



# Umbuliso



## The Greeting

Newsletter of the Diocese of Grahamstown June-July 2017. Vol 39 No. 3

### June 16 celebrations DYG "Send us out into the world to live and work"



Traditional attire

On the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the Diocesan Youth Guild indulged themselves yet in another fruitful weekend of June 16 Celebrations. The weekend was nothing short of productive programmes. It started on Friday with an uplifting healing service conducting by the Revered. W. Bloko. Sister Siphokazi Mdlulwa brought to light to all members the significance of the day ( June 16) linked it to why we celebrate the day and what the day should mean for every black youth member. Friday speakers really set the note for the event and indeed set it to be of a high standard.

The Saturday started of with a high-spirited praise and worship lead by



Sports were done

Sister Lusanda Tutu and Brother Masande Xintolo and the celebrations continued to include sporting and team building activities which left members enthused and well-trained. Sister Vuyolwethu Wulana spoke about the significance of instilling the sport culture among the youth and the benefits of partaking in sports.

The sporting activities had to be one the highlights of the event, with teams randomly selected coming up with team names that had the letters DYG (in any order) in it and come up with a War Cries to represent their teams. And Just when one thought that was the epitome of the weekend. DYG members' did not fail to go all out on the Saturday evening activities, the 60's theme and the traditional concert: In the 90's theme we had members mimics heroes and heroines such as Winnie Mandela, Yvonne Tshaka-Tshaka, Brenda Fassie, Velaphi Mjongeni, Hotstix Mabuse, the list goes on. Members further rendered musical and dance items of the era in the likes of Kwela-Kwela, Bumdance, Merriam Makheba's items, we did had remarkable renditions rendered by the members. The Traditional Concert defined by theme "Dumzela Sungena Shori" also yet another well responded to activity in the programme, where members dressed up in Traditional regalia and rendering traditional song.

The keynote address of the Weekend was delivered by Brother. Sabatha Mbekushe who spokes so eloquently and very on point to all the matters that affect young people and what we need to do in order to soldier on and uphold the banner of young Christians in our Youth days.

We than closed of the Sunday (which happened to be father's day) with a blissful service lead by our Bishop of the Diocese who presided over the Eucharist and was the preacher of the day.

The weekend was a tremendous success

and was well attended, well organised, well carried out and members well-behaved. A special thank you to the parish of Holy name, the Rector, Revd Mnukiso, the mothers' union of the parish for their great hospitality and food, The Youth of the parish who worked whole-heartedly to ensure the success of the weekend. We also thank the Clergy and their spouse who attended our event.

Siyi executive Yalombuto kule Diocese Siswele imilomo



Sunday service (DYG was in full Uniform)

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# Bishop Ebenezer's Charge



## The Pentecost.

Dear Brothers and Sisters

On the day of Pentecost the liturgical colour changes from white of Easter and Ascension to the red of the Holy Spirit. This might suggest that, with Jesus gone back into heaven, the focus of the church's worship is turned to the Holy Spirit. But Pentecost is not a feast of the Holy Spirit but the commemoration of the Descent of the Holy Spirit. Before this historical event of Pentecost and the descending of God – the Holy Spirit, in Acts of the apostles, the risen Christ gave a command to his apostles not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift his Father promised.

The Day of Pentecost was practiced by the Israelites when on each year, on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Passover will go to the Jerusalem temple and offer to God their barley sheafs. This was called the Feast of the Weeks (Exodus 34:22).

On the 50<sup>th</sup> day after the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, on the same day of the offerings of the sheaf; God the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and those who were in the Upper Room and baptized them. Tongues of fire rested on each apostle; God gave them not the earthly material harvest of Pentecost, but he gave them the eternal spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit such as wisdom, knowledge, healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, different kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues.

All these gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to each and every member for the edification of the body of Christ. Therefore, on the Day of Pentecost Peter and

the other apostles received the tongues of fire and were baptized by the same spirit.

God the Holy Spirit enabled Peter to be bold, filled him with power and went out to proclaim the Gospel of grace. Three thousand souls were converted and surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ. Jesus became their Lord and Master, and they were empowered and enabled for their ministry.

So what do we learn from this; the coming down of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost – was the fulfillment of the prophesy of the prophet Joel who in his time prophesied that God will pour his spirit on sons and daughters; Sons and daughters will prophesy and dream dreams. God will pour his spirit in those days. God will show wonders in heaven above and signs on earth below. This demonstrates the love, the humility and the generosity of God to meet us through the descent of the Holy Spirit on us on earth.

we can also note that the Holy Spirit was given to those who were already the disciples of Jesus Christ who were having a relationship with him through conversions to him as their Lord and Master. In other words, the Holy Spirit was given to those who believe in Jesus Christ. Those who received the Holy Spirit were enabled to transcend their tribal barriers and race. The miracle on the Day of Pentecost was that all from different languages could hear and understand Peter's message.

So my brothers and sisters, God by giving us the Holy Spirit through the re-

quest of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ was giving all human-beings in the world eternal wisdom and other fruits of the spirit in their lives in order that they may keep the ten commandments and the command of Christ (love one another), and practice his will and mind for a better stay on earth.

God the Holy Spirit will enable us to avoid killing one another as we have just seen in South Africa with the killing of women and children, the killing of the 22 people and those who were wounded in Manchester, and those recently killed in London in what may be terror attacks .

God the Holy Spirit is given to human-beings who are believers in Jesus Christ to be the light and the salt of the earth and to refrain from acts of greed, corruption, status, power , pride, ambition and avoid goal-scoring amongst political parties who want to prove to be better than the other, substance abuse, rape and other forms of gender violence against women and children,

we are given God the Holy Spirit to regain God's Image in Christ Jesus our Saviour in the power of the Holy Spirit and to live in this world as sons and daughters of God guided by the eternal and earthly wisdom.

*(IsiXhosa: tyhila kwiphepha lesi-4)*

## Feeling the Hurt



By Siki Wababa

The Mothers union in the Anglican church of southern Africa has embarked on a campaign to fight the Killing and raping of young women and children especially girls. On the 28 May 2017 St Katherine's Parish in Berlin joined masses of Mothers who are crying and feeling the hurt of their children and remembering all those who have lost their lives due to this violence. Mothers in this Parish joined together in prayer, reading of poems and even dressed black attire as a symbol of hurt which we due to this violence against women.

# The Power of a Mother's Prayer



By Gwen Mvula and edited by Blessings Chinganga

The St Agnes Guild is a church based organisation for young Anglican girls. It aims to minister the word of God and spirit of Anglicanism, as well as instilling good Christian values and the particular social responsibility that young Christian women need to take on. Being a former St Agnes Guild (Zimbabwe) member myself, I can attest to the powerful and solid foundation that I received from

being part of the guild. I felt a lot of pride and honour when I wore the uniform and attended the camps and meetings. This Guild not only takes care and moulds the spiritual well being of young Anglican girls, it also creates a sisterhood. Moreover, it creates a special bond between the young girls and their spiritual mothers – the Mothers' Union. This is the same special bond that was shown at St

Phillips on Mothers' Day when each St Agnes Guild of St Phillips member chose a (spiritual) mother to give a flower and be a praying partner. We thank God for our Mothers and hope that they had a wonderful Mothers' Day.

## St Matthews

On the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017 Revd Dr. Lulama Mtanjiswa Ntshingwa was installed as a Rector of St Matthews Qoboqobo (keiskamahoe) The Bishop of Grahamstown Preached and presided over Eucharist. There were other Ministers from other denominations that were invited and were taken by the Anglican service. School choir entertained everybody by their songs.



The New Rector was doing Lord's Prayer

# Happy Easter Day at Holy Trinity Dimbaza

By Avuziwe Belani

What a Marvellous and Joyful Easter as the Holy Trinity Dimbaza Parish. Indeed He has risen. Glory be to God Almighty for defeating death and for that we give him glory, honour, praise and worship, for there is no one else like Him. He is the Father, the provider, the healer and a helper. He is God who does wonders, God who makes impossible things possible. UThixo wethu akahlulwa nto.

us, especially on the Maundy Thursday up until the Easter Lord. Sunday.



Revd Dr. Beja and his servers



Welcoming of new servers

What an Easter !!! What an Easter !!! 2017 Easter was the most special one. We felt the Holy Spirit among

On the Easter Sunday, there were two Servers who were installed by the Incumbent, Rev. Dr. Sam Beja. We thank the Lord for giving these two ladies the wisdom of wanting to serve the Lord and of wanting to become the servants of the Almighty. How wonderful it is to see the children of the Most High growing up in the church of our Lord. I am sure that all the Angels and Archangels were rejoicing to welcome two new



### The Guesthouse at Mariya uMama weThemba Monastery

As part of the Benedictine ministry of hospitality, the monks of Mariya uMama weThemba Monastery offer a 19 bed, fully equipped guesthouse for those seeking a quiet place of prayer and retreat and for meetings. The Guesthouse is open from Tuesday morning until Sunday afternoon.

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# Umxholo kaBhishopu Ebenezer Ipentekoste



Ngomhla wePentekosti um-bala wokuqhutywa kween-konzo utshintsha ukusuka komhlophe wePasika noMhla woNyuko ube ngobomvu woMoya oNgcwele. Le nto ingathetha ukuthi, njengoko uYesu ebuyele ezulwini, ukugxila konqulo lwenkonzo kujoliswa kuMoya oNgcwele. Kodwa iPentekosti ay-ingomgobo woMoya oNgcwele koko isisikhumbuzo soKuhla koMoya oNgcwele. Phambi kwesi siganeko siyimbali se-Pentekosti nokuhla kukaThixo –uMoya oNgcwele, kwiZenzo zabaPostile, uKrestu ovukileyo wanika umyalelo kubaPostile ukuba bangemki eYerusalem koko balinde idinga lesipho soMoya Ongcwele owathenjiswa nguYise.

UMhla wePentekosti wawugcinwa ngamaSirayeli xa kwakusithi ngomnyaka ngamnye ngosuku lwama-50 emva kwePasika kuyiwe etempileni eYerusalem banikele kuThixo ngezapho zengqolowa. Lo mgcobo ke kwakusithiwa nguMgcobo weeVeki (Eksodus 34:22).

Ngomhla wama-50 emva kokuvuka kweNkosi yethu uYesu Krestu, kwangosuku olunye nolo lwezapho zengqolowa, uThixo uMoya oNgcwele wehlela phezu kwabaPostile nabo babekwiGumbi eliPhezulu wababhaptiza. Kwabonakala kuphumele phezu kompostile ngamnye iilwimi zomlilo. UThixo aka-

zange abanike izinto zezivuno zehlabathi zePentekosti koko wabanika izipho zaseMoyeni oNgcwele ezingunaphakade ezinjengobulumko, ulwazi, ukuphilisa, amandla angum-mangaliso, ukuprofeta, iindidi ngeendidi zeelwimi nokucacisa iilwimi.

Zonke ezi zipho zoMoya oNgcwele zinikwa kwilungu ngalinye ukufundisa abantu bakaKrestu. Ke ngoko ngomhla we:Pentekosti uPetros nabanye abafundi bamkela iilwimi zomlilo baza babhaptizwa kwangaloo moya mnye.

UThixo uMoya Ongcwele wenza ukuba uPetros abe nakho ukuba liqhaji, wamzalisa ngamandla, waphuma waya kushumayela iVangeli yobabalo. Kwaguquka imiphefumlo engamawaka amathathu yanikezela ngobomi bayo kuYesu Krestu. UYesu waba yiNkosi noMlawuli wabo, banikwa amandla baxhotyiselwa umsebenzi wabo.

Ke ngoko singafunda ntoni kule nto: koko kuhla koMoya oNgcwele ngoMhla we-Pentekosti – iPentekosti yaba kukuzalisekiswa kwesiprofeto somprofeti owathi ngexeesha lakhe waprofeta ukuba uThixo uya kuwuthulula umoya wakhe phezu koonyana neentombi. Oonyana neentombi baya kuprofeta baphuphe amaphupha. UThixo uya kuwuthulula umoya wakhe ngaloo mihla. UThixo uya ku-

bonakalisa imimangaliso yakhe ezulwini phezulu nemi-qondiso emhlabeni ngaphantsi. Le nto yalatha uthando, ukuzithoba nesisa sikaThixo sokuhlangana nathi ngokuhla koMoya oNgcwele phezu kwethu ehlabathini.

Singanakho nokuqaphela ukuba uMoya oNgcwele wani-kezelwa kwabo bantu babesele bengabapostile bakaYesu Krestu ababenobudllezane naye ngokuguqukela kuye njengeNkosi noMlawuli wabo. Ngamanye amazwi, uMoya oNgcwele wanikezelwa kwabo babekholwa kuYesu Krestu. Abo bamkela uMoya oNgcwele banikwa amandla okuvelela ngasentla kwemiqobo yobuhlanga nobuzwe. Um-mangaliso ngoMhla we-Pentekosti yaba kukuba bonke bevela kwiilwimi ngeelwimi baba nokuvana nokuyiqonda imiyalezo yabanye.

Ngoko ke bazalwana bam noodade, uThixo ngokusinika uMoya oNgcwele ngesicelo seNkosi noMsindisi wethu uYesu Krestu wanika lonke uluntu ehlabathini ubulumko bangonaphakade nezinye iziqhamo zomoya ebomini balo ukuze babe nakho ukugcina imithetho elishumi nomyalelo kaKrestu (thandanani), lwenze intando nengqondo yakhe ukuze luphile bhetele ehlabathini.

UThixo uMoya oNgcwele angasinika amandla okuba sikuphephe ukubulalana njen-

goko siye sabona kuMzantsi Afrika kutshanje, ngokubulawa kwamakhosikazi nabantwana, ukubulawa kwama-22 abantu nabo baye bangxwelerhwa eManchester kwakunye nabo baye babulawa eLondon kwinto ekunokuthiwa luhlase-lo lobunqolobi.

UThixo uMoya oNgcwele unikezelwa kubantu abakholelwayo kuYesu Krestu ukuba ulukhanyiselo netyuwa yehlabathi, nokuba kufuneka singazenzi izenzo zokubawa, urhwaphilizo, amawonga, amandla, ikratshi, ukuthanda amawonga, nokundyukrana kwamaqela ezopolitiko ilelo lifuna ukubonwa libheatele kunelinye, ukusetyenziswa kakubi kwezinyobisi, ubudlwen-gu nezinye iindlela zogonyame-lo kwezesini ngakwabaset-yhini nabantwana Sinikwa uThixo uMoya oNgcwele ukuze sibe nokuphinda sifumane umfanekiso kaThixo kuYesu Krestu uMsindisi wethu emandleni oMoya oNgcwele nokuhlala kweli hlabathi njengoonyana neentombi zikaThixo bekhokelwe bubulumko behlabathi obungunaphakade.

(For English, see page 2)

## EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

All Saints Anglican Church requires the services of a non - stipendiary ordained Priest with own accommodation, at All Saints Church, Jan Smuts Avenue, Rosemount, East London.

### Key performance areas

To preside and preach at regular 08h30 Sunday morning services and special services within the liturgical year, overseeing and supporting the participation of lay members. To attend to the pastoral needs of the whole congregation, especially those who are old or ill and unable to attend services.

To support and encourage the children in the church, holding family services and advising the Sunday school, and also to maintain working relationships with the local community.

To promote in the local area the opportunity

for Anglican worship at All Saint's Church

To provide enthusiastic leadership and direction for the future development of All Saints'

To maintain excellent, friendly and transparent communications with all church lay groups.

To build on existing ecumenical relationships with other churches in the local area.

To maintain and develop the involvement and participation of young people in All Saints' worship.

To do all as contained canon 24

### Leadership

To have overall responsibility for enthusiastic leadership within All Saints working with the PCC and congregation to agree on strategies and priorities for the future with emphasis on a caring, inclusive, non-judgmental ministry

reaching out to new families in the area. The lay ministry and the Sunday school also require support and guidance.

### Qualifications and Experience

Diploma or B Degree in Theology and ordained, Experienced mature clergy with 5 years running the Parish.

### Other requirements

To be comfortable communicating with all ages and sorts of people in a sensitive, friendly and approachable manner. To be able to think strategically but with practical skills to enable God's mission to become reality within the wider community.

To hold a valid SA driving license and have own car..

# Garden dedicated at Highlands

By Maggy Clarke

The congregations of St Cyprian's Church Highlands and neighbouring churches, and many friends of the late Dr Celia Jameson Rose, gathered at St Cyprian's on 14 May for the dedication of a garden in her memory.



Peter Rose (right), husband of the late Celia, speaks at the dedication of the Rose Garden, with Dean Andrew Hunter, and the Revd Ruthell Johnson.

This church in the heart of the country has a major community outreach once a year, when they hold a "Country Fair" to raise funds for educational projects in the Grahamstown area. Being on a steep slope, their grounds were not exactly suitable for the purpose, and the congregation decided to landscape a level area, with a braai and seating built in by local stone-masons. After the death of the much-loved doctor, Celia Jameson Rose, who worshipped there with her husband Peter Rose, the decision was taken to dedicate the garden in her memory, and name it the "Rose Garden".

The sun shone, and about 100 people fitted into the picturesque little stone church for a service of Holy Communion at which the Dean of Grahamstown, Andrew Hunter, was

the preacher. Ten adult members of the Cathedral Choir led the enthusiastic singing, specially invited because Dr Celia had been a devoted member of that choir. At the end everyone gathered outside for the blessing of the garden by the Revd Ruthell Johnson, and the unveiling of a plaque by Celia and Peter's daughter, Sarah Dunn, from Oxfordshire, UK. The proceedings ended with tea, cake, and a bring-and-share lunch.



Local stonemasons, who built the walls around the garden, enjoy the party after the Dedication.

## FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SPIRITUALITY

### "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4)

This was on the Day of Pentecost- a much awaited Day had come. The Day on which the Church was born. It marked the beginning of the Apostles' earthly ministry. Did Jesus not tell them to "Tarry in Jerusalem till they are endued with power from on high"? He had reassured them that He will not leave them as **orphans**. "I will come to you. On that day you will realise that I am in My Father and you are in Me, and I am in You"

Did Joel not prophesy about it "And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I pour out My Spirit on **all flesh**"?

Just to recap from our previous article we were exploring the attributes of God the Holy Spirit and this is the thread we are going to run with but beyond here we should all be eager and willing to receive Him as an integral part of our lives and learn how to receive Him.

In our exploration let us meet Him as Source of Sanctification - 2 Thes 2:13 "because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth" 1Pet 1:2

Source of Justification - 1Tim 3:16 Helps men to obey the truth -1Pet 1:22 God dwells in men by the Spirit - Eph 2:19-22 "in whom you also are being built together for a **dwelling** place of God in the Spirit" Profound revelation. God dwelling in your humble self Can be quenched -1 Thes 5:19 Walking in the Spirit is the secret of

victory over flesh!! Gal 5:16; 18-26; Rom 8:1-13

Gives fellowship - Phil 2:1

The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit - Eph 6:17

Gives the 7 gifts of the Spirit Is 11:2 *Holy Fear, Piety, Counsel, Fortitude, Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding*

Imparts true character of God - Gal 5:22 the 9 fruit of the Spirit -*love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.*

Baptises believers into the body of Christ -1Cor 12:13

He is the source of hope - Gal 5:5

Writes on fleshly tablets of the heart -2 Cor 3:1-3 Did God not promise us in Ezek 36 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statues"?

Imparts love -Rom 5:5; 15:30

Can cast out devils - Mat 12:28

He is the Spirit of holiness - Rom 1:4

He is the agent of new birth - Jn 3:5-8; Gal 4:29 Let us recall the discourse between Jesus and Nicodemus where Jesus clearly stated that "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jesus further elucidates that "unless one is born of water and **Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God"

Bears witness of son-ship - Rom 8:14 "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God" Rom 8:16 "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God"

Makes you free from sin and death - Rom 8:1-4; 12-13

Invites men to God - Rev 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely"

Whilst in our previous lesson we stated that the list of the attributes is not exhaustive, we shall from now on discover how we may derive maximally from an everlasting personal relationship with God the Holy Spirit.

South Africa needs Intercessors and more so now that we are facing despicable occurrences in unprecedented levels. Gruesome murders of women and children. Men killing and burning bodies of their loved ones to beyond recognition, Men raping and wrapping toddlers in plastic bags, concealing their deaths by burying them in shallow graves. The Rand tumbling down to junk status.

The voice of the Church needs to be heard NOW. We need Intercessors that cry to God day and night - Lam 2:18-19 "Let tears run down like a river day and night; Give yourself no relief; Give your eyes no rest. Arise, cry out in the night' at the beginning of the watches; Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift up your hands towards Him for the life of your young children"

"Come from the four winds O breath and breathe into these slain that they may live" Eze 37:9

2 Chr 7:14 "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land"

South Africa needs every voice of conscience!!

Let us together seek the fullness of the Spirit and receive Him and do God's will and work on earth!! AMEN

Prepared by Mrs BP Beja



# The Bishop of Grahamstown at the Cathedral Church Square 7<sup>th</sup> April



**Reflecting on the patterns and blowing winds in the midst of different kinds of social ills, expressing unhappiness, of a crying society.**

Greetings to all people of God gathered here today. It is a privilege from God that I have been asked to talk to you on this important day in the history of our country. We heard just recently that Johannesburg was shaken by a tremor. This caused great concern to the citizens and people were asking a variety of questions. One of those asked, 'Could it be that God is angry with us?' That question is relevant when you remember that in Hebrews 12: 26b 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more,' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken remains.' Our country and the world are in the grip of a 'shaking'. We witness what is going on in the European Union, in America, in UK, in Russia, in Syria and in South Africa. All of these prompt people to ask questions but most of all it jolts people into action.

We are gathered here today because of the 'tremors' that are shaking our country and these have a potential to bring untold suffering to our people, especially the 'poorest of the poor'. I have chosen to term these 'winds and patterns'. This is because whenever a storm strikes there is a pattern of reaction from ourselves and from government. I am going to sight a few of

these 'storms'.

State Capture. This was one of those moments where the Public Protector had to investigate the relationship that existed between the State and the Gupta family. Central to this was the power that this family had over the state. When that 'wind' blew the pattern of response was denial and the unleashing of sections of our community on the Public Protector. Citizens voiced their unhappiness with this but very little action was taken to protect the Public Protector.

Fees must Fall. Children of our country sacrificed their education to fight for access to Higher Education. The cause was a noble one. It exposed the slow pace at which Government was addressing the issue of Higher Education. We congratulate Government for the increased allocation to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) and the decision to absorb the 2017 increment for children coming from households with a total income or up to R600 000. A Commission was put into place to investigate. The cost of the Fees must Fall on the State, Families and children has not been quantified. Society was conflicted. Very little action was taken. An attempt to convene a National Convention for Education was disrupted. The question is who is benefiting from this, who might not be interested in finding a lasting solution to this challenge?

The Social Grants 'Fiasco'. This is one of those moments when the privileged few

forgot about the poor. After the Constitutional Court had concluded that the Contract with CPS was illegal and a new process must be put into place to find a Service Provider, nothing happened. The same court' in consideration for the plight of the poor, had to extend the illegal contract. This caused great anxiety to millions of grant recipients. We talk about 17million. It is more than that if you take into consideration people who depend on the grant recipients. The State offered excuses and denials. Citizens were angry for a while and no action was taken. Cabinet reshuffle. The Church acknowledges the prerogative that the President has to 'hire and fire' Ministers. Our concern is the manner in which it is done. It is ironic that a hard-working Minister is fired and those who are not so hard-working, to put it politely are spared. The impact of this action on the economy is huge. The country has been down-graded, Banks likewise. We have been told that Banks have lost R61billion. The cost to the country is unimaginable. The people who will bear the brunt of this, are the poor and the vulnerable people of our country. The Church believes that the matter of breakdown of a relationship between the President and the Minister should have been addressed and maybe a different outcome could have been achieved. Or is he a 'stumbling block'? We are watching. Will the Nuclear deal be signed now? Will the dysfunctional State Owned Enterprises be recapitalised now? What is the reaction of the state? The same pattern, close ranks and move forward. Civil Society is mobilising. Maybe the 'shaking' has jolted us out of our slumber and we now believe that we can do something.

Radical Economic Transformation. A new phrase, a new, strategy, a new phase and a new approach. We are still awaiting to get a proper and coherent of the real meaning of this phrase. The reaction of the State to challenges is coming up with new terms. This pattern confuses people as a new one is introduced even before the old one's success and failures have been explained to the electorate. If this is aimed at, and will deal with, the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality it is welcome; if it will be used to enrich a few it will not be accepted and supported.

I have sighted these few 'storms' as an example of what we are faced with in our country. The question is what are we going to do about this. At this stage I wish I could have the eloquence of Mark

Anthony at Caesar's funeral. I chose to learn from what the Bible says in times like this. When God liberated His people from Egypt and took them to the promised land He warned them through Moses not to turn their backs on Him. They did and there was hunger, drought and they were bitten by snakes. When they came together and repented He promised to heal their land. That is why we as the Church of God make the following call to Government and Civil Society:

Bring God back into our Government, work places, schools and even Churches.

We call upon Our Government to root out all corruption at all levels.

Civil society to mobilise themselves and report and deal with all forms of corruption and injustice in our communities.

We call for the restoration of values in our Government and society as a whole.

We call upon Government and the Governing party to note the warning issued by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, that the same way we prayed for the downfall of the Apartheid regime we are also capable to pray for the downfall of this government.

Government must put the interests of the people first than that of a few individuals who continue to enrich themselves at the expense of the poor.

We call upon the Almighty to help our country by revealing new leaders who will lead with integrity and honesty

We call upon Churches, Traditional Councils, Schools, Universities, work places, NGOs etc. to be places of education and conscientisation of our

people. These places should be places of debate on all matters affecting our lives our people have an understanding of what Freedom means and supposed to entail for the people; what is necessary is the creation of opportunities and platforms to debate. An empowered citizens are a vigilant society.

We would like to honour all those who laid a firm foundation for our freedom. We want to warn all those who are threatening to destroy our hard-earned freedom that our patience is running thin.

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory and majesty, dominion and authority, before all time, now and forever, AMEN.

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## Cathedral says goodbye to a multi-talented musician



**By Maggy Clark**

Dr Andrew-John Bethke left Grahamstown after Easter, after five years as the Director of Music at the Cathedral. A series of farewell events was organised, proof of the affection and esteem in which he was held by the parish and the wider community.

First he was invited to give a recital on the organ of Kingswood College. At his last Choral Evensong conducting the full Cathedral Choir, Prof Pat Terry reminded the congregation of how much "AJ" had achieved in five short years: "composing canticles, composing masses, introducing new forms of service, preaching sermons, making recordings, conducting the university choir, lecturing in the university music department and at the College of the Transfiguration, and in between all this managing to complete a Masters degree in Composition with distinction."

Well-known Grahamstown musician, Andrew Tracey, who is also a member of the Cathedral Choir,

organised a concert in Bethke's honour at which participants included besides the Cathedral Choir, Rhodes Choir, Pro Carmine Singers, and many other local musicians.

At a farewell bring-and-share luncheon in the



The Cathedral Choir

Cathedral Hall on 2 April, parishioners gave a number of tributes in speech and song, and Bethke was presented with a souvenir album which had been compiled especially for him, containing photos of memorable occasions during his time as Cathedral Director of Music, as well as letters of appreciation from numerous friends in Grahamstown. The Dean, Andrew Hunter, had the final opportunity to say farewell to him after the Easter morning services, and thanked him for the part he had played in shaping and deepening the life of worship at the Cathedral, and promoting diversity in language and music.

Andrew-John Bethke is spending some time at his parents' home in Cape Town, while exploring various possibilities for his next move. The Cathedral community upholds him in prayer, while giving thanks to God for all the blessings they have received through his ministry among them.

# Umbuliso uyakubulisa ....

## Choral in floral youth concert



The Youth Guild of St. Francis Anglican Church

**By Qaqamba Mdlulwa**

The Youth Guild of St. Francis Anglican Church hosted a concert defined by the theme "Floral in Concert". The concert was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017. It lived up to the buzz and hype it created on the St. Francis Youth guild facebook, and turned out to be a huge success. The concert was well attended by other parish youth guilds and members from other denominations such as the Methodist church, lighthouse

Baptist, Ethiopian and Presbyterian youth. The highlight of the event had to be the well co-ordination of all its logistics and the singing of the St. Francis Youth choir which sang its lungs out and surprised many with the harmonious and choral sounds it produced all sorts and methods on the day. We thank all choirs and members who attended the event and supported it in any way. Flowers were worn in

## A Gift from St Clements to Mrs Ntlali

**By Esme' Thomas**

On Sunday 28th May 2017, Mrs H Fourie presented a gift to Mrs N Ntlali, on behalf of St Clement's Church, for her contribution to the Mothers' Union in Grahamstown. Ma Noncedo presented a speech on the values of the Mothers' Union and its teachings which advocates for the role of mothers in the Church, as well as their

communities. Revd. Mvula, Revd. Monakali and COTT students were in attendance.



## Grahamstown Christians welcome Festival visitors

**By Samantha Carolus & Maggy Clarke**

Spiritfest at this year's National Arts Festival in Grahamstown will include a series of lectures and discussions on the theme, 'Faith and Resistance'. Among these will be a talk by the Revd Dr Barney Pityana about Steve Biko's faith, and the launch of 'The Book of Joy' by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama. A panel discussion, 'Faith and #must fall' will be led by Christian students and student leaders. Fitting into the same theme will be a dramatic reading: 'Bonhoeffer', about the German pastor who was executed for his part in a plot to kill Hitler.

Presbyterian churches. On the last day of the Festival there will be a Procession of Witness down the High Street with choir and musicians, culminating in a Festival Service in Commemoration Methodist Church.

For programme details see: [www.grahamstowncathedral.org/spiritfest](http://www.grahamstowncathedral.org/spiritfest)

### From the Bishop's diary

JULY		
9	Sun	Installation service of Revd Rory Middlecote at St Nicholas, East London
13-16		Mother's Union Conference
20-23		Mary Magdalene Conference &
26	Wed	Trust Board and Diocesan Finance Meeting
30	Sun	EL West Confirmations at Holy Cross Mdantsane
31	Mon	Advisory Committee meeting for Mthatha Elective Assembly
AUGUST		
1-4		Advisory Committee meet for Mthatha Elective Assembly
5	Sat	Samila Dyantyi's Baptism, Cathedral
15	Tue	Chapter Meeting, St Saviour's East London
20	Sun	Confirmation, St Saviour's
24	Thur	CoTT Excom & Finance Meeting
26-27		Diocesan Family Weekend

## Bereavements and Prayers

We pray for Revd Mbongeni Pongoma and family after the pass on of their youngest son Lutho Pongoma. May the Almighty strength the family and grace them with God's mercies and give them peace.

We also pray for Cook family after the death of Mrs Sally Cook, wife of the former Rector of St Matthew's Mission and Archdeacon of Alice, Christopher Cook.

**By Zukisa Mabuya**

Greetings Good people of God. The Anglican Women's Fellowship (AWF) of St Luke Parish in Nxarhuni is on a drive to collect Sanitary Towels for the young girls in Ntsonkotha High School. This is the school they adopted together with the Diocesan AWF. Purpose is to restore dignity to the young ladies and also try to ensure continuity in school attendance and promote good results for our young ones. The aim is to collect as much as we can and be able to make our

Although Spiritfest began at the Cathedral, events now take place in a number of venues including the Catholic, Methodist and

"first delivery" by mid May 2017. Please help us to achieve this by donating a packet or two. SICELA EZINE WINGS BETHUNA!!! For financial assistance towards this cause please use the following banking details: ST LUKE CHURCH, FNB, SOUTHERNWOOD, 621261 80919. Many thanks and God's blessings.

**Umbuliso is your diocesan newspaper! Contributions welcome**

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