



Anglican Church of Southern Africa
Diocese of Grahamstown

The Bishop of Grahamstown
The Rt Reverend Ebenezer St Mark Ntlali

P O Box 181 • Grahamstown • South Africa • 6140 • email: bishop@grahamstowndiocese.org.za
Tel. Home (+27) (0)46-622 2500 Office (+27) (0)46-636 1996 • Fax (+27) (0)46-622 5231

Ad Clerum

August to December 2015

No. 06/2015

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Bishopsbourne

We +Ebenezer, Noncedo, Masandi, Buntu, Aphiwe, Zipho, Chwayita, Buhle, Esona, Sub-Dean Mzinzi, Lilitha, Sambesiwe give thanks to God for the prayerful support, the love and generosity of God's people in the diocese. Together with the diocesan staff and the Revd Mxoli we wish the leadership and diocesan family a prayerful Advent, blessed Christmas, prosperous New Year and happy Epiphany.

New Archdeacons

We thank God for the ministry of our Dean as Archdeacon of Grahamstown. We have now appointed the Sub-Dean, the Revd Mzinzi Dyantyi as Archdeacon of Grahamstown.

Archdeacon Lorraine Rusch who has done wonderful work as Archdeacon of East London South has resigned. The Revd Canon Simphiwe Magxwalisa has been appointed the new Archdeacon with effect from 1st January 2016.

The Revd Canon Cynthia Webstock has been appointed the new Archdeacon of Albany Archdeaconry.

We give thanks to God for the ministry of Archdeacon Phumzile Mpumlwana. He did outstanding work as Archdeacon of East London Central. He has resigned and the Revd Canon Randall Gallant is Acting Archdeacon until the end of February 2016. We thank God for his ministry and also as the Acting Rector of St Francis, Mdantsane. With effect from 1st March 2016, the new Archdeacon of East London Central will be the Revd Nkosiphendule Matshaya, the Rector of Good Shepherd, East London.

We call upon the diocesan family and its entire leadership to pray for the new incoming Archdeacons and their new role in the Episcopal support ministry.

Clergy Moves

The Revds Feliciano Janneker, Mary Botchway and Isaac Hardnick have been transferred from St Mark's East London to St John, Good Shepherd and All Saints respectively. The Revd Milton Quntu has moved from St Augustine, Grahamstown to St Peter Peddie.

The Revd Loyiso Zibi is going home to the Diocese of Umzimvubu at the end of December. We give thanks to God for his outstanding ministry as Rector of St Peter, Peddie and for his wise leadership of creating through us, a new parish of St James in Peddie. We wish him, Sinipha and the children a happy stay and a blessed ministry, in serving God by serving His people.

We have been notified by the Revd Terry Mitchell of Christ Church that he will end his ministry at Christ Church and in our diocese by the end of February 2016. We thank God for his ministry, love and humility and for serving God by serving His people. Terry and Julia have been wonderful in our midst. May God bless them in their new role in Christ's ministry.

The Revd Claire Hunter who has been in part-time ministry in the Cathedral has now joined the full-time stipendiary ministry.

We welcome the Revd Monica Ngombane from the Diocese of Johannesburg who has made St Saviour's, East London her spiritual home. We wish her a happy stay in the diocese and the blessed ministry.

Marketing and Communication Media Officer

We are receiving a new priest from the Diocese of Mthatha by the name of Luthando Madiba. He will be getting married on the 11th of December 2015 and will be joining his new wife in Grahamstown who is permanently employed at Rhodes University. We have appointed him as our marketing and communications officer because of his skill which is highly needed in our diocese. He will serve under the Dean at the Cathedral whilst being our media person. He will be mentored by Mrs Maggy Clarke our retiring media officer as he takes over from her. We pray that he will enjoy being in our diocese. We thank God for Bishop Dr Sithembele Mzamane for giving us such a gift.

Diocesan Family Weekend 21 – 23rd August 2015

We give thanks to God for the Archdeaconry of East London Central for hosting the Diocesan Family Weekend in St Saviour's Parish. We thank God for Archdeacon Penrose Mpumlwana and the Revd Godfrey Walton for their outstanding work together with the archdeaconry family.

- We thank all the Clergy who attended the clergy school on Thursday and Friday which focussed on mission, evangelism and revival that was conducted by Archdeacon Zweli Tom at Bernard Mizeki, Scenery Park.
- One always enjoys the Saturday where the diocesan family comes together to play different kinds of sport. We thank Archdeacon James Rusch who conducted the healing service at St Saviour's parish.
- The Sunday service always reflects our unity as we worship together in different languages, i.e. Afrikaans, English and Xhosa, and we thank God that we are a metropolitan church. This service ended with a love gift for

Education and Training, which raised an amount of R300,768.57. We thank all the parishes, Guilds, servers, lay ministers, clergy and others.

Diocesan Council 9 and 10 of October 2015

We had a wonderful meeting hosted by St Saviour's Parish, East London. We will be communicating to all of you the resolutions that were taken. May God bless all those who do God's mission in the Diocese through their various structures in the form of accountability. We thank St Saviour's for their warm welcome, love and generosity.

Provincial news

- Grahamstown diocese has the privilege of hosting the Synod of Bishops from 15 to 18 February 2016. This will take place in East London. The Synod will be started on 14 February 2016 with a march to the site of the Bhisho massacre ending with a service in the Bhisho stadium.
- We call upon all the clergy of the diocese and the diocesan family to join the Archbishop and all the Bishops of ACSA in the march, the prayers that will be said at the graveside of those who died in the massacre, the laying of the wreath by the Archbishop and the Eucharistic service that will be done at the Bhisho stadium. Members of Chapter and Honorary Canons will wear their cassock, surplice, red stole and cope and the clergy will robe in cassock, surplice and red stole without a cope. All Guilds, servers and lay ministers will robe in their uniforms. The people will be expected to assemble for all this next to Bhisho stadium at 13h00. The chair of the events committee and the Archdeacon to the Ordinary will communicate the other logistics.
- There will be a Gala Dinner on the 13th of February 2016 led by the Revd Elliot Masoka who has been appointed by the Archbishop to mobilise resources for the Province. The focus of this event will be to fundraise for the College of Transfiguration.
- Other important provincial dates include the Synod of Bishops/Provincial Synod from 26 to 30 September 2016 and an Anglicans Ablaze Conference from 5 to 8 October 2016.
- 2016 Provincial Synod
Regarding Diocesan representation at Provincial Meetings, the Archbishop has requested that each Diocese reflect that both Youth and Women and, where possible, Provincial Planning Meeting delegates, form part of the delegation.

Diocesan dates to diarise

Diocesan Synod from 4 to 7 May 2016. This will take place at St Alban's, East London.

The Family Weekend 26 – 28 August 2016 hosted by the Grahamstown Archdeaconry at the indoor sport centre in Joza township.

Diocesan Umjikelo of Guilds, lay ministers, servers and deacons

This took place on Sunday the 29th of November 2015 at Bernard Mizeki, Scenery Park where a marvellous amount of R66,924.30 was raised (R17,500 for the Bishop's Appeal and R49,424.30 fundraising). Thank you to all who contributed and to all who responded to the Bishop's Appeal so far.

Mother's Union campaign against gender based violence

Mother's Union Guild has planned an awareness campaign against Gender Based Violence coinciding with the 16 Days of Activism Campaign. ("No to violence to woman, children and menfolk".)

Bernard Mizeki Diocesan Men's Guild

We will be doing the opening service of St Bernard Mizeki Diocesan Guild on the 7th of February 2016. The service will be held at Holy Cross, Mdantsane. Please uphold them in our prayers.

Bereavements

Please continue to uphold in prayer the families of Canons Nancy Charton and Jesse Sage who died recently. Also pray for the following clergy who lost loved ones recently:-

Revd Noluthando Gixana (mother);

Revd Zukiswa Gxesi (mother)

Archdeacon William Fobosi (brother)

Revd Loyiso Zibi (brother).

Mr Mgcini Sintwa has passed on tragically and he will be buried on the 11th of December 2015 at Libode.

Intercessory prayers

- Mrs Noluthu Mbolekwa – Revd Godukile's wife;
- Mrs Shona Domeris – the Revd Canon Dr Bill Domeris' wife;
- Revd Tsepo Moletsane;
- Revd Canon James Hoyle;

- We pray for the elective assembly of the Diocese of Zululand. The following names have been forwarded to us:

Archdeacon Ignatius Zwane;

Bishop Tsietsie Edward Seleoane

- We pray for the elective assembly of the Synod of Bishops that will be electing a Bishop for the Diocese of Namibia between the 15th and 18th of February 2016.

Ordinations

There will be no ordinations at the end of this year. This will happen on the 26th of June 2016. You will be informed of any change in this date.

Reading recommendations

A book by Prof Stephen M Njiro, a Senior Research Veterinarian of Pretoria, *He shall bear their Iniquities* is about the Lord's sufferings as presented in Isaiah 53. Although it is a good book that will strengthen anyone's faith any time of the year, it is particularly useful for weekly home group discussions in the build up to Easter/Holy Week. To order this book, contact Prof Njiro on 012 – 529-9164 or 072-759-8809 or email him at NjiroS@arc.agric.za .

Here is a short introduction:

Isaiah 53 is a very fascinating chapter of scripture. It is perhaps the most powerful piece of writing on the supreme sacrifice that the Lord Jesus Christ offered for the undesirable consequences of the sins of humanity. As a result of what He achieved on the cross, those among humankind who exhibit an interest and a need on the personal level to gain from His work can now go free and be reconciled back to God. Isaiah 53 must rank among the most endearing pieces of writing where the Lord is concerned. One cannot read it and fail to be impressed by the extreme pain and suffering the Lord endured, or by the love, resolve and determination with which He took the whole thing. This book consists of verse-by-verse meditations from all twelve verses in the chapter, in which salient themes from each verse are pursued and appropriately extrapolated. May the power of God contained in this chapter of scripture transform your life.

Diocesan dues

We repeat the plea of the finance manager for all parishes to pay their dues ie assessment, insurance, Khahlamba, medical aid etc, by the 15th of December 2015. Those that have not yet made their contributions for Theological Sunday, Lent, Family Day, umjikelo and Bishop's Appeal kindly also do so by this date.

Office Closure

The office will close for the Christmas break on the 18th of December 2015 and will re-open on the 6th of January 2016.

Grace and peace



BISHOP OF GRAHAMSTOWN

Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours.
Ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out;
ours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and ours are the hands with which
He is to bless us now. (St Teresa de Avila)