Years Day 1 January 1994

8-00 a.m. Holy Communion.





**FLOWER
DONATIONS.**



- December 6** - In memory of our mother and nanna for Ray Swankie and family.
Donated by Pearl Bowles on the 65th anniversary of her wedding
in this Church.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.
- December 12** - Mrs. Willis in memory of Mrs. Willis Snr.
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.
- December 19** - In loving memory of my father and mother from Esther.
Arranger by Miss D. Harrop.
- December 26** - Donation Anonymous
Arranged by Mrs. E. Hearn and Mrs. M. Essam.

**WALTERS & SON
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Office and Chapel:

**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.**

The Annual Fete 1993.

The Results

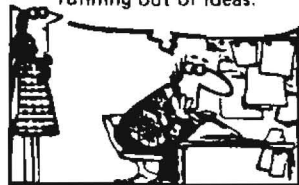
	1992	1993
Books.....	160.70	283.10
Sale of Pews.....	40.00
Cakes	653.05	616.00
Groceries, Home Made Jam & Hot Dogs.....	452.90	476.10
Charcoal Portraits.	75.00
Plants.....	209.30	147.80
Pottery.....	669.25	760.35
Refreshment Room.....	253.20	245.00
Toys.....	260.85	159.35
White Elephant.....	282.35	278.70
Work Stall.....	737.80	436.30
Donations.....	361.00	210.00
Secondhand Clothes.....	136.95
Total	<hr/> \$4080.40	<hr/> \$3824.65

We would like to thanks all who made donations to the various stalls. Thanks also to all Parishioners and friends for their hard work towards this great result on the fete day.

The door prizes were won by Mrs. Kingston of Challis Street, Dulwich Hill and Mrs. Elliott of Belgrave Street, Petersham.

BASICALLY BIBLICAL

Every year I need a new Christmas message – but after all these years I'm running out of ideas.



Just tell the plain simple Christmas story.





And this shall be a sign . . .

A sign. It is important to remember that Christmas itself is only a sign. A sign speaks of something beyond itself. All the trappings of Christmas - the decorated tree, lights, the presents we give, the crib, tinsel, crackers, the eating and drinking which makes up our celebrations - are only "signs". What, please, is Christmas a sign of?

Christmas is a sign of God's presence with us

You see, even at the time it was only a sign. The Baby did not open his eyes and start preaching a sermon. He did not hand out "Sayings of Jesus", or give Christmas presents. The Baby was only a sign and could only have been understood later in the light of the life of the Person who was to be the Saviour of the world. Indeed, here is a reminder that Christmas can only be understood in the light of later events, can only be discovered in all its wonderful freshness and life when we discover for ourselves that Jesus is the human face of God. The sign of God-with-us, Emmanuel.

But a sign also of God's commitment to his world. You see, Christmas is linked with the season of Advent - the season of hope which sets before us the hope of his coming to restore all things and bring all things to a glorious conclusion.

That is the message of Christmas: come home. Come home to his love. Come home to an understanding of the world which puts God at the centre. Christmas is a sign of God's glorious invitation to celebrate his love personally by welcoming him into our hearts and lives, not just once a year but every day we live.

May God bless us all this Christmas time as we make our way to the manger and celebrate the gift of his love and life.

The Most Rev George Carey
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH PETERSHAM

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - OCTOBER 1993

RECEIPTS	\$	PAYMENTS	\$
Offertories	1,860.97	Rev. J. Holmes	420.00
Anonymous Donation	520.00	Rev Watson Trav Allow 12/93	322.50
Sale Coach Tour Tickets	30.00	A4 Paper	76.56
Organ Recital net receipts	225.00	Church Cleaning	250.00
		Hall Cleaning	250.00
		Telephone Account	75.80
		Cleaning Purchases	8.48
		Flowers	60.00
		Morning Tea Expenses	15.56
		Postage & Phone Calls	18.65
		Church Electricity	152.43
		Advestising for Organ Recita	125.40
	<u>2,635.97</u>		
Deficit for month	<u>0.00</u>		
	2,635.97		
			<u>1,675.38</u>
		Surplus for month	<u>960.59</u>
			2,635.97
BALANCE 1-10-93	1,072.36		
Less deficit for month	0.00		
Plus surplus for month	<u>960.59</u>		
BALANCE 31-10-93	<u>2,032.95</u>		

The Rector, Churchwardens and Parish Council

**Wish all Parishioners and Friends
a Happy and Holy Christmas**