iindaba

The official gazette of the Diocese of Port Elizabeth, Anglican Church of Southern Africa
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The Bishop writes ...

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Denise van Huysteen of Business Chamber (third left) gave a brilliant presentation of hope and potential for our city, to the NMB Christian Leaders. With her are: Pastor Wellington Jansen, Ds Daan Mouton, Bishop Eddie, Dr Bukelwa Hans, Pastors George Gorgeoanis, Joan Keeling, Thoft Soga, and Russel Viljoen. See report on page 2.

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we gather in our churches and homes to celebrate the glorious feast of Easter, we are reminded of the central truth of our faith: Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!

This profound mystery, which we proclaim with joy, is the cornerstone of our hope and the source of our continual renewal.

In this sacred season of Easter, we find ourselves in a world deeply scarred by the ravages of war and the persistent ache of poverty. In these trying times, the message of Easter speaks to us with even greater urgency and hope.

The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith, a testament to God's unfailing love and power. It is not just a past event but a present reality that offers us a new way of seeing and being in the world. In Christ's victory over death, we find the promise of transformation - not only for ourselves but for the whole of creation.

The empty tomb on Easter morning is God's definitive answer to every expression of brokenness and despair. It stands as an eternal declaration that life triumphs over death, love conquers hate, and hope prevails over fear. This is the joyous proclamation we are called to live and share, especially in times clouded by conflict and suffering.

In regions torn apart by war, the Resurrection invites us to become peacemakers who sow seeds of reconciliation and healing. It challenges us to look beyond our differences and to recognise Christ in one another, even in those we consider our enemies. The Risen Lord calls us to break down walls of division and to build bridges of understanding and compassion.

In the face of poverty, the Resurrection urges us to respond with generosity and solidarity. It opens our eyes to the plight of the marginalised and compels us to act. As resurrection people, we are called to be Christ's hands and feet in the world, sharing our resources, advocating for justice, and working tirelessly to uplift those who are most vulnerable.

In the resurrection, we see the power of God to bring light out of darkness, life out of death, and hope out of despair.

• This Easter, as we emerge from the challenges of the past years, let us embrace the resurrection as a call to renewal both in our personal lives and in our communities. We have faced trials, but in Christ, we find the strength to rise again.

• We have experienced division, but in Christ, we are called to unity and reconciliation. We have felt the weight of grief, but in Christ, we find comfort and peace.

This Easter, let us embrace the transformative power of the Resurrection. Let us allow it to reshape our hearts and our actions. May we be bearers of hope in a world weary from war and poverty. May the light of the Risen Christ guide our steps as we seek to build a more just, peaceful, and loving world.

Christ is risen, indeed. May this truth renew our spirits and ignite in us a relentless passion to live out the Gospel in every corner of our lives.

May the joy and peace of the Risen Lord be with you all.

Yours in the hope of the Resurrection,

+Edward Port Elizabeth

Easter
The message of hope



Whilst visiting the Diocese of St Helena Bishop Eddie met 93 year old May Young.

Easter 2024



On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 24:1-3

Christ is risen.

The editor and media team, Bishop Eddie and Nicky and the Diocesan office staff wish all our readers a very blessed Easter.

He is risen indeed!



Join SA Belongs to Jesus

on Telegram

and pray for SA for two minutes three times a day.

Begin praying for the

2024 elections - that God will put upon the heart of every Christian to vote!

That they will vote for good, God-fearing leaders who will rule with justice and integrity.

Largest floating book shop will vist Gqeberha

The Logos Hope is the world's largest floating book fair, which offers over 5,000 titles, and it will dock in Port Elizabeth on 23 February and stay until 7 March.

With around 60 different nationalities represented on board, the Logos Hope community is regarded as a genuine expression of international goodwill and understanding. The crew and staff are all non-salaried volunteers, including many serving in their professional capacity, such as seafarers, engineers, electricians, nurses, teachers and cooks. Sponsorship from friends, family members and civic organisations enables crew members to serve on board.

During their stay in port, the public are invited to come on board and buy books, visit the café, or join in one of the many events for people of all ages



Teams also go from the ship into surrounding areas to visit hospitals, schools, orphanages or prisons, supply aid and provide community care. In each port, the ship's crew and staff partner with community groups to share hope and show love to people whatever their circumstance, culture or background.

Becoming a city of hope and potential

In a move that should have very positive implications for Nelson Mandela Bay, the Christian Leaders met with members of our Business Chamber.

The objectives of the meeting were to exchange ideas and explore ways they can work together.

Denise van Huysteen of the Business Chamber gave a very positive presentation of how the Chamber had looked at the situation of instability and crisis in NMB and realised a mind-shift was needed to save the city if it was to become a city of hope and potential.

A few of the examples she shared of how businesses stepped up and worked with Provincial agencies included their adopting hospitals during the Covid pandemic, supplying PPEs, a field hospital and much more.

Other examples include:

Businesses have gone into seven impoverished areas and engineers have been helping with fixing water leaks - saving 1.5m lts of water per day.

With sub-stations being vandalised businesses in the areas around them have adopted a sub-station and encouraged the community to help them keep the area safe.

In order to keep traffic flowing in their areas, some businesses have also adopted a traffic light, installing an inverter and antivandalism structures.

To achieve all of this, businesses have formed geographic clusters to give them collective muscle. The members of the cluster have signed a code of ethics; they have appointed task teams; they contribute towards the cost of the projects and get involved where they are needed.



Listening intently to the presentation by Business Chamber are: Pastor Russel Viljoen, Bishop Eddie, Trevor Jennings, Dr Bukelwa Hans, Ed Richardson and Pastor Wellington Jansen.

Businesses are also helping the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), which will help with job creation and the economy.

The Chamber has looked at the near future impact of electric vehicles and the disruption of the economy this will cause - such as, an electric vehicle has 20 parts whereas Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles (ICE) have 2 000 parts.

To drive economic change we need:

strong, moral, ethical leaders;
fast decision making - no good taking two years to decide to do something;
focus on what can be achieved;
unity;
a mind-shift - no longer a victim;
to stop whining and start working together;
to be positive, have hope and celebrate wins.

Points worth considering:

Titles don't make leaders - actions do!
The meeting is not the action!

The view from pulpit and pew

❖ *iindaba* is sad to report on the passing of:
- Doris Bain, a member of the Order of the Diocese of Port Elizabeth and of St Paul's;
- Lester Cupp, a server at the Cathedral for 50 years, who passed away on his 59th birthday in December.

May their families feel the love of Yeshua holding them as they mourn.

❖ *iindaba* is glad to report that Dean Sharon Nell is almost running fit again after surgery to fix a tendon in her foot.

❖ *iindaba* congratulates Frankie Simpson on being awarded, on 20 February, the Order of the Diocese of Port Elizabeth - for her many years of service to the Diocese and her years as editor of the *iindaba*.
Photo and write-up will appear in the next *iindaba*.

Events for everyone on board MV Logos Hope



Ellen Kwong (left) of St Francis Xavier was with two others who attended the presentation on the upcoming visit of MV Logos Hope to Gqberha.

During the month-end NMB Intercessors' gathering at GAP Church on Friday morning 26 February, a presentation was given by members from MV Logos Hope.

Some of the on board events to diarise:

Sunday 25 February

15h00 to 17h00 - 'Teens for Christ.' An event for teens (13 to 18 years) to rediscover their identity in Christ and their role in God's kingdom. Admission R30.

Tuesday 27 February

17h00 to 19h00 - 'Mission is Possible.' Discover more about God's story in and through the church in South Africa. Admission R30.

Thursday 29 February

06h00 to 07h00 - 'Men's morning devotion.' You start the day with God's word. Admission R30.

Saturday 2 March

18h00 to 21h00 - 'All praise to Him alone.' A worship concert. Admission R20.

Sunday 3 March

15h00 to 17h00 - 'One Church - One Task.' We celebrate unity and God's story in and through the church. Admission R20.

Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 March

09h00 to 16h00 - 'Stations of generosity.' Discover a biblical view on generosity. Admission free.

Sat 9 March

09h00 to 17h00 - 'Faith and Work.' How to intentionally share Christ in your workplace. Cost R50.

14h00 to 18h00 - 'God at Work.' Discover what God's story can look like in the marketplace. Cost R30.

18h00 to 21h00 - God's story and you.' An event for young adults (18-30 years). Admission R20.

Sunday 10 March

09h00 to 11h30 - Open Sunday Service. Admission free.

Tuesday 12 March

14h00 to 19h00 - 'Wonderfully Made.' A ladies event about God's story. Admission R30.

Thursday 7 March

18h00 to 21h00 - 'Praying for the least reached.' Workshop and prayer night. Admission free.

Thursday 13 March

17h30 to 20h00 - 'University for Christ.' An event for student to gather and reflect on their role in God's kingdom's story. Admission R30.

Friday 15 March

21h00 to 06h00 - Overnight Prayer. Admission free.

Saturday 16 March

15h00 to 17h00 - 'God's plan for children.' A kid's programme on board Logos Hope (8 to 12 years). Admission R20.

Doors open half an hour before each event.

Diocesan Council report

Diocesan Council meets in between Synods to oversee the running of the Diocese (just as Parish Council runs the working of a parish) and make any necessary decisions that can be taken without the permission of Synod.

Note - The Diocese is not run by the Bishop's Chapter as some people believe. Chapter is only an advisory body to the Bishop and only Diocesan Council can make decisions about the running of the Diocese.

Notes from the last meeting of Diocesan Council held on 25 November 2023.

Update on progress on Synod resolutions:

Housing allowances for clergy – this is now being dealt with by a special committee set up for this purpose.

Redefining Diocesan Boundaries – Bishop Eddie has heard from George Diocese and is awaiting replies from the other two diocese affected.

Diocesan name change – Dean Sharon Nell will bring the proposed names to the next Synod.

Other

Insurance of property etc.

The Diocesan Treasurer Secretary will be sending details to all parishes so they are clear on what is necessary for cover for plant and vehicles.

Tag lines!



Integrity
is choosing your thoughts and actions
based on values
rather than personal gain.

CRASH! BANG! ALL FALL DOWN



The stone post that was knocked down outside the Diocesan Office.

A few days after the Diocesan office staff returned to work, they heard a crash outside the window.

On looking out, they saw an elderly gentleman get out of his expensive car and look, in distress, at the knocked down post from the wall at the front of the parking lot. He had misjudged the turn and hit the post.

The irony is that he had meant to visit the premises next door and had turned into one entrance too soon!

RIP Doris Bain

Carol Brand



Doris Bain, was a member of the Order of the Diocese of Port Elizabeth, awarded for her dedication and love of over 55 years to Sunday school teaching and various other ministries in St Paul's and the Diocese.

News from our link diocese

Peter Morison



St Mary's Church on the island of Ascension.

Ascension Island, 800 miles to the north of St Helena, is part of the Diocese of St Helena and, of course, therefore part of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

I think our parish church, St Mary's, must be the church most distant from the rest of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa as we are in the middle of the South Atlantic, half way between Congo and Brazil, so not really southern Africa at all.

St Mary's is the only church on Ascension. We have 800 or so residents here from all over the world, so the parishioners are quite multi-denominational and international in their make-up, but the majority are from St Helena.

Unfortunately at the moment we don't have a full time minister, and haven't had for a while. I'm sure that any retired clergy in the Diocese of PE, who might fancy a working holiday here for a month or two, would be very welcome!

Its always hot but we have some wonderful beaches and scenery including the tropical Green Mountain National Park.

Eds note: *Peter is the son of former diocesan clergy couple John and Kaye Morison and attended Grey school when they ministered here.*

Instituted as Team Rector

Carol Brand



Archdeacons Andrea Potgieter and Nicolette Leonard, with Glenis, Jenna and Rowan Jacobs at his institution as Team Rector of St Barnabas Sydenham and St Paul's Parsons Hill.

On Wednesday 31 January, the Archdeacon of The Bay South, Andrea Potgieter, and the Archdeacon of The Bay West, Nicolette Leonard, joined family, friends and parishioners to institute Rowan Jacobs as the Team Rector of St Barnabas Sydenham and St Paul's Parsons Hill.

Refreshments were enjoyed after the service.

Celebrating school achievement

Zandile Mtsewu



Mlungisi Nopote, the Principal of Soqhayisa Senior Secondary School, with Xolo Nodwele, the Rector of St Matthias, and Mzikayise Sonkwala, retired Motherwell High Principal.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" - Nelson Mandela

Soqhayisa Senior Secondary, which is in the metro's biggest township, Motherwell, was declared as the top-performing school in the Province after achieving a 100% pass rate over the past four years consecutively in the National Senior Certificate examinations.

This its despite it being a school that lacks resources, has over-crowded classrooms, and is in the belly of a township. It is lead by Mlungisi Nopote, the principal, and his committed educators.

On Education Sunday, St Matthias Church invited the principal to be their guest speaker. Mlungisi reiterated that development of learners is a community effort from all stakeholders - be it family, church or dedicated educators. They all play a pivotal role in the learning and development of learners. He said that it is important to emphasise that not all learners' needs are the same and thus each learner requires individual attention.

They knew their music

Jill Bromily



Members of the winning team, 'Dinner for one' show off the trophy they won. They are, Ricky Woods, Andrew Renard, Shanel Pillay, Carmen Nefdt, Kevin Nefdt, Méchelle Beneke, Chris Berndt.

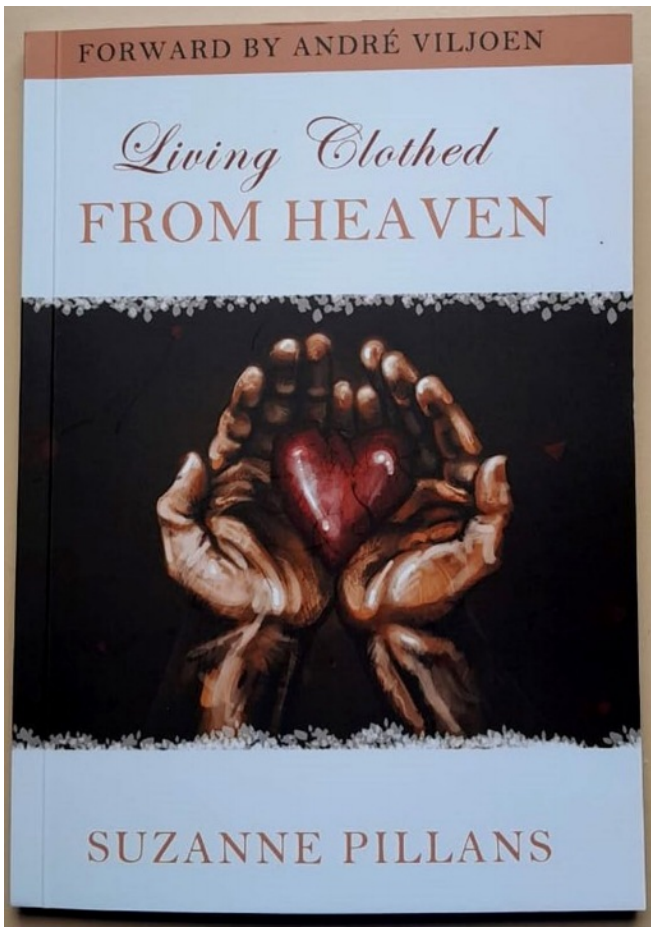
They may have called themselves 'Dinner for one', but the team had a winning biblical seven members, who knew their music.

St Hugh's held their first Music Trivia evening on Friday 9 February. A very good turn out of parishioners and friends enjoyed a wonderful evening of music, laughter and delicious food.

Folk brought their own picnic baskets and food was on sale.

Living Clothed from Heaven

by Suzanne Pillans



Suzanne Pillans has just launched her latest book, "Living Clothed from Heaven".

André Viljoen, founder and editor of Gateway News, has written of the book:

"Suzanne's writing is clear and her approach is practical. This is a book to be read and then worked through to build a daily habit of putting on all of the heavenly garments that God has provided and described in His Word.

Her book is a call to be intentional and diligent about making changes in our lives in order to start wearing our heavenly garments here on earth. This, she explains, will require loving God through Jesus, yielding our lives to the Holy Spirit, developing a relationship with God through daily prayer, putting Him first, and resting in His grace."

Suzanne is selling copies of the book at R100 each - the proceeds are going towards printing 50 000 tracts for children in schools to receive if they would like one. Suzanne's Ministries is working alongside the MV Logos Hope outreach programme, the Salvation Army and other Christian leaders in Port Elizabeth, who are reaching into both Primary and Secondary Schools in small teams.

Suzanne told *iindaba* that she hoped that this project will help make a change in combatting crime by bringing more young people to Christ.

Contact Suzanne on: 063 837 8654 or suzannesministries@gmail.com
For more information about her work visit: www.suzannesministries.co.uk or www.stepoutinfaith.co.uk

Rededication service

Xolo Nodwele



St Bernard Mizeki Guild members supported by St Mary Magdalene Guild and Mothers' Union members at their rededication service in St Stephen's.

St Bernard Mizeki Guild held a Rededication Service at St Stephen's on 11 February.

The service was preceeded by a street revival from Embizweni Square in New Brighton to St Stephen's.

Christians have a responsibility to vote in 2024



TIhe NMB Christian leaders believe we have a responsibility to vote in this year's national elections because they will probably be one of the most significant in the history of our country.

Unfortunately, there is widespread voter apathy.

While they reiterate that churches should remain apolitical, they feel it is the responsibility of all our clergy to encourage our congregants to vote in 2024.

Some of the reasons Christians should be voting:

• Romans 13:1 says, *"Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God".*

As we live in a democratic country we should be doing what God requires of us - that is, to see we vote in God-fearing, ethical leaders.

• James1:27 says, *"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."*

We need to be careful to vote for people who will provide the needed housing, schooling, health-care etc.

• We are called to be good stewards, so do not waste the vote you have been entrusted with - during the struggle for freedom, many people in SA lost their lives fighting for everyone to be able to have a vote.

1 Peter 4:10 states, "*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

Luke 12:48 also tells us, *"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."*

• By not voting you are saying you are happy with the status quo. In other words, you think the present leaders are doing a great job - it is a form of voting because not voting affects the outcome.

By not voting you are wasting a gift God has given us to help choose the right people to govern our land and bring about change in our nation.

To check if you are registered -

SMS 32810: Send your ID number to ascertain your voting details.

Normal SMS network rates apply.

Join many African countries who are praying this prayer daily at 12h00



God bless Africa
Protect her children
Transform her leaders
Heal her communities
Restore her dignity
And give her peace
For Jesus Christ's sake.
Amen

✍ Letter to the ed ✍

Matters liturgical

This letter was written to Bishop Eddie and copied to the *iindaba*. It has been shortened.

I write to you because I did hear that you were in some way involved with the liturgical committee. The ACSA website gives no details. In fact, for us ordinary members, it is very unhelpful regarding whom to contact, should we wish to make a comment, suggestion or complaint.

My beef is with the Sundays after the Epiphany. I firmly believe that Christmass should end with the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, part of the Epiphany "Principal Double" Feast here, or in the pre-Tridentine (Sarum) terminology.

However, if we are to keep the Nativity Cycle as a Special Season up until Candlemass, then please may I suggest that we follow Common Worship and name the Sundays following as Sundays of the Epiphany until Candlemass and Sundays before Lent, a pre-Lent Season, thereafter. I can't understand how the first four or five Sundays known as Sundays after the Epiphany should be granted the liturgical colour of white, and the next three or so revert to Green, when their titles are the same! It makes it very hard to teach any confirmation candidate or sacristan. Just follow the Lectionary - don't ask and don't please try to understand.

Communication is very limited in the Province.

The Revd Tom Amoore
Diocese of the Highveld

Psalm 122 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is the only city the Lord has asked us to pray for. Here are a few historical facts:

BC:

1000 - King David established Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish Kingdom;

940 - the first Temple was built under King Solomon;

586 - Babylonians destroyed the Temple and Jews were taken into captivity;

538 - Jews return and rebuild the Temple;

444 - Nehemiah builds the walls;

332 to 63 - various conquerors take the city;

(in 164 the Temple was liberated and rededicated (Hanukkah));

63 - Romans conquer Jerusalem and massacre 12 000 Jews.

AD:

33 - Jesus is crucified;

130 - Jerusalem renamed Aelia Capitolina;

135 - Romans quell Bar Kochba revolt and forbid Jews to live in Jerusalem;

438 - Empress Eudocia allows Jews to return. Christianity flourishes as many churches are built;

614 - Persians conquer Jerusalem and return it to the Jews;

629 to 1010 - various conquests;

1099 - Crusaders conquer and massacre Jews and Muslims;

1187 - Saladin rules and allows reentry of Jews;

1244 - Seljuk Turks conquer Jerusalem;

1260 - Marmelukes of Egypt conquer Jerusalem;

1516 - Ottoman Turks rule Jerusalem;

1844 - First official census in Jerusalem: 7 120 Jews; 5 760 Muslims; 3 390 Christians;

1900 - Population grown to: 28 200 Jews; 8 760 Christians and 8 600 Muslims;

1917 - British begin rule over Jerusalem;

1922 - Population: 33 971 Jews; 14 699 Christians and 13 413 Muslims;

1948 - Jewish War of Independence. Population 99 320 Jews; 36 680 Muslims and 31 300 Christians;

1967 - Six Day War. Knesset passes law for protection of all holy places of all faiths.

Green Piece

Face scrubs harm the environment



Next time you want to buy a face scrub (or some tooth pastes!) please check that they do not contain microbeads.

Microbeads are tiny plastic particles that are added to some scrubs and toothpastes to give an exfoliating action. When these products are rinsed off, the microbeads are washed down the drain and into rivers and oceans as they are too small to be filtered out at water treatment plants.

These beads have been reported to contaminate the aquatic environment and are sufficiently small to be readily ingested by aquatic organisms - and passed on to us when we enjoy our seafood meal.

Google "homemade face scrubs" and see the variety of recipes. I'm printing two easy ones.

An easy natural scrub -

What You Need:

½ banana

1 teaspoon oatmeal

How to make it:

Mash the banana and add the oatmeal to it.

Mix it together to form a nice thick paste.

Now, apply it all over and gently massage it into your skin.

Let it dry for 10-15 minutes and then wash it off.

Another -

1/4 cup honey

1/2 tbsp brown sugar

1/4 cup milk

1/2 cup cooked oatmeal

Combine all ingredients and mix until you achieve a thick yet grainy texture. Buff onto your face, then rinse.

Bidding farewell

Sidney Clay



Members of St Bernard Mizeki Guild, of the Parish of Alexandria, bid farewell to a long-standing member of the Guild.

The Parish of Alexandria were very sad when they received news of the passing of one of their eldest members, Mnyamezeli Solani.

He had been a faithful member, a lay minister for many years. and a respected member of St Bernard Mizeki Guild. During the funeral service on 3 February the Guild members paid their respects to his memory.

Thought to ponder!

We are all aging.
We can view this situation
as fraught with danger and decline,
or as full of promise and possibility.

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