

## NOTES:

1. In an interview with Mark Colvin in *PM* on 21 August 2009 Patrick Redlich, brother of Fr Redlich, said that he believed that Fr Redlich was stabbed by a party of five or six Arukivan spearmen, one of whom was still alive, and had confessed his crime.
2. More than three hundred and thirty mission staff of all denominations were killed by the Japanese invaders.
3. The Mission Boat the *Maclaren King* was named for the Reverend Albert Maclaren (1853–1891), and the Reverend Copland King (1863–1918), founders of the Mission at Dogura, Papua New Guinea. Fr Maclaren knew Canon John Godby, Vicar of St George's from 1880 to 1910, who was the secretary in Melbourne for the Church of England Mission to New Guinea, and Saint George's had promised to support the Mission as their special work. Fr Maclaren wrote to Canon Godby on 12 August 1891 describing the landing at Chad's Bay: the letter was published in the Melbourne *Argus* on 16 December 1891.
4. The windows in the nave of St George's Church form a pictorial history *From Nazareth to the Pacific*, designed by the Reverend Josiah Tyssen, Vicar of St George's from 1916 to 1949, and tracing the spread of the Gospel from the Holy Land into Britain, through Australia and Melanesia to Papua New Guinea.
5. The last pair of windows on the south side of the nave depicts (*left*) the martyred Bishop John Coleridge Patteson (1827–1871), murdered on the island of Nukapu, Solomon Islands, on 20 September 1871, in revenge for the seizure of five islanders by European slave traders; and (*right*) the Reverend Albert Maclaren and the Reverend Copland King.

Brian Corless

**Saint George's has supported the Church in Papua New Guinea since the foundation of the Mission in 1891.**

## THE NEW GUINEA MARTYRS

**f.d. 2 SEPTEMBER**

### Proper Collect for the New Guinea Martyrs

*O Almighty God, who didst enable thy missionary and Papuan martyrs, in New Guinea, in a day of sore trial and danger, to be faithful to their calling and to glorify thee by their deaths: Grant we humbly beseech thee that, by the witness of these thy martyrs, thy whole Church may be enriched and strengthened for the gathering into thy fold of thy children in all lands; and that we thy servants, following the example of their steadfastness and courage, may labour the more fervently for the coming of thy kingdom, and may so faithfully serve thee here on earth that we may be joined with them hereafter in heaven. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.*

Bishop Philip Strong.

### PORT MORESBY

The Reverend **Henry Matthews**, Rector of Port Moresby since 1927, was born at Ararat, Victoria. He refused to leave Papua when war came, although he was more than sixty years of age. When his military chaplaincy was terminated because of his age he received the Bishop's permission to move to Dogura, but first he wished to visit Daru and minister to isolated Christians there. He and **Leslie Gariadi**, a Papuan teacher-evangelist who trained at Saint Aidan's College, were killed at sea on the Feast of the Holy Name, 7 August 1942, when their vessel the *Mumuru* was strafed by the Japanese on the water between Port Moresby and Daru.

### THE NORTHERN PROVINCE

On 22 July 1942 the Japanese landed at Gona on the north-east coast of Papua, where an Anglican Mission Station and Hospital were established. The Mission personnel consisted of the Reverend James Benson, Sister **May Hayman**, and Miss **Mavis Parkinson**.

Sister Hayman was from Adelaide, and had worked at hospitals in Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra, and Dubbo. Just before the Japanese invasion she and the Reverend **Vivian Redlich** had announced their engagement: she was aged twenty-one.

Miss Parkinson was from Ipswich, Queensland. She had trained at the Australian Board of Mission Training School, and was the head of the Mission school at Gona.

Fr Benson and the two women sought safety inland, but the women agreed to accompany a group of Australian soldiers hoping to reach Port Moresby. The group was captured, and Sister Hayman and Miss Parkinson were bayoneted beside prepared graves at Jegarata, near Popondetta, some time after 11 August 1942. Their bodies were recovered and given Christian burial on the old Sangara Mission Station on 26 February 1943. Father Benson was later taken prisoner, and was found, still alive, in the Ramale Valley internment camp in New Britain in September 1945.

The Reverend **Vivian Redlich** was stationed at Sangara, thirty miles inland from Gona. With him were a mission nurse, Sister **Margery Brenchley**, and a teacher, Miss **Lilla Lashmar**. About eight miles further on at Isivita were the Reverend **Henry Holland** and Mr **John Duffill**. Late in July, heathen and unfriendly natives, led by a notorious criminal, who believed that the white man's day was over, betrayed the missionaries to the Japanese. All five were captured and taken to Buna, where they were beheaded on the beach. Their bodies were not recovered, and it is believed they were thrown into the sea.

Fr Redlich was a Leicestershire man, his father being Rector of Little Bowden, where he was brought up. He was trained at Chichester Theological College, and after a period in England he came to Australia, joined the Bush Brotherhood of St Andrew in Central Queensland in 1935, served for five years, and then joined the Papua New Guinea Mission.

Sister Brenchley was born in England but migrated to Australia as a teenager. She trained at the Brisbane Hospital, and she was supported by her parish, Holy Trinity, Fortitude Valley, from the time that she joined the Mission in 1927.

Miss Lashmar was a teacher: she joined the Mission in 1920 when she was a parishioner at St Cuthbert's, Prospect, South Australia. Lucien Tapiedi was one of her teaching staff.

Fr Holland came from a sheep farming background in New South Wales: he had joined the Mission as a layman in 1910, and first worked with the Reverend Copeland King, Co-Founder of the Mission, at Ambasi. Fr Holland established the Mission at Sangara in 1922, and when that was in place he moved to a new station at Isivita in 1928.

Mr Duffill was from Holy Trinity, Woolloongabba, Brisbane, where he had been a chorister and head server. He joined the Mission in 1938 as a builder. He was responsible for the Mission Boat, the *Maclaren King*: he and Bishop Philip Strong had narrowly escaped death when the boat was strafed by the Japanese earlier in 1942

**Lucian Tapiedi**, who was born in about 1921, was a Papuan teacher who was killed by his own people at some time in August when he tried to protect the missionaries he was accompanying from Sangara and Isivita. His grave was found and, though he was not with the Gona Missionaries but with those from Sanagara and Isivita, his body was given Christian burial next to the graves of Sister Hayman and Miss Parkinson at Sangara. A statue of Lucian Tapiedi was installed in 1998 over the west door of Westminster Abbey with those of nine other twentieth-century Christian martyrs from the wider Church.

## NEW BRITAIN

The Reverend **John Barge** and the Reverend **Bernard Moore**, who worked together, died on the south coast of the island of New Britain.

Fr Barge was an Englishman who fought in the First World War, and migrated to Queensland where he was an orchardist in the Stanhope area. He studied theology at St Francis's College, Brisbane, and after serving in two parishes in Toowoomba he joined the Mission in 1935. In October 1943 the missionary house at Pomete was sighted from a Japanese destroyer. A landing force found Fr Barge going about his daily work quite openly. The Japanese, who seemed friendly, took him aboard the destroyer, telling the local people they would help him get medical supplies and bring him back. But after the ship had rounded the next point, he was taken ashore.. Two local people hiding in the bush saw him executed 'with shot and sword'. The local people buried him on the spot, marking his grave with a border of coral near the Mission Station of Apugi and the Government Station of Kandrian.

Fr Moore was priest, teacher, sailor, supplier and transporter of goods and services to the outlying islands on the South West coast of New Britain. The cause of his death is unknown: his grave is at Kumbun, New Britain.