iindaba

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The Bishop writes ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

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

As we stand in the aftermath of our nation's recent general election, a time of significant change and uncertainty, I feel compelled to address you, our beloved Diocese, with words of guidance, hope, and encouragement.

The election results have brought about a myriad of reactions, from joy and optimism to angst, fear, and even the propagation of conspiracy theories. In such times, our response as Christians is critical, not only for our spiritual well-being but also for the testimony we bear to the world.

• Firstly, let us remember the words of our Lord in John 14:27: *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."* Our faith calls us to be beacons of peace in times of turmoil. While the political landscape may be uncertain and the formation of coalitions may bring anxiety, our confidence should not waver, for our trust is in God who is sovereign over all nations and rulers.

• Secondly, in an age where misinformation spreads rapidly, it is crucial that we, as followers of Christ, are discerning and seek truth. Ephesians 4:25 reminds us to *"put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour."* Before accepting or sharing any information, especially that which incites fear or division, let us verify its accuracy. Our commitment to truth reflects our commitment to Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

• Thirdly, the potential for political alliances and coalitions often brings about division and tension. As Christians, we are called to be peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). This means actively working towards reconciliation, understanding, and unity within our communities. Let us engage in constructive dialogue, listen to differing perspectives with empathy, and strive to be bridge-builders in a fragmented society.

• Fourthly, Micah 6:8 reminds us of what the Lord requires: *"To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* In our response to the election outcomes, let us advocate for justice and stand in solidarity with the marginalised and oppressed. Our compassion should be evident in our actions and our prayers, supporting those who may feel vulnerable during this transitional period.

• Fifthly, regardless of political affiliations, we are instructed in 1 Timothy 2:1-2 to pray for all those in authority, *"that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."* Pray for wisdom, integrity, and a spirit of service among our elected officials. Pray that they may govern justly and work for the common good of all citizens.

• Finally, let us hold fast to the hope we have in Christ. Romans 12:12 exhorts us to *"be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."* Our hope is not dependent on earthly outcomes but on the eternal promise of God's kingdom. Let us remain steadfast in our faith, encouraging one another and persevering in our collective journey.

• In conclusion, my dear brothers and sisters, let us navigate this post-election period with grace, wisdom, and a Christ-like spirit. May our actions and words reflect the love of Christ, bringing light and hope to a world in need. Together, let us be a testament to the power of faith, hope, and love in the face of uncertainty.

Yours in Christ,

+Edward Port Elizabeth

Bearing a testimony to the world



Bishop Eddie with the newly ordained clergy - Priests Sharon Kleinschmidt and Thembeka Sixaba with Deacon Zolani Gxamba and Deacon Zolani Mqoqi with Priests Robert Falconer and Patience Gogo.

Mary and Martha



Some of the women who looked after Jesus' needs -

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:41-42 NIV

After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

Mark 8:1-3 NIV

In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

Mark 15:40 NIV

Keeping the Bishop and Diocese in order

The Diocese has two new officials with the licensing of our new Registrar, Kayla Gallant LLB (NMU) and Deputy Registrar Méchelle Beneke LLB LLM (UPE) on Thursday morning just before Chapter meeting on 6 June.

The Registrars act as lawyers for the Diocese looking after anything pertaining to things of law that needs to be sorted out.

One of the Registrars has to be in attendance at Synod, ordinations and any other such gathering to make sure that everything legal is adhered to.



BEO Fumi Kula, Bishop Eddie, and Dean Sharon Nell with newly licensed Registrar, Kayla Gallant, and Deputy Registrar Méchelle Beneke.



SA Belongs to Jesus

Join on Telegram and pray for SA for two minutes once a day. Pray for God to do His will in our land.

Charged to love your sheep



The newly ordained clergy bless older clergy as they came forward to receive.

On 1 June, Robert Falconer, Patience Gogo, Sharon Kleinschmidt, and Thembeka Sixaba were ordained to the priesthood at St Margaret's in Summerstrand. Alongside them, Zolani Mqoqi and Zolani Gxamba were ordained as deacons. Despite the pouring rain, the church was packed with family and friends who came to celebrate and pray for their ministry.

Bishop Eddie, addressing the newly ordained, emphasized that love brings both privileges and burdens. He urged them to heed the Lord's command to "Feed my sheep...feed my lambs."

He elaborated that love calls for transformation from the mundane to the magnificent, revealing both vulnerability and vocation. It compels one to naturally care for others, prioritizing their needs above one's own.

Love, he said, nurtures hope, truth, and life.

Bishop Eddie also spoke of the sacrifices and service that would lead them to places they might not wish to go, requiring a compassionate heart and a willingness to be broken in their vulnerability. "To do this," he advised, "you must love Christ fervently and let that love be the foundation of your calling.

Love must be in every decision you make."

He further emphasized the importance of a life of ceaseless prayer, as everything they do must be supported by prayer.

He encouraged them to let the Spirit guide them, assuring them that they would be led to where God's love is most needed, giving them confidence in their mission.

They made their choice



Queuing to make that important cross - Mike and Shirley Rands of St Paul's in Parsons Hill, had Special Votes and cast them at their retirement block of flats on Tuesday 28 May.

TEE graduate

Self-supporting Assistant Priest, Wendy Lutchman, at her graduation.

On 20 April self-supporting Assistant Priest at All Saints' in Kabega Park was capped BTh. She spoke to *iindaba* about the experience:

Graduation day finally arrived with much excitement - I would be walking across the stage to receive my BTh Degree. I never thought it would be possible, but after much hard work I can finally say I have been successful.

My belief and trust in God carried me through this journey. It was not easy at all, having to teach a class of 40 Grade 1 learners during the day, and then in the afternoons, evenings and weekends having to spend all my time studying and submitting assignments.

I thank the parishioners of my home parish, Christ the King, and my present parish of All Saints' with St Alban's, for all their encouragement and prayers during my studies. To Bishop Eddie who pushed for studies to be completed before ordination, and all my spiritual mentors', thank each of you for your assistance. To my family and friends, thank you for your support. Last, but definitely not least, to my number one supporter and greatest fan, my husband Stanley J for your unwavering love and support.

A word of wisdom from an icon

Blaming things on the past does not make them better

Nelson Mandela

The view from pulpit and pew

❖ *iindaba* is sad nobody is sending in any news for pulpit and pew. We do like to hear the achievements of people who are in leadership in the parishes ... and clergy please let *iindaba* know if you or your family have done something out of the ordinary or are in hospital and need prayer.

Clergy on the move

• Robin Behrens is moving to the Good Shepherd Parish as Rector;
and Duma Caluza as Priest-in-charge of Karoo Parish.
• The newly ordained Priests will serve in the following parishes:
- Robert Douglas Falconer will serve in the Parish of St Francis Bay;
- Patience Bulelwa Gogo will serve in the Parish of St Timothy;
- Sharon Kleinschmidt will serve in the Parish of the Sundays River Valley;
- Thembeka Harriett Sixaba will serve in the Parish of St Matthew's.
• Newly ordained Deacons:
- Zolani Mqoqi will seve at the Cathedral;
- Zolani Gxamba will serve at St Stephn's.

Old friends meet again

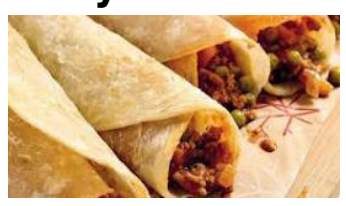


Getting together after very many years were Frankie Simpson and Assistant Priest at St Margaret's, Pam Berning.

iindaba editor, Frankie Simpson was thrilled to be reunited with an old friend Pam Berning when they met at an ECHO villages Potjie event on Saturday 8 June.

The two friends had lost touch after Pam moved to the Diocese of George and, for some strange reason, Frankie had not picked up the fact that Pam had returned to our Diocese two years ago and was assisting at St Margaret's!

They're hot stuff!



On sale were roti with mince curry.

On Friday 31 May St Paul's held a hot night, from 18h00.

The event was well attended and supported by parishioners and people from the community. Some parishioners had their supper in the hall. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship among parishioners and community members. A blessed evening was had by all.

The following eats were on sale on the night: vetkoek and mince, roti with mince curry, tripe and trotters, chicken curry, butternut soup with bread; potato & leek soup with bread, chicken biryani and port and basil chicken livers with bread.

AWF Dorcas Day warmth

Cebokazi Matya



AWF members of St Matthew's serve hot soup to members of St Francis Chapel in KwaNoxolo.

On Sunday 26 May, the St Matthew's Parish Anglican Women's Fellowship members visited St Francis at Kwa-Noxolo, which is one of our two Chapelries.

We decided to worship with this small community, with the intention to fellowship and observe one of our annual activities, the Dorcas Day, with them.

We were all 'united in prayer, service and love' which is the AWF motto.

The warm freshly cooked soup and bread which was served to everyone after the service, was appreciated on this chilly day. After this we also distributed clothes that were donated by our guild members.

It was a special day filled with love, warmth and gratitude. We are highly grateful to all the AWF members for making this event a great success.

Tag lines!



A friend
is one of the best things you can have,
and the best thing you can be.

Masters of music knowledge



The Mighty 10 won and they are Leon Woest, Liesel and Conrad de Jager with son Conrad Jr, Hester and Brian Wileman, Juia Bell, Frankie Simpson, Claudette Esau and Desré Foaden the organiser.



Cyril's Squirrels were one point down so in second place are Jimmy and Kyle Bartie, Tracy and Steven Morris, Daron Mann, Daphne Momberg, organiser Desré Foaden and Jacqui Bester.

As always a music trivia evening run by Desré Foaden proved to be great fun.

On Friday night 31 May at St Saviour's she did not disappoint. She had some great topics, such as body parts in the song title, animals in the artist's name, crazy dances and seven more categories to get the teams racking their brains.

The competition was hot with close results through the evening, but it was the Magnificent 10 (with nine members!) who just pipped Cyril's Squirrels to the post by one point.

The winners won Champion 2024 coffee mugs and the runners-up won chocolates. Throughout the evening various games were played, as well as ticket number draws made, where fabulous prizes of wines, Spur and other vouchers as well as trinkets were given away.

Proceeds from the ticket sales as well as donations of food from the evening were for the soup kitchen and feeding scheme.

Treat for mothers



The women of Holy Trinity Church in Central were thrilled to receive a special treat of chocolates from CoCa (Children of Christ always) on Mothers' Day.

Relief for flood victims

Many of our parishes in Nelson Mandela Bay and Kariega had members who had been left homeless, or had badly damaged homes, after the devastating floods at the beginning of June, so it was good to receive reports from parishes helping the victims after a cry for help went out to the churches of the Diocese.

Those parishes who were able to help immediately came to the fore, while many of those who were not able to help straight away, sent out a call asking their members to bring what they could the following Sunday for distribution.

St Timothy's

Philile Lobese



Preparing meals at St Timothy's in Motherwell for the cold and hungry members affected by the flood days.

As soon as the rain abated enough, members of St Timothy's got together to make hot, warming soup for the needy. Their Rector, Philile Lobese said, "I am moved by their dedication. We also thank our sponsor Madiba Foods for 50kg soup powder, which will be on going."

St Saviour's

Sharon Nell



Bags of clothing and bedding await collection at St Saviour's. They were able to respond immediately from their Community Outreach storage.

As well as donations of nonperishable food, St Saviour's in Walmer collect good used clothing which they sort by size. This makes them ready for any disaster call - such as the floods or recently a shack burnt down and they could respond with clothes in the sizes needed.

Eds note - I'm sure many more of our parishes reached out to their communities during this flood disaster. Please let iindaba have your news and photographs - especially from those parishes we seldom, or never, hear from. Some of our iindaba reporters are very active, thank you, while others need encouragement. Please clergy encourage your reporter to become involved - or do as some of your fellow clergy do: send in reports yourself! I'll try and organise a media workshop for August.

Breakfast after service

St Saviour's reporter



Sweetness Mgedesi with her husband, retired Priest Churchwarden, and Debbie Abader, a layminister at St Saviour's, enjoy bacon and egg rolls after the service on Sunday 26 May.

St Saviour's in Walmer have introduced selling egg and bacon rolls on the last day of every month. The rolls must be pre-ordered to help with catereing.

Besides being a fund raiser, the Rector Sharon Nell, said that she wanted to encourage good fellowship.

Rugby for Jesus

Jan Brand



Ready for the scrum are Gilleam Van Zyl, Hennie Le Roux, Anton Barnard, Jan Brand, the Rector of St Paul's, Rowan Jacobs, and Andrew Johnson.

On Saturday 18 May, the Rector of St Paul's, Rowan Jacobs, and Jan Brand attended a Rugby Players and Supporters for Jesus (RPVJ) fellowship at the Westview School Lapa.

It was a wonderful time of worship and fellowship with Hennie Le Roux, Anton Barnard and many other former provincial (EP) players. They shared their testimonies of the work of our Lord in their lives during their rugby playing days and beyond.

A spit braai was enjoyed by all afterwards.

We hope that this group (RPVJ) will be part of a St Paul's Mens Fellowship event as a frontrunner to St Paul's 170th anniversary celebrations in October 2024. We will update you on all the other exciting 170th celebration events planned.

Baby clothes for the needy

Philile Lobese



St Tomothy's MU Parish leader, Nocolo Tabana, addressing MU members during their parish open day.

Throughout the year the Mothers' Union members at St Timothy's make and collect baby clothes and baby accessories such as blankets, powder, soap and baby lotion.

On Thursday 6 June they set aside the afternoon to show their handiwork and put together parcels for the needy. They also take some parcels to various maternity clinics for distribution to mothers of newborn babies.

A Joyous Patronal Service

Luvaine Brandt



With Nicky and Bishop Eddie, who are holding gifts they received from St Barnabas, are churchwardens Luvaine Brandt and Linda Chong Hing.

St Barnabas celebrated 120 years of faithful ministry on Sunday, 9 June.

Celebrations kick-started on 26 May with a well attended Gospel Show featuring artists Samantha Mostert, Luvaine Brandt, Amy Brandt, the Helenvale Baptist church's Spiritual dancers, Sharmilla, Nicole and Esther Le Roux, Mkanyiseli Mcubuse, and Anthea. The audience was entertained with much loved Gospel music and dance.

Our Patronal weekend commenced with a Youth gathering on Friday evening, 7 June, followed by a 'Quiet Day' for our Confirmation Candidates on the Saturday.

On Sunday 9 June, the highlight of the service was the confirmation of five young people by Bishop Eddie. The service was a culmination of spiritual growth and dedication for these five young members of the congregation. The sacrament of confirmation marks a significant milestone in their faith journey, as they affirm their commitment to their beliefs and become full members of the church community.

Adding to the significance of the occasion, retired priest David Grobbelaar, a beloved past Rector, graced the service with his presence. His attendance served as a reminder of the rich history and enduring spirit of the church, spanning generations of worshippers. He also shared some stories of being a Rector at St Barnabas.

Following the solemnity of the service, Bishop Eddie and his wife warmly joined the congregation for tea, fostering a sense of fellowship and camaraderie among the church members. These moments of togetherness are cherished as they offer opportunities for personal connections and shared experiences beyond the walls of the church.

As St Barnabas continues to uphold its traditions and values, events like the Patronal Service serve as poignant reminders of the vibrant community that thrives within its walls. It is a testament to the enduring strength of faith and the bonds of fellowship that unite its members in joyous celebration.

St Saviour's Men's Breakfast

Saturday 27 July 08h30 - R100 per person

Do join us to hear

Andrew Johnson of Rugby Players for Jesus,

together with other prominent rugby players, will be giving his testimony.

Contact the office for tickets 060 986 3046.
Closing date Friday 19 July 2024

God is within our fellowship

Cwyita Jemsana



St Matthew's AYF after the service of robing and renewing of vows.

Jerusalem, often revered as the cradle of Christianity, is where ***"the LORD has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling, saying, 'This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it.'"*** (Psalm 132:13-14).

Here at St Matthew's Anglican Youth Fellowship (AKA Jeru by AYF), we believe God is within our fellowship. Our community has flourished, continually growing and embracing new initiatives to strengthen our bond.

This year has been particularly blessed with numerous beautiful encounters with the Holy Spirit, especially during our major events.

Over the weekend of 26 May, we joined youth guilds to celebrate and praise the Lord in the most heartfelt ways. On Friday, we were deeply moved by a session with our mentor, Mother Lucas, who enlightened us on the power of prayer. Saturday saw a fulfilling praise and worship gathering, attended by youth guilds from our parish and neighbouring areas. Sunday was especially memorable as we welcomed new members, affectionately known as Superstars, renewed the vows of our existing members, and appointed the new executive. This meticulously planned and spiritual event unfolded just as the Holy Spirit guided us.



AYF with ANSOC members from NMU fellowship who prayed for exams.

The following week, on 1 June, we held an exam prayer meeting in collaboration with the Nelson Mandela University Anglican Society. We prayed for the upcoming exams, and for equipping students with the faith and grace needed to excel. Despite the heavy rains, the remarkable turnout showcased the deep commitment of our young people to Jesus Christ and our fellowship.

In a recent fundraising drive, we engaged the congregation in a unique way by encouraging everyone to wear sneakers on Sunday. This gesture symbolized unity and infused vibrancy and fun into the church, embodying our #CHURCHWITHSWAG spirit. The event was yet another testament to the Holy Spirit's guidance and our community's unwavering support.

The vibrant and devoted members of St Matthew's AYF extend their heartfelt gratitude for the honour of featuring in *iindaba*. We hope this brings us closer to the Diocesan family and other organizations. The Lord be with you.

Eds note - Thank you for sharing this vibrant news with the Diocesan family! Please send more.

Green Piece

"So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Matthew 6:28-30 NKJV

Caring for the earth is caring for God's creation.

Philile Lobese



One of our Parish gardens which have been set up by Pumla Koltana our Environmental chaplain.

The Mothers' Union and Bernard Mizeki Guilds of St Timoth's church in Motherwell celebrated World Enviro Day on 10 June by spending time working in their vegetable garden.

Their actions confirm the fact that "The earth is what we all have in common," caring for the earth is caring for God's creation to sustain people and planet.

Please contact Pumla to help with setting up a vegetable garden in your parish grounds:

Contact her on 082 416 5588

The other contact is Farming God's way:

Nikki Dryden +27 728528215

Jerseys to warm the young

Hazel Pearson



Part of the display of winter woollies that were blessed at St Hugh's before being distributed to needy causes.

St Hugh's was blessed to receive a large donation of wool in April and our parishioners and friends got busy knitting and crocheting with great enthusiasm.

A wonderful array of beautiful blankets, jerseys, scarves, beanies, bed socks, mittens and baby wear was received and displayed in church on Sunday, 9 June, where they were blessed.

The baby items were handed to Des Goodwin, who runs "Giving Gifts of Love to Newborn Babies in need" in our Metro.

All the other winter woollies were delivered on the 11 June to Jerusalem Ministries, who have outreaches in Airport Valley and Walmer Township where there are orphaned and vulnerable children in great need of support.

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