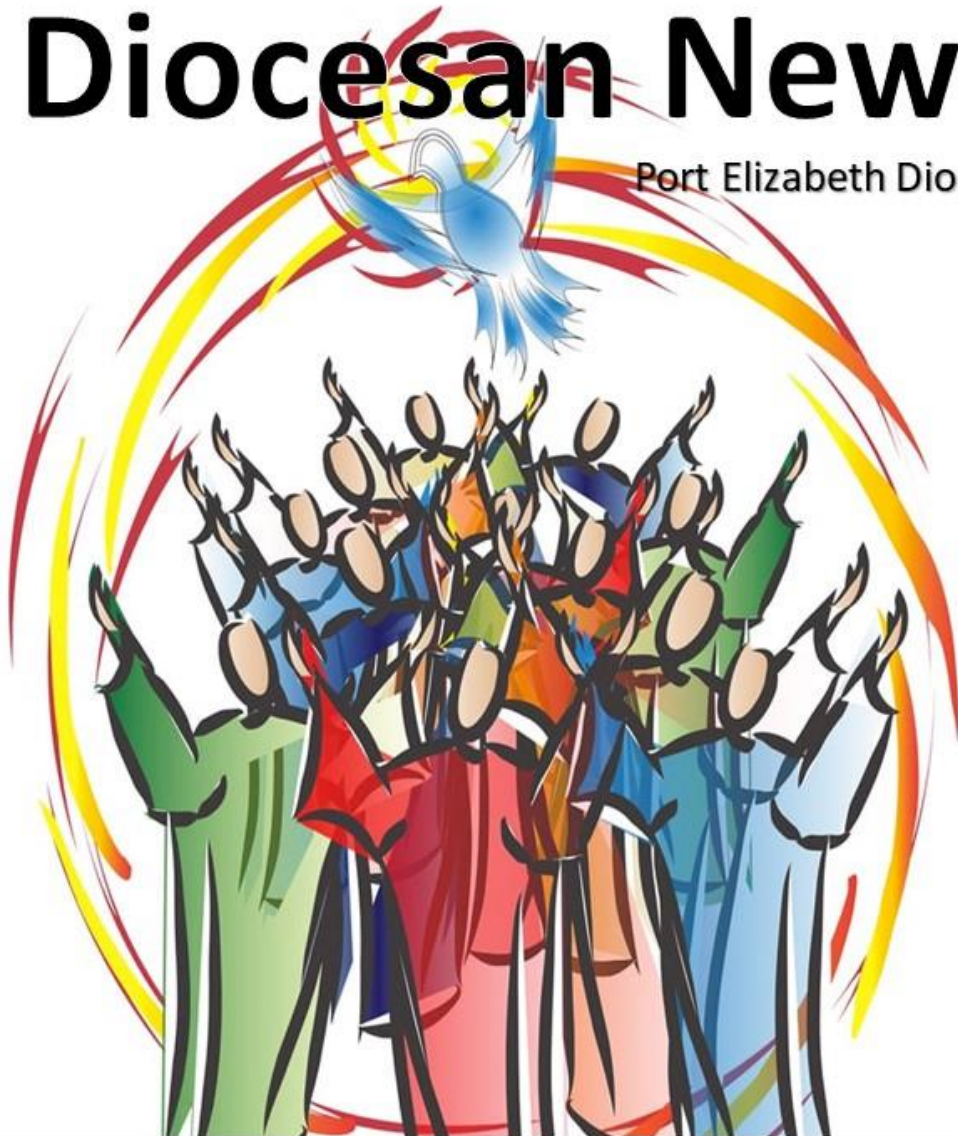


# Diocesan News

Port Elizabeth Diocese

Issue: - June 2023



## READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!

- From the Bishops Desk
- What is the SYNOD?
- Pastoral Plan Vision - the role we play!
- Pastoral Development Office
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# From the Bishops Desk

Leadership in the times of crisis –

*Written for the Nelson Mandela Church Leaders Organisation. Published in the Herald on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023*

In the first half of 2002 I was invited to a religious celebration in the French town of Besancon. There were about 160 people attending. A gracious middle-aged lady approached me and greeted me kindly. She was curious to know what country I came from in Africa. I told her, “Madam, I come all the way from South Africa”. “South Africa!”, she exclaimed with great surprise in her tone of voice.

She then said something that I have never forgotten to this day - “Blessed are you that you come from that beloved country, South Africa. You know what? We, from the European and international community never believed that you could achieve your hard-won democracy without a blood bath that we have seen in other countries. What your leaders and people achieved is nothing short of a miracle”. All I could say in response was, “Thank you Madam, that’s impressive. Praised be to God!”.

You can imagine the utter joy, fulfillment, complete satisfaction and sheer excitement that I felt when I heard this good news, appreciation, vote of confidence, positive attitude, resounding hope and overwhelming victory that was expressed by this unknown woman towards our country. Her sentiments reflected the local, public, African and international image of South Africa. There was immense joy that our country was fully back to the community of nations, and it could participate and contribute from its experience in the efforts of building peace, conflict resolution, skillful negotiations and creation of fundamental institutions and structures to guarantee justice for all.

Our country was involved in brokering peace in Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Sudan and even in Northern Ireland we shared our peace building and reconciliation model. The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) was invited regularly to share their expertise of preparing, organising and conducting elections professionally in a transparent way free from interference and manipulation. To be told that, I was blessed because I come from South Africa made me walk tall, instilled in me national pride, gave me a great sense of belonging, emboldened my sense of responsibility and empowered me to give back to my country by using my God given gifts, talents and skills to transform my home, church, neighbourhood, local council and metropolitan city of Nelson Mandela Bay to make it a better, safer and healthier place to live in, study, invest and work with serenity.

I am sure there are millions and millions of South Africans out there who can share the similar experiences of being treated friendly, received with dignity, made to feel at home and told how blessed and fortunate they were because they are South Africans.

Next year our country will be celebrating three decades of its democratic dispensation. This will coincide with another general election which will be contested for the first time not only by political parties but by independent candidates as well. If I were to meet that same lady, I came across in France almost twenty years ago, I wonder what she would say to me today, if she heard that I come from South Africa? Would she exclaim, “Blessed are you who come from that beloved country South Africa!” or would she rather say, “Shame on you, who come from that country that has fallen from grace?”.

In the last twenty-nine years our country has lost its religious, political, social, economic and moral influence and authority. There is an incredible leadership vacuum that has been filled by rouge elements who are corrupt to the core and appear on the surface to be credible religious, political and business leaders. This is fronting at its best, it is like wearing a mask so that we do not know who is in control behind the scenes.

The prayer and lamentation of Azariah in the heart of the fire puts it succinctly, "O Lord, we have become the least of all the nations, despised throughout the world today, because of our sins. In our day we have no ruler, or prophet, or leader, no burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense, no place to make offering before you and to find mercy" (Daniel 3: 37-38).

The lack of authentic leadership is felt on all levels and in different sectors of society. There have been even those who have commented that the country is on "autopilot", most of our metropolitan cities are unstable, local government is in a mess, there is no service delivery, the Christian church is in "limbo" and others are telling us that this should be a turning point, the "kairos" moment and the favourable time for Christians to speak out and create 'good trouble'. Others believe that if you want to be heard you must take to the streets, burn tires, block the roads, set alight community buildings and trash the infrastructure. All forms of abuse, senseless violence, assassinations and murders have reached pandemic proportions.

I think we need extraordinary leadership on all levels and in all sectors of society in these times of crisis. We need visionary leadership that is influential, inspiring confidence in others, full of (moral) integrity, courageous, selfless, resilient, inclusive and empowering. Matthew tells us that, "When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send workers into his harvest field'" (Mt 36-38).

Visionary leaders have intuition, imagination and foresight. They go out of their comfort zones into the streets of the suffering humanity to be confronted with all the fear, the pain, the anguish, the utter loss (isolation), the stress and the disillusionment that is written all over the faces of the street kids, the homeless, the unemployed youth, the hungry, the drug addicts, the sick and all those who are poverty stricken in our cities, towns and villages. Instead of getting overwhelmed, despondent, hopeless and defeated by the magnitude of the crisis, like Jesus they see an opportunity and recognize that, the harvest is indeed abundant. They seek and bring creative solutions and invite others to do the same.

Our beloved country is in dire need for leaders who have assimilated and embodied the compassion of Jesus, have developed empathy and the ability to stand in solidarity with others. People of solid faith who are prepared to journey from the mind to the heart. Living faith also opens our eyes, ears, mouth and puts our hands and feet in motion. We cannot have true faith and remain stagnant. We require leaders who have acquired and developed the values of the Gospel and a strong sense of *ubuntu*, which can be defined as 'humane-ness' which includes African values of respect, humility, compassion, hospitality, generosity, sharing and solidarity. Our country, church and society have been impoverished by the passing on of the leaders of great calibre who led us to our democracy, made a meaningful contribution to build up our strong institutions and have left behind themselves a huge intergenerational gap that cannot be easily bridged (closed off).

All our generation of leaders are called to continual process of conversion, that is, *metanoia* (in Greek) which means a radical change of ones heart, mindset, attitudes, behaviour and life's orientation. For me

one of the goals of the unburdening exercise(s) that was initiated by the SACC in Gauteng was to foster introspection, examination of conscience, facilitate conversion so that restorative justice can be achieved. Individuals, families, faith, business and civic organizations were invited and accorded a safe space where they could confess, expose or denounce corruption and criminal activities in which they have been involved or have observed. All those who come clean, denounce corruption and report it to the law enforcement agencies must be protected under the existing laws of the country. If we do not speak out against all forms of abuse and corruption we become complicit and perpetuate the cycle of evil.

In the final analysis our country, the church, our cities, towns and villages need leaders who have a living and dynamic relationship with God, who put the well-being of those they are called to serve first, have upright character and do not simply seek to be popular at all costs.

A good reputation is undoubtedly very valuable although it can easily be tarnished, so it is not absolute. Character must not be mistaken for reputation. William Hersey Davis clearly point out the difference between character and reputation:

*Reputation is what you are supposed to be; Character is what you are....*

*Reputation is the photograph; Character is the face....*

*Reputation comes over one from without; Character grows up from within....*

*Reputation is what you have when you come to a new community; Character is what you have when you go away.*

*Your reputation is made in a moment; Your character is built in a lifetime....*

*Your reputation is learned in an hour; Your character does not come to light for a year....*

*Reputation grows like a mushroom; Character lasts like eternity....*

*Reputation makes you rich or makes you poor; Character makes you happy or makes you miserable....*

*Reputation is what people say about you on your tombstone; Character is what the angels say about you before the throne of God.*

(Leaders for today hope for tomorrow by Anthony A. D'Souza, 2004 p. 60)

## **Bishop VM Zungu**

# Bishops Diary: 3rd July – 31st October 2023

Date	Event	Venue
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Confirmations	St. Patrick's PE
30 <sup>th</sup> July	Confirmations	St. James PE
6 <sup>th</sup> August	Confirmations	St. Peter's Swartkops
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Deanery Unity Mass	Port Elizabeth
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> August	SACBC Plenary	Mariannahill
20 <sup>th</sup> August	Confirmations	St. Mary's Mdantsane
27 <sup>th</sup> August	Confirmations	Sacred Heart PE
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmations – St. Bernadette's & Priory	St. Bernadette's
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmations	St. Paul's Kleinskool
18 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Clergy Retreat	St. Luke's retreat Centre
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmations	Sacred Heart KWT
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Confirmations	Christ the King
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmations	San Francesco
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmations	St. Thomas Port Alfred
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Installation of members of Ladies of Charity	St. Andrew's Breidbach
28 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmations	Immaculate Conception
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmations	SMDP & SFX East London

# Pastoral Development Office

*By Denise Philander*

## **Introduction**

The role of the Pastoral Development Office (PDO) is to evangelize. It exists to help develop catechesis, youth, marriage and family life and ministries within the Diocese of Gqeberha.

The PDO:

- collaborates with the parish priest in the mission of the parish so that the pastoral welfare of all in the parish community may be promoted as effectively as possible and community life promoted and enhanced;
- acts as a planning body, to study the life and activity of the parishes, research their needs, and establish short and long-term goals to enable the parishes to be faithful to their mission;
- is a link between the parishes and the Gqeberha Diocese, to participate through the PCC (Parish Core Communities) in the deliberations and bible study workshops in the Deanery Pastoral Development Office.

## **Marriage & Family Life**

The ministry of marriage and family is geared towards empowering all families spiritually and theologically with skills etc. Families are diverse and are influenced by a range of factors. There are married families, single, divorced, separated, elderly etc.

- Marriage & Family Life Ministry will also recognise, affirm and promote the sacredness of marriage.
- Evangelise couples and families to be a domestic church.
- It seeks to promote the Pastoral Plan on the family life ministry.

The marriage and family framework have been compiled in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa versions and approved by Bishop Zungu and distributed to all Deaneries of the PE Diocese.

### Gqeberha Deanery

Is in the process of trying to establish a Marriage & Family Representative from each parish and deanery to form a committee. The workshop to lead the Gqeberha Deanery team was scheduled for 20 May 2023 @ 09h30 at Sacred Heart PE and facilitated by Fr Joe Slatery. The workshop had 6 parishes represented and were requested to invite more members from their parishes to grow the team and to try having all aspects of the Marriage & Family Life Ministry represented e.g. youth/young adults, young & older married couples, single parents, divorcees etc. The next feedback meeting to be scheduled in Sep 2023.

Currently the support group for people caring for a family member who has dementia continues meeting each month. The feedback from participants in those groups is very positive.

Border/Midlands Deanery

## Border Deanery Council (KWT)

Marriage & Family Representatives & committee members from each parish held a workshop for of the Border Council Deanery on 4 March 2023 from 10h00 to 12h30 at St Joseph Hall, Durban Street. The number of attendees = 21 members. Further to that meeting a Marriage Day Celebration took place at all 4 parishes, which included (renewal of vows, activities included liturgy of the day etc) and lunch after mass for all couples which included widows and widowers. The planning meeting for the quarter arranged a retreat for single parent families on 13 May 2023. The next step is to visit other parishes in the Deanery to have a retreat for married couples. The plan is also to visit Fr Patrick & Fr Mafu for advocacy to grow the ministry.

EL Deanery

The names of the coordinators from each parish are being obtained and when this process is complete, a date for the workshop will be arranged. Currently one couple is initiating this process to grow the committee.

### Evenings for the Engaged

Sessions are as follows:

Date	Number of attendees	Presenters
Feb 2023	2 couples	Clint & Karen Barks
July 2023	3 couples	Sean & Sophia Abrahams

### Retrouvaille

Next session is scheduled for: 1 – 3 September 2023.

Retrouvaille PE is still working on identifying local couples who can become part of the presenting team.

## **Pastoral Plan**

We, the Church, the family of God in Southern Africa, commit to work together with others for the good of all, by responding to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth, through Worship, Proclamation of the Word of God, Formation, Advocacy, Human Development and Care of Creation.

The stages we have adopted in introducing the Pastoral Plan in the Diocese are:

1. Introduce Pastoral Plan to the clergy at the plenary. (DONE)
2. Deanery workshops of a way forward (DONE)
3. PPC Exec workshops (DONE)
4. Introduction of the Pastoral Plan to the Parish (IN PROCESS)

5. Implementation phase at parish level is to select the most important priorities from the 8 focal areas to focus on and how these will be achieved through a plan of action (IN PROCESS)
6. Continuous feedback to be obtained from the Deanery's.

The phases we are suggesting in implementing the Pastoral Plan in the Diocese at Parish level:

- Consultation to choose the main focal areas identified from the 8.
- Ownership of the action plan
- Feedback will be continuous.

Deanery follow-up dates on this consultation phases:-

Gqeberha Deanery follow-up date was 27 May @ Sacred Heart PE from 2 – 4pm  
9 parishes were represented and provided the necessary progress feedback on getting the message to their parishes to select from the 8 focus areas and devise a plan of how these could be addressed within the parish. The next session will take place in Sept 2023.

Border/Midlands Deanery to be scheduled in June 2023

EL Deanery to be scheduled in June 2023

# Caritas

By Eldridge Coskey



**NPO 238-**

## CARITAS PORT ELIZABETH

Caritas means love. The Latin term for charity, **Caritas**, implies an act of giving by people out of the goodness of their hearts. Charity is 'the soul' of the Church's mission. Charity is the main path of the Church's Social Doctrine. It is the 'principal driving force behind the authentic development of every person and of all humanity'. (Pope Benedict XVI).

Caritas South Africa is the official organization of the Catholic Church, created to carry out all social activities of the Church. It receives its mandate from the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC). Caritas South Africa forms part of the Department for Catholic Social Action and it is entrusted with the task of coordination and implementation of various Caritas activities in the different Dioceses of South Africa.

## **Vision and Mission**

Based on these guiding principles and the conviction to be in **solidarity** with the poor, Caritas will strive to achieve this Vision. Based on the Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching, Caritas advocates peace and reconciliation, fighting all forms of poverty and discrimination, and empowering people to live with dignity.

**With this, Bishop Zungu entrusted the setting up of Caritas in the Diocese of Port Elizabeth to a Board comprising Eldridge Coskey (Chairman), Chris Ntantiso (Vice Chairman), Beverley Swart (Secretary), Chris Kennedy (Finance), Cedric Pringle (Assistant Secretary) and Fr. Ludwe Jayiya (Chaplain) to implement the various Caritas activities.**



## **Mission**

**In order to achieve this Vision, Caritas works in line with the following Mission:**

- To be committed to **serv**ing the human person in love and dignity
- To be in solidarity with the poor, Caritas will witness for justice and peace in the nation
- To have a strong commitment to promoting integration, social cohesion and mutual respect
- To take care of creation and environment
- Advocacy and **peacebuilding**

## **Guiding Principles**

Caritas' approach is based on Catholic Social Teaching, which focuses on the dignity of the human person. Caritas' work on behalf of the poor manifests God's love for all creation. Caritas believes that the weak and oppressed are not objects of pity, but agents of change, leading the struggle to eradicate dehumanizing poverty, unacceptable living and working conditions, and unjust social, political, economic and cultural structures.

### **The dignity of the human person**

The dignity of the human person is the foundation of moral values. Caritas rejects the discrimination and abuse of the poor and vulnerable, and seek to make them not objects of human pity but subjects of their own development and agents of change. In this way, Caritas makes God's love for creation manifest in the world.

### **Option for the poor**

Caritas commits itself to combat poverty, which deprives people of their dignity and humanity, and to promote the rights of the poor. Caritas commits itself to restoring their sense of co-responsibility in building a better world.

### **Social justice**

Any economic, social, political or cultural structure which opposes or oppresses and prevents change towards justice is sinful. Caritas seeks to encourage its membership to redress the balance by working to transform these structures into holistic social structures which favour the poor.

### **Solidarity**

Caritas seeks to inculcate in its membership and its dealings with other non-governmental organizations and global institutions a genuine sense of solidarity.

## Port Elizabeth Diocese Structure and Procedure

To facilitate and expedite any needs in our Diocese, the following structure has been put in place:

All parishes must appoint a Caritas Co-ordinator who will assess the parishes' needs that cannot be provided or sustained by the existing outreach organisations/sodalities such as SvDP, CWL, St Annes etc. These requests for assistance will be **referred** to the Caritas Board for consideration.

All requests must be accompanied by a formal request form from the Parish Caritas Co-ordinator, this form must be approved by the Parish Priest. The Board will assess the request and will assist if it has the resources **and the means** to assist. If the resources are not immediately available, the Board will apply for assistance elsewhere.

The success of Caritas Port Elizabeth Diocese is dependent on the Parish Coordinators. Thus far the East London **Deanery** has Co-ordinators for all its parishes. This is evident in the success of their outreach programs.

### East London/Border

East London Deanery had a very successful Caritas launch. The launch Mass on 21 March was celebrated by Bishop Zungu, Vicar General Fr. Slater all the priests and deacons in the Deanery. Hundreds of Food Parcels were handed out to the poor and vulnerable on the day.

Below are some of the assistance given via the Request Procedure

- Sr. Nobulali (Duncan Village) – 45 Food Parcels and a cash donation
- Sr. Nobulali – Packets of seed for their communal gardens
- Shower Head for a Disabled Person
- Hundreds of Food Parcels, Clothes **and** Food Kits in the parish of St Martin de Porres and St. Francis Xavier.

## Port Elizabeth

Thus far, only four parishes in the Port Elizabeth Deanery have submitted the names of their coordinators. If Caritas do not receive ~~assistance~~ requests **for assistance** from the parishes via the coordinators and the parish priests, we are failing in our duty to care for **the poor and vulnerable**.

- 12 Families assisted via request from Fr. Valentine (Booyens Park)
- Akhanani Mission (Booyens Park) – Cash Donation, seeds and food items requested by Sr. Zelna
- Malabar – Adult Diapers
- St. Don Bosco – 150 food parcels, blankets *and* clothes – for the residents in the informal areas that were impacted by the recent floods. (Donations were received from Sacred Heart Parish)

**Caritas has received a donation of food kits from an organisation “Rise Against Hunger” that can provide 25 000 meals.**

**These food kits must be distributed as soon as possible as there is a dire poverty situation in our Diocese.**

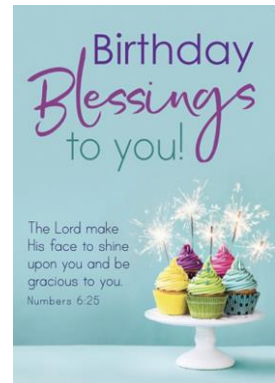
**PLEASE FORWARD REQUESTS VIA THE PARISH PRIESTS TO GET THE KITS TO THE POOR.**

Left: East London Launch Right: St Don Bosco



# Upcoming Clergy Birthdays

Name	Birthday
JAMES C.O., FR. GRANT	08-Jun
SLATTERY, FR. JOSEPH	13-Jun
VERMAAK C.O., FR. JONATHAN	17-Jun
KANNANAICKAL CMI, FR. VARGHESE	08-Jul
KAMALA, FR. LAWRENCE	12-Jul
ALAPPAT CMI, FR. DAVIS	28-Jul
JONES FR. KEN	31-Jul
WHITEHEAD, FR. PETER	10-Aug
FR PATRICK MASOMALI	04-Sep
MWILAMBWE, FR BENOIT	05-Sep
FR RUNAINE RADINE	06-Sep
MUYENGA, FR. GABRIEL	10-Sep
MADIKANE, FR. LUVUYO	18-Sep
KAMANGU, FR. ROBERT	29-Sep
BUTTON, FR. TREVOR	11-Oct
BRENNAN, FR. MARTIN (Nazareth House)	21-Oct
DEENIHAN, MSGR. BRENDAN	31-Oct
MNYAKA, FR MLULEKI	07-Nov
MITCHELL, C.O. FR. GREGORY	03-Dec
JAYIYA, FR LUDWE	06-Dec
FR XOLILE MAFU	20-Dec
FR XOLISA MAFU, CO	20-Dec
CLARKE, MSGR. JOHN	22-Dec



# Upcoming Priests Anniversaries

Congratulations  
ON YOUR  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF PRIESTHOOD



Name	Ordination Anniversary	Ordination as a Bishop
MNYAKA, FR MLULEKI	09-Jun	
DEENIHAN, MSGR. BRENDAN	16-Jun	
FINNEGAN, FR. GABRIEL	16-Jun	
FR PATRICK MASOMALI	17-Jun	
FR XOLILE MAFU	17-Jun	
SLATTERY, FR. JOSEPH	19-Jun	
WHITEHEAD, FR. PETER	02-Jul	
BISHOP VINCENT MDUDUZI ZUNGU	08-Jul	28-Jun
NWOKORO, FR HENRY	13-Jul	
THERON, FR MICHAEL	18-Jul	
AZUBUIKE, FR VALENTINE.N.	09-Aug	
MADUKA, FR EMMANUEL	09-Aug	
NWOSU, FR CALLISTUS	09-Aug	
MUYENGA, FR. GABRIEL	20-Aug	
NWOKORIE, FR. COLEMAN OBIDIKE	22-Aug	
VERMAAK C.O., FR. JONATHAN	05-Sep	
MWILAMBWE, FR BENOIT	26-Sep	
MATSOSO, FR DIJO	04-Dec	
GAVU, FR. SIMON	05-Dec	
BARNES, FR. WILLIAM	07-Dec	
BRENNAN, FR. MARTIN (Nazareth House)	07-Dec	
CLARKE, MSGR. JOHN	10-Dec	
DAVIDS, FR. ELRIDGE	10-Dec	
SHITIMA, FR. PETER-CHUNGU	16-Dec	
SLATER, FR. CHRISTOPHER	16-Dec	
SALSONE, FR. MAX	23-Dec	
ALAPPAT CMI, FR. DAVIS	27-Dec	

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ***Thirsting for God***

### ***A Retreat on Emotional Healing and Forgiveness***

The surge of COVID-19 has created a lot of emptiness within us and our families which is social, financial and spiritual. It has affected us in all aspects and many people are struggling with their emotions and how to heal their minds.

Join us for a Weekend preached retreat  
by **Father Coleman Nwokorie S.D.V**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 6 pm – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 3 pm**  
at **St Luke's Retreat Centre**, 10 Park Lane, Central,  
Gqeberha / Port Elizabeth

R 1200\* per person. Early Bird rate includes 2 nights accommodation in a single guest room, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 conference talks and a gift. Enquire about our rates for shared rooms via [retreat@cdpe.co.za](mailto:retreat@cdpe.co.za). Registration rate after 15<sup>th</sup> of June R1300

More info and to register

<https://retreatcentre.org.za/>

This retreat is Catholic Christian in nature and open to anyone from other Christian denominations who is looking for healing and a closer relationship with our Lord.



JESUIT INSTITUTE SOUTH AFRICA

# WINTER LIVING THEOLOGY 2023



## THE BIBLE: BEST-SELLER OF ALL TIMES

Where does it come from  
and why do we need it?



FR DAVID NEUHAUS SJ

Fr David Neuhaus SJ, a South African by birth, studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Jesuit Theologate in Paris and the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. He was a lecturer in Scripture for twenty-two years at the Latin Catholic Patriarchate Seminary and Bethlehem University, as well as other academic institutions in Israel and Palestine. He has published widely on Scripture, interreligious dialogue and the Israel-Palestine conflict.

[www.jesuitinstitute.org.za](http://www.jesuitinstitute.org.za)

22-24 Aug 2023

St Luke's, Gqeberha

R1100\*\* (incl lunch,  
3 lectures per day)

\*\* early bird rates &  
pensioner discounts are available

Booking essential  
[pdo@cdpe.co.za](mailto:pdo@cdpe.co.za)

# CURRENT

# SYNOD



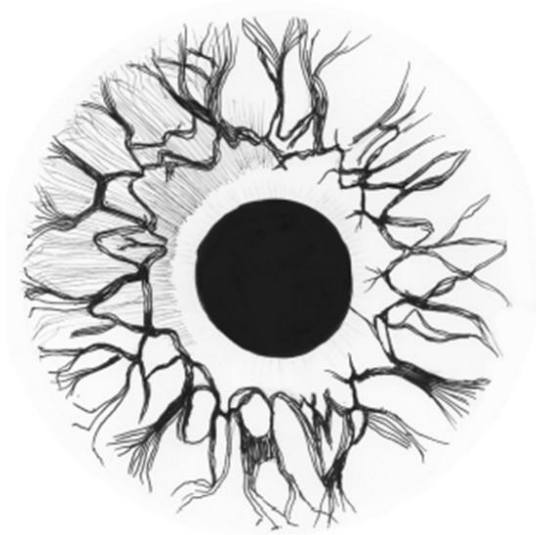
What is the Catholic synod 2022?

**The word synod is rooted in Greek and means “same road” or “journeying together.”** Through this synodal process, Pope Francis would like to invite every Catholic to prayerfully reflect and learn together about how God is calling us to be as the Church in the third millennium.

What happens in a synod?

A Synod is both an event and a process where **clergy, religious and the laity gather to discuss important matters of the faith.** Synods are transformative events that lead to renewal in the Church's life. After a Synod occurs, the Church emerges different and is changed.

# PASTORAL PLAN



## *Our Vision and Mission*

Our Pastoral Plan invites communities to be and become an

---

EVANGELISING COMMUNITY

---

SERVING GOD, HUMANITY

---

AND ALL CREATION.

---

Let us ask God to inspire us to be generous and courageous enough to choose that

---

### INVITATION TO ALL CATHOLICS

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We invite each Catholic, and all Catholic Communities within our Conference area, in their own context, to study, discuss and decide how to implement this Pastoral Plan.

Study sessions should be arranged in all Parishes, groups and movements.

Implementation of this Pastoral Plan will be ongoing, monitored and evaluated.

The Council for Evangelisation will regularly review and evaluate how our Pastoral Plan is being received and implemented.

# SOME ADVERTISING

## new arrivals

PLACE YOUR ORDER WITH US IN  
THE FOLLOWING WAYS:



071 922 9537



repository@catholic-pe.co.za



FOLLOW US ON  
FACEBOOK



catholicbookshoppe

pop in to our shop @  
10 park lane central  
port elizabeth



St Luke's Retreat Centre  
10 Park Lane, Central, Gqeberha  
**Wedding Venue**

**St Luke's Retreat Centre is the ideal wedding venue with everything under one roof to celebrate the sacrament of marriage.**



Get married in our lovely chapel which dates back to the 19th century.

Celebrate afterwards in our Hall and Dining room which can accommodate up to 100 guests. Audio and visual equipment are available to celebrate in style.

Overnights guests can stay in one of our 25 guest rooms. Our facility can accommodate up to 60 guests.

Have your wedding pictures taken in our lovely garden and inside St Luke's Retreat Centre.

All couples that are married at St Luke's Chapel will be given a crucifix to take home which will be placed on the altar during the celebration of their vows.

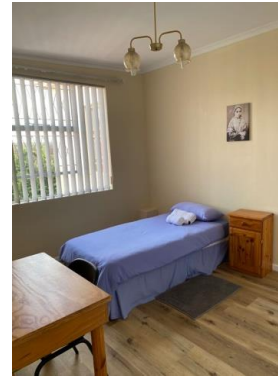
**For more info and a virtual tour of the venue visit our website  
<https://retreatcentre.org.za>**



## St Luke's Retreat Centre

10 Park Lane, Central, Gqeberha

**Retreats, Conferences, Wedding Venue & Student Accommodation**



### **St Luke's Retreat Centre has re-opened after renovations**

***NEW: St Luke's Retreat Centre now offers: Directed retreats, Individual Retreats, Wedding Venue and Student Accommodation &***

Rent the facility for group retreats and conferences

Directed Retreats that we currently offer at St Luke's Retreat Centre:

Advent Retreats, Lenten Retreats, Silent Retreats, Ignatian Spirituality, Men's Retreats, Women's Retreats, Youth Retreats, Healing Retreats, Vocation Retreats, Theology of the Body Retreats, Serenity 12-Step Retreats, Individual Private

Our retreats are Catholic in nature and are open to all that are looking to grow their relationship with the Lord

**For more info and a virtual tour of the Centre visit our website  
<https://retreatcentre.org.za>**



## St Luke's Retreat Centre

10 Park Lane, Central, Gqeberha

### **Student Accommodation available**

St Luke's Retreat Centre offers more than just a regular student accommodation. Our goal is to create a spiritual home and community for Catholic students in which their faith can grow, and they can learn, form friendships, share and engage with others. For many youth living away from home for the first time can be a challenge, not only to adjust to living on their own but also to remain grounded in the faith.

Sunday Mass is held at St Luke's Chapel at 9 am and the involvement of the youth in the Mass is a critical part of their growth in the faith.

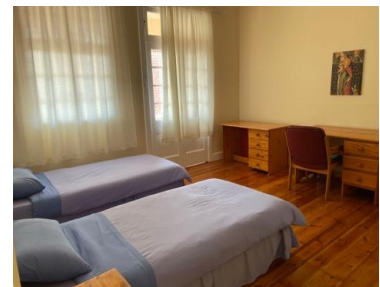
The goal is to grow this student community into a home group which under the guidance of a spiritual mentor will grow together in the faith, encourage each other and teach other each other.

Five Spacious Bedrooms with Ensuite Bathrooms

Private Entrance & Secure parking

All bedrooms are furnished with a bed, desk, chair, nightstand, lamp & built-in up cupboards

Communal Lounge & Kitchenette, Laundry Room



**2023 rates per person per month:**

Single 4750 ZAR Vat included

Twin sharing 3500 ZAR Vat included

Electricity, Water & Wi-Fi included

Refundable deposit one month rent upfront

To apply for student accommodation, email us on [retreat@cdpe.co.za](mailto:retreat@cdpe.co.za)

**For more info visit our website <https://retreatcentre.org.za>**

## Ordination & Diaconate

*By Fr Byron Bowers*

As I journey towards the occasion of my ordination into the priesthood, the following saying comes to mind: "No one comes to ordination alone". And this rings true for me too. No one comes to ordination by themselves and as I look around the church, at the congregation, I can say that "I have not come to my ordination day alone." I have been accompanied on my journey by our family, our friends, the community, the diocese and all those who played a part in my formation whether it be classmates, teachers, formators, clergy throughout the country and even beyond. In a special way these two priests in the photograph, represents a greater group of people who have journeyed with me thus far. We have shared a close bond through our formation in the seminary.

Fr Runaine Radine and I are from the same parish community in St James, Schauderville.



He is a familiar face to many readers. On my journey, he has been a big bother who provided great support. He was the face of our parish community for me, always showing support and encouragement. His example and constant support would lead and guide me.

Fr Theo Angelo April from the Archdiocese of Cape Town and I met in the seminary. He represents the friendships I made on my journey, illustrating how friends become so more than just friends.... they become family.

A fraternity of good friends and close community is what is needed as we journey towards the priesthood and usually continues on well into our ministry. I am sure that these friendships will endure the test of time as we continue to challenge each other and support each other in prayer.

Our mothers are also in the photograph. They remind me of the many rosary walks we took around the seminary and even

outside the community to the Mall. Our mothers played an important role in our journey which reminds us of how our Blessed Mother plays an integral part in all our lives and particularly so in the life of a priest.







*Credit to Lisa Augustine for pics*

# Port Elizabeth Oratory

*By Hayley Scholtz*

Port Elizabeth Oratory Parish of St Bernadette Rosary Rally 2023



On Saturday 13 May, parishioners from St Bernadette's parish braved the wintry weather to participate in this year's Rosary Rally in front of the church.

# ST JAMES, SCHAUDERVILLE

*By Faith Miller*



The year began in St James with a series of Retreats by the parish sodalities in preparation for the year and spiritual disposition of the parish.

**The Altar Servers** had their retreat at Sacred Heart Parish with Father Stephen Ilechukwu, of the Oratorians. And On Sunday New members were vested and with the old members renew their commitment.

**The Communion Ministers** had their retreat as well in the beginning of the Year with Father Ambrose Kolawole Dada, of Ekiti Diocese in Southwest, Nigeria. This took place At St James Catholic church Schauderville.



**The Proclaimers** of the parish also had a day with the Lord, in the parish with Father Ambrose Kolawole Dada, of Ekiti Diocese in Southwest, Nigeria. He is studying at the NMU University.



**The Servant Leaders of the Parish (Ward leaders)** also had a spiritual day with the parish priest. The retreat emphasised the servant leadership role of the ward leaders, the importance of the office in the church and parish community and the joy to be the contact of the parish in the local streets of the community.

**School Ministry:** The Priest of St James Catholic Church Schauderville took the ministry to the schools in the community with blessing and anointing the teachers and learners. We are taking Christ back to the schools. And we hope our learners can take on the spirit of the infant Jesus as they grow and become good and humble people in the society. And we appreciate the disposition of the principals of the schools; Paterson High, St James High and St Teresas Primary school Schauderville.



Paterson High School



St Teresa Primary school



St James High School



**The Visit of Vocationist Superior General:** The Superior General of the Vocationist Fathers and Brothers, Rev Fr. Antonio Do Nascimento SDV, Visited South Africa. He celebrated mass in the parish community of St James and all the



other parishes where the Vocationist serve in the Diocese Of Port Elizabeth and Durban Arch Diocese. His coming was fruitful and the parish community was delighted for his presence. The visit of the Superior General of every congregation always bring the spirit, the life and the blessing of the founder to the mission. We the Vocationist remain grateful to the Bishop of our diocese; Bishop Vincent Zungu OFM for his hospitality during this time of his visit.





**The Justinian Youth of St James Catholic Church Schauderville meets every**

second Friday of the Month for their Spiritual sharing and youhtful games. The Justinian Youth had the Passion drama performed and acted on the streets during the stations of the cross of Good Friday. This brought real and true emotion on the parishioners an the commuinity at large. We pray that this zeal and commitment to serving God be permanent in them.



# SACRED HEART, KABEGA PARK PE

*By Wendy Van Leeve*

At Sacred Heart Kabega there is always a hive of activity, praise God! The faithful are always giving their time and talent to ensuring that the parish runs well and reflects God's hand in the community. Following a very blessed and spiritually active 2022, celebrating our church's 60th Jubilee, 2023 started in the same spirit with a New Year's family day on 22 January. This forms part of the continuing Jubilee celebrations. The families gathered for a carnival themed day filled with fun and games after Sunday Mass. The parishioners were treated to coffee and koeksisters after mass and lunch as the day progressed. The children had the most fun with all sorts of games to take part in. The adults joined in with the tug of war too. The sodalities dressed up for the occasion and it was a very colourful display. Our Jubilee celebrations which had stopped and started with the uncertainty during the covid pandemic will close in October this year.

On 29 January an historic event took place when Mass was held on Kuyga soil. It was the culmination of months of collaboration which saw the community come together to bring to fruition the celebration of Holy Mass in this community. The mass was held in a classroom at the Kuyga Primary school. It was a very significant moment and quite emotional for all those in attendance.

On the weekend of 11/12 February Fr Lubabalo blessed the married couples of the parish. It was a beautiful gesture which was incredibly moving for all those who partook in the very special weekend masses. The sanctuary was flooded with couples as Father led them in the renewal of their marital vows.

Over the weekend of 18/19 February, Sign Up weekend took place at Sacred Heart. All the ministries and sodalities displayed tables so that parishioners could inquire and join as the spirit moved them. In the preceding weeks, members of each ministry and sodality could give a brief outline presentation during mass as to what the ministry entails.

The Lenten season started on 22 February this year. There were 3 Ash Wednesday services which were exceptionally well attended. Every Friday evening, a different ministry led the stations of the cross. Palm Sunday saw the church adorned with palm branches on the pews which set the scene for the celebration of our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. During the Triduum, on Holy Thursday, during the mass of the last supper, the RCIA candidates and their sponsors took part in the very beautiful and moving reenactment of Christ washing the feet of His disciples. On Good Friday, the youth of the parish led the stations of the cross, reenacting each station. A great rendition which allowed for deep reflection and contemplation of the Lord's passion. The Easter Vigil was the highlight of the weekend when the entire community witnessed the RCIA candidates being received into full communion with the Catholic Church. One candidate was baptised as well and the collective gasp that ran through the congregation at the point of baptism

when the water was poured over her, was a moving and poignant moment during the mass. Easter Sunday was a jubilant day as the parish welcomed 3 new babies through the sacrament of baptism during the mass. What a beautiful weekend of intense prayer and celebration. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The 17th of April is always a special day at Sacred Heart. Our Shepherd, Fr Lubabalo celebrates his birthday AND his anniversary of priestly ordination on this day. The community celebrated with him following Sunday mass on 16th April with tea and eats in the hall. The children of the parish sang happy birthday to Fr in isiXhosa. On Monday 17th April the CWL organised the caravan lunch for the clergy which served to celebrate Fr Lubabalo on his special day.

Looking ahead: Sacred Heart will be hosting 2 historic events: The Ordination of 3 sons of the soil on 3rd June 2023 at 10am. Siphamandla Mpulo and Clint Weldschidt to the diaconate and Byron Bowers will be ordained into the priesthood.

Then on 16th June, the 60th Anniversary of Monsignor Brendan Deenihan's priestly ordination will be celebrated at 11am. To God be the Glory!

# St Augustine's

*By Kaye Hendrick*

The recent good rain, for which we are really grateful, brought into sharp focus the urgent need for major maintenance and repair work on the roof of the cathedral in addition to general painting and repairs. The rains of the weekends of 13/14, and 20/21 May exposed numerous leaks from the roof, as rain poured in. A major cause of the leaks is the theft of the copper plating from the roof. Consider the height of the cathedral and cost of scaffolding to get to the roof, the cost and retail price of scrap copper and you have an idea of what is needed to do the repairs.

The Sisonke project is the parish community's response to involve all the parish groups in raising the necessary funds. We are inviting all parishes to help in preserving the beautiful cathedral for all of us in the diocese.

Join us for the following events:

MARKET DAY: 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY

INTERNATIONAL FOOD EVENING: 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY

COLOGNE CATHEDRAL GIRLS CHOIR: 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY.

In the past few months, we have had some events that have helped to lift our spirits and renew our enthusiasm and sense of community.

We had a full hall for the St. Patrick's Day celebration in March and are warmed by remembering the contribution of the Irish in establishing St. Augustine's from its foundation.

The celebration of the devotion of The Stations of the Cross, led by various groups in the parish, concluded on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March with a Taizé prayer time after the stations, led by the choir.

The parish community from the DRC delighted the whole congregation with their contribution to the offertory procession on Palm Sunday.

Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday saw new members welcomed into the catholic church and St. Augustine's Parish.

On Freedom Day, 27<sup>th</sup> April, we hosted Mark Jennings, an internationally acclaimed classical guitarist, visiting Port Elizabeth. We were entrained to a soul soothing and uplifting recital in the majestic environment of the cathedral. It was a really graced afternoon of beautiful music.

The joyous season of Easter closed with the celebration of Pentecost. We marked the multilingual and multicultural character of our parish community with prayers and hymns in different languages. Being the last Sunday of the month, the Mass is

offered in a special way for all celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in the month of May. The May celebration was enhanced by the early celebration of the ordination anniversaries of 60 years of priesthood for Msgr. Brendan and 30 years for Fr. Jerry. Between them they have served the cathedral parish for 30 years, and the diocese for 90 years. It was such a pleasure to celebrate with them. We pray God's richest blessing on them both as we record our grateful appreciation.

DRC community presenting offertory gifts on Palm Sunday.







# St Martin de Porres

*By Monica Naidoo*



## Liturgy Retreat

A liturgy retreat was held on 21<sup>st</sup> March by sisters Martha and Breda.



## Altar Servers

Fr. Davis welcomed two of the new, very eager and youngest Altar Servers. On the left is Hiram Robertson and Luke Nel on the right with Fr. Davis.



## **LADIES RETREAT**

Addo Sisters Martha and Breda held a Ladies retreat on 6<sup>th</sup> May in our Parish Hall. Those who attended said they felt spiritually uplifted. Their time was spent on prayer, meditation, dance, and stories shared. Good fellowship with tea and refreshments served afterwards.







SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The society held a trolley dash on the 14<sup>th</sup> May in aid of the GelvanPark and Malabar Old Age Homes. Management at the Beetlestone Road Kwikspar assisted by allowing the SVP members to make use of their trolleys and also the front section of Spar. The society thanks all parishioners and members of the community for their generous contributions.



Malabar and GelvanPark Old Age Homes on receiving their donations from the SVP Society.



## **CONFIRMATION**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Bishop Vincent Zungu conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on 24 candidates at our parish. A beautiful Mass was celebrated, and Bishop encouraged the candidates to keep growing in their faith by participating in parish activities and using the wonderful gifts of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives. We thank our Catechists who gave so generously of their time and energy to prepare our candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation.



## **Men's Retreat**

A men's retreat was held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May. It was presented by Deacon Roland Dace.



# Mater Dei

*By Natalia Adams*

## Knights of Da Gama, Council 19

April commenced with the distribution of Easter egg packets to various parishes and/or institutions during Holy Week. Council 19 was fortunate and blessed to receive a sizable donation of 198 Easter egg packets (4 eggs per packet) from St. Dominic's Priory Schools (**St. Dominic's**). It is our sincere wish that this would be the first of many collaborations between us and St.

Donations of Easter eggs were received from the parishioners of the following parishes:

1. Mater Dei;
2. San Francesco;
3. St. Bernadette's;
4. Sacred Heart; and
5. Corpus Christi.

Council 19 also opened its coffers to purchase Easter Eggs under the auspices and aegis of BT, Rob Verson. Together with the donations received, a total of **1298** Easter Egg packets were distributed as well as 10 boxes of Easter eggs to the following parishes and/or institutions:

1. Malabar Home for the Aged (10 boxes of Easter Eggs);
2. Holy Spirit in Arcadia;
3. St. Kevin's in Hillside;
4. St. James in Schauderville;
5. St. Patrick's in Sydenham;
6. St. Don Bosco in Kwa-Zakhele;
7. St. Pawulos Oyingwele in Motherwell;
8. The Good Shepherd Sisters' Akhanani Mission in Booyens Park (Easter egg packets were distributed at "Vastrap", "Hillside 1" and "Hillside 2" informal settlements with the assistance of the Good Shepherd Sisters);
9. St. Joseph the Worker in Chatty (distributed on Easter Sunday)
10. St. Martin De Porres in Gelvandale (also distributed on Easter Sunday).



*Br Knight Warren-Mark Myburgh handing over 10 boxes of Easter Eggs at Malabar Home for the Aged*



*A cup of tea at the Akhanani Good Shepherd Mission in Booyens Park before the distribution of Easter Eggs at "Vastrap", "Hillside 1" and "Hillside 2" informal settlements from L: Mr and Mrs Nezar (Board Members of the Akhanani Mission), Sister Zelna Oosthuizen, Mother Superior of the Good Shepherd Sisters, MAA Isaac Adams and Br Knight Warren-Mark Myburgh*



*Br Knight Warren-Mark Myburgh and MAA Isaac Adams distributing Easter Eggs at the “Vastrap” informal settlement on 6 April*



*Br Knight Warren-Mark Myburgh’s children Hayden, Catherine and Mia distributing Easter eggs to “young’uns” at St. Joseph the Worker parish on Easter Sunday*



*Senior Brother Frankie Ferreira distributing Easter eggs at St. Martin De Porres on Easter Sunday*



*Senior Brother Frankie Ferreira posing with Father Davis after Easter Sunday Mass at St. Martin De Porres parish*

On Easter Monday Mater Dei parish hosted a family day braai and as usual, there was a solid KDG presence. KDG braai skills and talents were put to exemplary use. Thank you Brothers, for hoisting the emblem, visibility and impact of our beloved Order.



*At the Family Day braai at Mater Dei parish from L: Br Knight Jarrod Simon, Senior Brother Frankie Ferreira, a pensive looking MAA Isaac Adams and Br Knight "Big John" Conway. In front is KDG Friend Xavier Cairncross who is always at our functions and activities (the joke is that he may as well get initiated! The writer sincerely hopes that this is indeed the case!)*

On 18 April our monthly business GA was held at Mater Dei parish hall where Council 19 business was discussed. Father Ludwe, our beloved and dear Chaplain suggested that, considering that May is the month of the Blessed Virgin, we should have "House Rosaries" on every Friday during this period. The tabled motion was unanimously adopted and PGK Hugh September, Br Knight Trevor Dolley and Br Knight Isaac Adams readily availed their homes to host the "House Rosaries".

On 19 April Holy Mass was celebrated by Father Ludwe at Mater Dei parish for the repose of the soul of the late Audrey Cambier (MHDDSRIP), wife of PGK Gary Cambier (**PGK Gary**). The writer is very glad to confirm that there was a solid and sound presence of Brother Knights in solidarity with PGK Gary in this difficult period.

Immediately after Holy Mass, Father Ludwe hosted a lecture under the appellation "The meaning of the Incarnation for Modern Man" at the Mater Dei parish lecture hall. It was thoroughly and truly thought provoking and added a tremendous amount of sustenance for reflection amongst the attendee Brothers. A heartfelt debt of appreciation is extended to MSD Kevin Mills (**MSD Kevin**) for facilitating the presentation. Council 19's spiritual needs is indeed in sound care with MSD Kevin at the helm.



*Waiting for the lecture to commence on 19 April from L: MSD Kevin Mills, Senior Brother Frankie Ferreira, Br Knight Warren Lazarus, PGK Gary Cambier, Senior Brother Storm Chambel and Chaplain Reverend Father Ludwe*

On Friday 28 April a rehearsal took place in preparation for the Investiture of GK Bramwell Burger the following day, at Mater Dei parish hall. MAA Isaac Adams and MFD Wallace Ricks ensured that the chamber was set up according to the strictures as contained in the manual.

On 29 April our monthly Boot sale was held at Sacred Heart parish. There were 75 stalls. The weather was superb and a fun-filled morning was enjoyed, replete with banter and Brotherhood. The food stall sales were very brisk and rewarding.



*Brothers in arms at the Boot Sale : From L DGK Frank Scholtz, Br Warren-Mark Myburgh, GK Bram Burger, PGK Hugh September and MAA Isaac Adams*

April was concluded with the Investiture of GK Bramwell Burger (**GK Bramwell**) This was well attended and a huge THANK YOU is extended to Deacon Sidney Bemsky (of Council 33) in officiating in the absence of Father Ludwe, who was unavailable as he had been reserved for a wedding celebration months in advance.

The celebration of GK Bramwell's Investiture was celebrated with Holy Mass at Sacred Heart which was followed by a "finger supper" at the Catechism Hall of the parish.

Appreciation is extended to Br Knight Malcolm Wait and PGK Colin Walton for availing themselves as assistants at the Investiture.

It would be apposite for the writer to say a few words on the Investiture of GK Bramwell and to put forward a few words of appreciation to the Brothers of Council 19:

*'It has been the honour of my life to lead the Brothers of Council 19 and I thank you all for entrusting Council 19 under my stewardship.*

*To the LE members, many thanks for your loyal support, especially DGK Frankie Scholtz and MAA Isaac Adams.*

*In the words of Abraham Lincoln: "Every man is to have his peculiar ambition. Whether it be true or not, I can say for one that I have no other so great as that of being truly esteemed of my fellow men, by rendering myself worthy of their esteem".*

*My sincere wish is that I have, indeed, been worthy of your esteem.*

*To GK Bramwell, I offer you hearty congratulations on your Investiture and may you take Council 19 to dizzy heights, achieve nobler deeds and a higher reputation won with you steering the ship of our Council. A better man could not have been nominated".*



*At the Investiture from L: DGK Frankie Scholtz, GK Bramwell Burger, Br Knight Warren-Mark Myburgh and BT RoB Verson*



*Brothers of Council 19 at the "finger supper" at Sacred Heart parish after Holy Mass in celebration of the Investiture of GK Bramwell Burger*



*The new leadership of Council 19, DGK Frankie Scholtz and GK Bramwell Burger*

## **SVP – Mater Dei**

During April the soup kitchen provided 340 cups of soup and 26 loaves of bread.

At the soup kitchen on Easter Saturday 144 easter eggs were handed out as we as everyone getting Oreo biscuits donated by the Community Chest.

All donations from parishioners received on Holy Thursday were donated to the **Gelvan Park and Malabar old age homes** due to their dire circumstance.

100 Loaves of bread were donated to **Buffelsfontein Retirement Village** who used 70 and delivered 30 to **Cuyler Home**.

Six bags of clothing were donated to the **Sisters of Mercy** during the March/April period.



**By: Alan Diesel**

Our members attended and excellent Eastern Cape **SVdP retreat** at St. Martin de Porres on Saturday, 6th May. This was led by Father Ludwe.



We have also been blessed to be able to donate more food items. See some pictures of groceries donated to the **MTR Smit children's haven**.



*Des de Cruz with the Principal of MTR Children's Haven*

## **Catholic Women's League – Mater Dei**

Some of our members attended the Diocesan CWL **Spiritual Retreat**, facilitated by the **Sisters from Addo**. This took place on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Sacred Heart Parish hall. All branches were requested to donate clothing and tin food. These were handed over to Sisters.

**International Women's World Day of Prayer:** Mater Dei CWL hosted the service on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023. The ladies from all churches in the Newton Park and surrounding areas attended, including the Salvation Army – about 80 ladies in attendance. Sheila Thyse, our guest speaker, provided insight about Taiwan, especially into the ladies of Taiwan as this was based on the theme for 2023. This was followed by fellowship in the hall with refreshments served.

During Lent and leading up to Easter, our ladies led the **Stations of the Cross** on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023; packaged **Easter eggs, biscuits and prayer cards** and delivered those to the **aged and housebound**. We also donated **Easter Eggs for the Tridium** celebration that took place after the Vigil Mass. These were stuck under the chairs and a fun surprise for all attendees – even for the adults.

**The DCWL Annual Street Collection** was scheduled for Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March however, with not many shops allowing collections to take place, we forfeited this and with Fr's blessing, we held our "Collection on the Lawn" after Mass.

**Membership:** We inducted a new member, Veronica Spiers, during our CWL mass on Friday, 21 April 2023 and will soon be inducting two more new members in the forthcoming months.

**Fundraising:** Our ladies hosted a breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> May after morning Mass. This was well supported, and we are thankful to our parishioners and friends of Mater Dei for supporting our initiative. We were also very blessed to have our honorary life member, Mavis Hutchinson (95 years old) visit us during this time and although Mavis could not do much, she was there in full spirit.



Veronica's induction to the Catholic Women's League. Her daughter also sharing the moment with her. Congratulations Veronica!



As we head into the colder season, our busy bees got together on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May to **sort and distribute donated clothing and knitted items** to our various charities. We were blessed to be able to support the following beneficiaries: Good Shepherd Sisters; Gelvandale Old Age Home; Salvation Army; Missionvale; Addo Sisters of Mercy as well as our very own Geoffrey whose home was flooded during the recent rains



## Stations of the Cross and Fr Ludwe

Every Saturday, during Lent, Fr Ludwe led the Stations of the Cross as the crack of dawn and took our parish community through various walking trails in Port Elizabeth. Here are just two – Guinea Fowl Trail and Cape Recife.



## The celebration of the Triduum - Mater Dei

Our Palm Sunday and the Triduum took place and we were very blessed to have new psalmists on board. Toni Kleb, our previous, now retired, organist very generously helped by playing at Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday services.

The attendance was very good at morning psalms (Lauds) on Good Friday, followed by Stations of the Cross led by our young people.

The youth are to be commended for their enactment of the Stations. This was undertaken with appropriate solemnity and reverence. Thanks, too, to the Catechists involved with their training. The Good Friday morning prayer service saw a large number of people gathering for prayer followed by Stations of the Cross. Saturday morning prayers had a smaller attendance, but this time of prayer set the tone for the Vigil that evening.

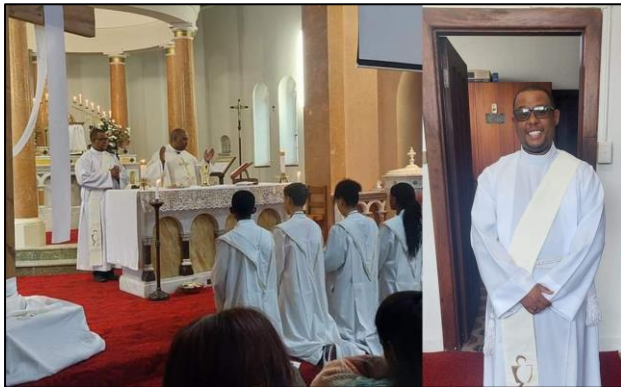
After Saturday morning prayers, the church was a hive of activity from the team responsible for the décor. Cloths were ironed, leaves from the gale force wind being swept out of the church and removed from the doorway, carpets vacuumed and banners hung on the inside pillars as well as the outside banner proclaiming **“HE IS RISEN”**. Also the beautiful flowers were painstakingly arranged by the flower ladies. Well done everyone! At the Holy Saturday Vigil the church was packed to capacity with people also standing in the foyer. It is heart-warming to see everyone working together to make our beautiful church look her best and to uphold our community’s reputation of being a warm and welcoming community.





Congratulations to Clinton Baartman, who was received into the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil. We celebrated the Easter Vigil afterward with a bring and share, and great fellowship in the Parish Hall. We had the pleasure of having Rev. Byron Bouwers share mass with us on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> May – two weeks before being full ordained into the Priesthood. We offer our

prayers and wish you all the best as you continue this wonderful journey.



How blessed we were to have Monsignor Deenihan celebrate mass with us recently. We thank Monsignor Deenihan for all he has done for the community of Port Elizabeth and the Diocese of Port Elizabeth at large, as he celebrates his 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the priesthood on the 16<sup>th</sup> June. We look forward to sharing the special milestone with him.

**By: Jeanine Baz**



### **Small Christian Community – Mater Dei**

We currently have 4 active groups. During Lent 2023 we use the book: LIVE LENT YEAR A. The sessions in the different groups started the week of the 27th February 2023. Daily meditations started with Ash Wednesday and ended with Easter Sunday. Some advantages of using this book is to help people become better hearers and doers of the Word of God; help to make better connections between faith and life and to live their faith more concretely in family, work and community life.

**By: Cynthia Casper**

### **Care Ministry – Mater Dei**

Visits to the housebound, hospital and frail care are done regularly as well as assisting Father by arranging and attending the fortnightly Masses at Stella Londt Retirement Village. The residents are extremely grateful especially as Father was there on Easter Sunday. Father anointed them during the Mass before Easter. A couple of the residents have been in hospital and we have visited them. Currently there are two residents who are unwell and unable to attend the Mass so they will receive Communion from us after the Mass. One resident is still in hospital. The Eucharistic Ministers take Communion to Stella Londt on the alternate Sundays.

**By: Moira Boshoff**

## **Youth – Mater Dei**

Our Youth led the Good Friday Stations of the Cross



**By: Demont Murdock**



**By: Illana Ferreira**

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church East London

*By Evangelist Hailu Adalo*

The Ethiopian and Eritrean Catholic Community members Mr. Paulos and Ms. Hanna married on 18 February 2023 in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church East London.

Both came from the same Vicariate of Hosanna Ethiopia from St. Anthonios Parish Ashera and St. Joseph Parish Taza, they are very committed Catholic Youth group members .



All their Marriage instructions were done by Community national Coordinator Evangelist Hailu Adalo and Sacramental Marriage Celebration officiated by Fr. Peter Whitehead.

I humbly ask You all to please keep them in your prayers.

# St Michael's Fort Beaufort

*By Patrick Christian*

On Sunday, 12 February 2023, 12 candidates received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Michael's Catholic Church at Fort Beaufort at Mass presided over by Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Mduduzi Zungu. Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



# St Dominic's Priory

*By Laura Croft*



## Hands on learning

The Grade 5 classes had great fun and learnt so much about pollination and fertilisation dissecting flowers.



## Public Speaking

Our 3 pupils, Tineruvimbo Mangeya, Esona Mzinzi, Ellaine Mutangadura did so well tonight at the Theodor Herzl Gavel Club Public Speaking competition. Well done, girls!



## Hockey with Holy Cross

The u13 A hockey boys and girls hosted Holy Cross School from George. Although both games didn't go in our favour, both teams played well and with good spirits. Well done!



## Grade 10 Retreat

Our Grade 10s enjoyed a wonderful retreat at African Imprint Outdoor Centre.



## Early Start to Success

2nd Team Girls beat Riebeek 1-0 in Uitenhage. Well done, team.



## 1st Teams a charm!

1st team boys hockey beat VP 1st 3-0. Well done team.



## Learning to lead

Ruth Ajudua and Lauren Clarke attended an Interact Leadership Workshop hosted by Rotary.

Busy start to the hockey season.

Our U13 Hockey boys and girls played in the Lorraine Tri Sports Festival on Friday 17 March and Saturday 18 March.

Boys played four games, lost 1, drew 2 and won 1.

Girls played three games drew 1 and lost 2.



Both teams played well and represented the school with pride.

#Prioryproud 🏒



The St Dominic's Priory School 1st boys Hockey team has come into its own this season after the hockey restarted last year after covid.

The coach (Mr Liam oConnor) and manager (Mr Puffett) have put a lot of hard work into the team to get them where they are today. The team had a good season last year but has gone from strength to strength early this season already with Pre-season wins at the York Hockey Festival followed up with great performances at the Kingswood Hockey Festival a few weeks later.

In the local league they have beaten VP 3 - 0 and Westering 1 - 0 respectively and considering Priory does not have a full-size Astroturf and train on grass, these results are exemplary. The team is excited to continue their rich vein of form into the second half of the season.

Smashing it!

Priory flying the flag high! Some of our u9-u13 hockey and soccer teams took part in the Derby Day against St George's. Over all we are very proud of the team's performances and their sportsmanship. Well done 🏆🏒

\*Results\*

### Soccer

- U9 A - lost 3 -1
- U9 B - lost 3-0
- U11 A - won 2-0
- U11 B - won 3-2
- U13 A - won 4-0
- U13 B - lost 5-3

### Hockey

- U9A - won 2-1
- U9 B - lost
- U10 A - won 2-0
- U13 B - won 3-0
- U13 A - lost 3-0
- U13 A boys - lost 1-0





## St Dominic's Priory School presents Beauty and the Beast Jr

St Dominic's Priory School recently staged a "Tale as old as Time" - Beauty and the Beast Jr. With pupils from Grade 4-12 gracing the stage, audiences were blown away by their amazing talent. A fun and rewarding project, well done to all the cast and crew!



Brennan Stroud (Beast)  
and Otilie Mevana (Belle)



Asiphe Yona (Mrs Potts)  
and Brennan Stroud  
(Beast)



Lisa-Mare Rockman,  
Sienna Villanueva and  
Mia Rautenbach (Silly  
Girls)



Aidan Ackermann  
(Maurice) and Otilie  
Mevana (Belle)



Grade Pre-R Fun in Art

**Fun in Art!**

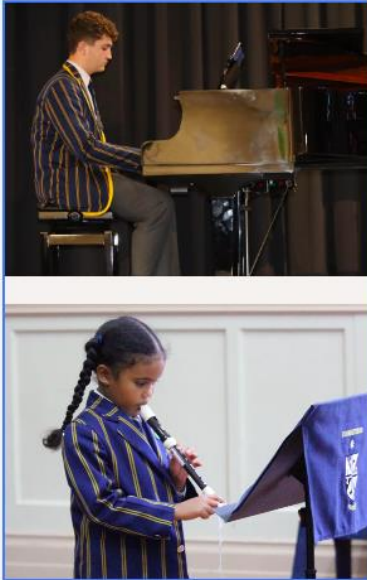


Slipper Day in Grade Pre-R

**Slipper Day in Grade Pre-R**



Our Music Department were very busy last week with one performance after another. On Wednesday, our choir and a number of children attended the IEB Cluster Concert at Curro, Thursday evening our Grade 4-7 choir performed at the Clarendon Senior Music Evening, Friday our bands performed to the pupils during breaktime and at 13:00 the Music Department hosted a Lunch-hour Concert. Finally, finishing off with the Alexander Road High School Choir Concert on Saturday. What talented children we have! Well done to all!



## World Book Day



Our Gr R-7 pupils had an exciting VR experience. They saw space as it surrounded them.



May Crowning of Mary



## May Crowning of Mary

On 2 May 2023, we gathered to celebrate the May Crowning of our Lady. Thanks Alex du Plessis for the photo.

# PLEASE REMEMBER OUR DIOCESE IN YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

Next deadline: 2 Nov 2023

If you would like to advertise in the Diocesan News, please contact PDO on +27 41 3732854 ext 212 or email us at [pdo@cdpe.co.za](mailto:pdo@cdpe.co.za) for more information.