iindaba

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The Bishop writes ...

Honouring women

Dear Family of God,

As we celebrate Women's Month, we take this opportunity to reflect on the invaluable contributions of women in our Church and our world.

Throughout history, women have played pivotal roles, often embodying immense faith, courage, and integrity. One such example is Deborah from the book of Judges. Deborah was a woman of profound faith who led the people of Israel during a tumultuous time. Despite the challenges she faced, she remained obedient to God's call on her life, serving as a beacon of strength and leadership.

In Judges 4:4-5, we read: *"At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment."* Deborah's story reminds us of the powerful impact of women who lead with faith and courage.

On a personal note, my wife and I have always tried to instil important values in our son. One dictum that we hold particularly dear is: "Honour every woman you meet; she holds up more than half the sky." This simple yet profound truth underscores the respect and recognition that women deserve for their contributions and sacrifices.

As a bishop, I have been immensely blessed and privileged to be ministered to by women clerics, as well as to minister alongside them. Their dedication, compassion, and unwavering faith have been a source of inspiration and strength. This realisation was particularly poignant during the period of hard lockdown during Covid-19 in 2020. The resilience and commitment of women in our community shone brightly during those challenging times.



Bishop Eddie held a combined Confirmation service on 18 May at St Matthias in Motherwell. He is seen here with some of the clergy and newly confirmed members of the parishes.

It is imperative that we honour women because they are integral to the fabric of our society and the Church. Women nurture and educate the next generation, lead with wisdom and grace, and often stand at the forefront of social justice movements. Their perspectives and contributions enrich our communities and strengthen our collective mission. By honouring women, we affirm their inherent worth, celebrate their achievements, and promote a more just and equitable world where everyone can thrive.

In Proverbs 31:25-26, we find a fitting tribute: *"Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."* These words capture the essence of the women who have enriched our lives and our faith community.

Let us, men in particular, honour our women. Let us recognise their invaluable contributions, support their endeavours, and stand in solidarity with them as they continue to lead, inspire, and uplift us all.

May we always remember that in honouring women, we honour the Divine image within them and the extraordinary roles they play in both our Church and our world.

Your friend and bishop,

+Edward Port Elizabeth

Lots to digest after talk on land and justice

Professor Janet Cherry of the Department of Development Studies at Nelson Mandela University, left almost 30 Christian leaders with lots to digest after her 'Reflection on Land and Justice historically in Nelson Mandela Bay.'

Janet took the leaders through a journey that began with the Khoi pastoralists of Algoa Bay; the first loan permit granted to Gerrit Scheepers in 1772; Thomas Ignatius Ferreira acquired Papenkuilsfontein (now known as Korsten) in 1776; then on to 1799 and the Khoi rebellion and the building of Fort Frederick as a defence during the Napoleonic wars; and the first Frontier War.

What seemed like human rights came into play when in 1804 Ferreira was arrested by Governor Jansenns on charges of corruption and theft and "disturbing the peace by cruelties that cry to high heaven, committed against the original inhabitants of the land."

Janet gave some details of the beginnings of the town being laid out in 1815 and that by 1846 there was a population of 2 405 which included 118 Mfengu, Khoi and Bechuanas.

She went on to look at the forced removal of people for reasons such as the plague and apartheid which have left the city as the most divided post-apartheid SA.

Looking at tentative solutions Janet spoke of security of tenure and of shelter, rental and leasehold rather than title deeds, co-operative ownership (communal property) associations, body corporates and cooperatives. She said there also needs to be a sustainable urbanisation planning guide which would need to make sure there is a viable localised economy.



Trevor Jennings and Ds Danie Mouton with Professor Janet Cherry at the Christian Leaders' meeting. Her talk is available on YouTube.

She discussed the need for churches to call their people to action to ensure that the Municipality does their work properly. Target the people who are responsible for the task.

A Celtic Morning Prayer



When I look at the blood
all I see is love, love, love.
When I stop at the cross
I can see the love of God.
But I can't see competition.
I can't see hierarchy.
I can't see pride or prejudice
or the abuse of authority.
I can't see lust for power.
I can't see manipulation.
I can't see rage or anger
or selfish ambition.
I can't see unforgiveness.
I can't see hate or envy.
I can't see stupid fighting
or bitterness, or jealousy.
I can't see empire building.
I can't see self-importance.
I can't see back-stabbing
or vanity or arrogance.
I see surrender, sacrifice, salvation,
humility, righteousness, faithfulness, grace, forgiveness,
love! Love … love …
When I stop! … at the cross
I can see the love of God.
Godfrey Birtill
Northumbria Community
A prayer for the Government of National Unity



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.

Diocesan choir's journey to recording

Sharing God's love through song, our choir prepares to capture their music for all to enjoy.

Zanele Conjwa

On Saturday 8 June, members of the Diocesan Choir gathered at St Matthew's in KwaMagxaki for a rehearsal in preparation for a service the following day.

The choir is made up of members from choirs from various parishes and on the Sunday the members came in numbers to attend the service at St Matthew's. We all looked forward to this special milestone in the Diocese at which there was a wonderful spirit.

In the book of Psalms, we are reminded to *'make a joyful noise unto the Lord'*, Ps 100. Our Diocesan choir has been doing just that for many years. We are busy doing a recording which we hope will bring back all the congregants who fell off during Covid 19. We are making the joyous sound to touch souls beyond our denomination by contributing to ministry through music, hymns, songs, and psalms. We are taking our God-given talents to the next level by recording our first album after covid-19!

These rehearsals in all of our parishes help to promote a standard we, as the Diocesan Choir, wish to attain. Also, as we rehearse in the different parishes, we can assess the kind and type of hymns, chants and spiritual songs the congregations most enjoy. This way, we can choose the music that will mean the recording will be owned by all, not only by the Diocesan Choir.



The Diocesan Choir hard at practice at St Matthew's in preparation for the Sunday service.

We are inspired by our Diocesan Choir President, Kanyisa Mlumbi , who wants nothing but the best in us.

Join us in celebrating this exciting milestone, and stay tuned for updates on the recording process. Let's lift our voices and hearts in praise and share God's love through the universal language of music!"

The view from pulpit and pew

❖ *iindaba* apologises for the spelling error of newly priested Tembela Sixaba's name in the July edition. The editor is hanging her head in shame.

❖ *iindaba* extends condolences to:
- the Rector of St Simon of Cyrene and St Katharine's, Ulrüght Fleurs, on the passing of his brother;
- the Dean, Sharon Nell, on the passing of her sister, Marlene Lingard.
May the families know the loving arms of Yeshua surrounding them as they mourn.

Clergy on the move

• *iindaba* whiishes the Rector of St Mary Magdalene, Nicolette Leonard, much joy as she retires from full-time ministry.

May the storms within and around you be stilled.
May you recall the depth of God's love and the breadth of God's power.
May you bring calm to all you meet.
Amen.

Honoured for her service

Jill Bromiley



Jenny Watson, a Dame of the Order of St John, holding the framed certificate to be presented to Lyn Johnson (centre) with the CEO of Stella Londt, Commander in the Order of St John, Ronwynne Fourie.

On Sunday 23 June Lyn Johnson, a lay minister at St Hugh's, was presented with a framed certificate of thanks from the Priory of the Order of St John, for her dedicated service in assisting with monthly services at Stella Londt Retirement Village for many years.

The citation on the certificate was read out by Tom Horne, a Knight of the Order, and presented to Lyn by fellow congregant, Jenny Watson, a Dame of the Order.

Also present at the ceremony was Commander of the Order, Ronwynne Fourie, the CEO of Stella Londt Retirement Village.

At the same time it was also announced that Lyn had been approved by King Charles lll as a novice of the Order and will be invested as a member later in the year.

Tag lines!



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

How do people start attending church?

- A friend invited me - 86%
- Organised visitation - 6%
- Pastor invite -6%
- Advertising - 2%

People bring people - so invite a friend



CMS meet for Bible study

Lulamile Ngesi



Diocesan CMS members - back row: Anthony Barry, Hilmer Spies, Archdeacon Lulamile Ngesi, Eddie Brooks, Winston Swanepoel, Connie Human and Elvis Hendricks.
Front row: Rodney White, Craig Hendricks, Jerome Jacobs and Clinton van Rooyen.

The Diocesan Church Mens' Society meet every third Saturday of the month for Bible Study which is conducted by Archdeacon Lulamile Ngesi.

On Saturday 15 June the Bible study was followed by a bring and share time of fellowship.

Celebrating St Bernard Mizeki

Zandile Mtsewu



Some of the members of the Guild, from various parishes within the Diocese, who were celebrating St Bernard Mizeki over the commemorative weekend of 15 and 16 June at St Matthias in Motherwell.

Fun at the Autumn Festival

Jill Bromily



There was fun and fellowship for the whole family at the St Hugh's Autumn Festival.

St Hugh's in Newton Park held an Autumn Festival on Saturday 25 May and visitors enjoyed the side shows, live music, a dog demonstration - and the delicious meals from the Food Trucks.

Song and dance for celebrations

Lulamile Ngesi



Newly admitted Altar Servers, some of whom were actors and actresses in the Sunday School play, and members of the dance group, are with Ashley Kotjie who is holding his certificate, and the Rector of St Michael's, Lulamile Ngesi, after the 16 June celebration service.

South Africa had a double special celebration on 16 June - not only was it Youth Day but Fathers' Day fell on the same Sunday.

In celebration of both events a lot of celebrating took place at St Michael and All Angels in Schauderville.

For Youth Day new servers were admitted and a certificate for long and loyal service as an Altar Server was awarded to Ashley Kotjie, who has served for 25 years.

It was also Fathers' Day and the Sunday School children put on a play celebrating the father's welcome of the Prodigal son. The dance group also performed a special dance of celebration to the Lord for youth and fathers.

Reaching out

Zandile Mtsewu



The Rector of St Matthias, Xolo Nodwele, helps Assistant Priest Thembela Sixaba lift a bag of soup powder into her car boot.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35. Proving that sharing is caring the soup kitchen at St Matthias in Motherwell has 'given birth' to two more feeding projects. They are based in NU 12b and Kamvelihle communities. Both communities fall under St Matthias.

Assistant Priest Tembela Sixaba, who ministers in the two communities came to fetch some goodies for their newly established soup kitchens.

Together we stand, divided we fall.

From 6 to 96

Jill Bromiley



Luke Petersen turned six on Wednesday 3 July and Natalie Kiessig celebrated her birthday the following day, so they felt blessed when Deacon Denise Rae prayed for them at the Wednesday service at St Hugh's, and the congregation sang for them.

Making a difference

Sabelo Ndlebe



Members of the Desmond Tutu Memorial Church supplying soup to people in their community.

Making a difference in the Motherwell NU12 community are members of the Desmond Tutu Memorial Chapel, part of St Matthias Parish, situated at the corner of Xhama and Ngonyama streets. The members run a soup kitchen every Wednesday supplying nutritious soup to the cold and hungry in the area.

Pulpit exchange enjoyed

Zandi Mtsewu



Nomonde and Charles Quoto welcomed the Rector of St Matthias, Xolo Nodwele, his wife Ntombizodwa and their children Nande and Lusenathi, to St Cyprian's for a pulpit exchange on 26 May.

Certified to retire

Charles Qoto



Holding her certificate of retirement is Nicolette Leonard, the Rector of St Mary Magdalene, flanked by her husband Myron and Bishop Eddie, at Chapter meeting on Thursday 11 July.

Letter to the ed

Fathers Matter

Whatever your own story of being fathered was like, you have an opportunity to positively influence how the next generation thinks about fatherhood. When children have a father or father figure who impacts their life for the better, it's good for the children, for women, and for men.

So, how can men play this role? Here are three suggestions:

• Find community: Having the support of other men and fathers helps men to grow in their parenting. Visit the Fathers Matter website for Connect Group guides and Film Discussion guides that can be used to get the conversation started in your groups.

• Get skills and resources: If there are things that men don't know how to do (like changing nappies, or supporting a teenager through their emotional development), Fathers Matter has resources available on our website here. Or, you can sign up for the Fathers Matter Coach, if you haven't already, to get regular tips and tools. To do that, send 'Hi' to 060 058 2107 or click here.

• Promote social fathering: Social fathers are men who are positive role models to children who are not their biological children. They can be uncles, grandfathers, coaches, pastors or community leaders; as long as they are a positive, safe male presence in a child's life, they can make a huge difference.

Thank you for being part of the Fathers Matter story. We hope that this journey has helped you to feel more confident to say that: "Yes, fathers DO matter!"

Stay connected to Fathers Matter and to continue being part of changing the story of fatherhood in our nation.

Warm regards

Olefile Masangane

On behalf of the Fathers Matter Team

Connect to Heartlines via Facebook, Instagram or YouTube

Grateful for the help



Mister Brown of Northwood Children's Hospice shows his pleasure on receiving the weekly bucket of soup from St Saviour's Soup Kitchen.

Green Piece

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground.

Gen 2:4-6 (NIV)

Donations for flood relief

Fumi Kula

Reserve Chaplain of Navy PE who organised the donation from the members of the Navy.



Rector Ulrüght Fleurs receives donations for flood victims from Camouflage Sublieutenant Nathan Stewart.

On 25 June the Naval Station in Port Elizabeth with the Acting Officer Commanding, SubLieutenant Nathan Stewart, handed over a donation of clothes, blankets and food to Ulrüght Fleurs, the Rector of St Simon of Cyrene and St Katharine's.

The donations were for the victims of the devastating floods in Kariega (Uitenhage) during June. This area was hit hard by the floods. People lost lives, homes, cars and buildings and dams collapsed. Because of the devastation, schools had to be closed.

Ulrüght was happy that amongst the clothes there were baby clothes because many people had been asking for baby clothes.

Floods can be a cause of health risks like Cholera and other waterborne diseases. The world we live in has experienced a weather shift. We need to act fast to fight weather climate change. We need to move away from fossil fuels like coal and oil as well as other forms that create air pollution. Moving towards Green energy or renewable energy is the way to live. They need to be our source of energy to power our cars, aeroplanes and to generate electricity.



Some tips to prevent you falling victim to scams:

• Analyse the accuracy of the spelling and grammar in a suspicious email or SMS.

• Check if you are addressed directly by name in the email or SMS.

• Do not disclose any personal information over the phone, including passwords or OTPs.

• Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments from unfamiliar sources.

• Before clicking on any links, hover over the link to see the address. If it differs from the URL text in the email body, it may be a phishing threat. Rather type URLs directly into the browser.

• Use the anti-phishing add-ons included in antivirus software.

Upcoming events

St Paul's

Parsons Hill

170th Anniversary

18-20 October

We'd love you to join us for one or all of these festive events:

• Friday 18th from 18h00 – Family evening of fun and games

• Saturday 19th at 14h30 – A music festival called Let's Praise at St Paul's

• Sunday 20th at 08h30 – Celebration Eucharist

Please call Carol on 0734141163 for more details.



An invitation to all musicians

Come join us with your musical talent for Saturday afternoon's Let's Praise at St Paul's.

We need singers and instruments please, to add a touch of class to our numbers.

Rehearsal times will be on Saturday 5 October at 10h30 and again before the event at 12h30 on Saturday 19 October.

WhatsApp Dave Milligan on

083 703 7977 if you can join us.

St John's Mission Fête

8th Avenue, Walmer



Doors open 08h00

Funds go towards those in the mission field

This is always a fun morning with LOTS to buy, eat and the best coffee to drink!



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***iindaba* is the vehicle for sharing your parish news with the rest of the diocesan family.**

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