



Anglican Church of Southern Africa
Diocese of Grahamstown

The Bishop of Grahamstown
The Rt Reverend Ebenezer St Mark Ntlali

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Ad Clerum

January to March 2019

No. 01/2019

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

BISHOPSBOURNE

Lenten greetings from us +Ebenezer, Mama Noncedo and Bishopsbourne family. Thank you for your prayers, love, generosity, hospitality, laughter, smiles and for being there for God the Holy Trinity and for us. Be assured that we are with you in spirit during this Lenten period.

FINANCE MANAGER

Mr Nceba January left us at the end of December 2018. We were joined by the Revd Sindi Xintolo who retired from her fulltime job recently who is not serving us as Diocesan Finance Manager in the interregnum and we are grateful to God.

ORDINATIONS

Thank you very much for your prayers for the priestly ordination service that went very well in the Cathedral on Saturday, 16 March 2019. The following were ordained as priests:-

Adonis, Ronald Ferdinand	St Mark, Cambridge
Bam, Siyabulela Lexwell	SS John & Chad
Booi, Bongani	St Mary, Phumlani
Botile, Vusumzi Alfred	St Andrew, Mdantsane
Cintso, Mongezi Templeton Benjamin	St John, Fort Beaufort
Dongwana, Lunga Daniel	Cathedral, Grahamstown
Gitywa, Nokuzola Cynthia	SS John & Chad
Kabaale, Alice Janet	St Mark, Cambridge
Mangxiti, Mandisa	St Luke Nxarhuni
Maqubela, Gcobani Lennox	St Francis, Mdantsane
Matini, Siphokazi Faith	SS John & Chad
Mbenya, Bassie Patrick	St Francis, Mdantsane
Mkiva, Mnikeli Solomon	St Bartholomew, Alice
Mnyabiso, Vuyani Horatious	Bernard Mizeki, Scenery Park
Nongauza, Francisca Busisiwe	St Martin, Gonubie
Ntame, Yoliswa Patricia	St Luke, Nxarhuni
Nyosi, Phumelele Macford	St Andrew, Mdantsane
Pongoma, Mbongeni Competence	St Barnabas, Tsholomnqa
Sebetshu-Qalinto, Nothini Florence	St Luke, Nxarhuni

Continue to uphold them and their families in your prayers as they start their new spiritual journey.

ORDINATION FOR DEACONS

We call upon you to pray for all those who will be ordained as deacons (permanent and transitional) and priests at 10h00 on 8 June 2019 at St Philip's Gampo, East London.

FOV WORKSHOP

We had a successful FOV training workshop on the 9th of March 2019 at St Martin, Gonubie. There will be other workshops on the following dates:-

11 May 2019

12-14 July 2019 weekend retreat

14 September 2019

9 November closing session for 2019

Kindly inform your FOV candidates so that they can diarise accordingly.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

We call upon the Diocesan family with its leadership to pray for the 68th session of Synod which will be held at St Alban's, East London from Wednesday the 15th to Saturday the 18th of May 2019. The pre-Synod retreat will start at 09h00 and end at 13h30 on the 15th of May 2019. Then registrations will start at 14h00 and the opening Eucharist at 15h00 on the same day. The liturgical colour for the Eucharist will be RED.

SAFE CHURCH

This is to inform you that we have appointed a Safe Church committee that will go around the Diocese and do workshops in the parishes as mandated by Bishop in Chapter. The convenor is the Revd Canon Dr Sam Beja and his contact details are as follows: 083-378-1113 and Samuel.Beja@echealth.gov.za. This committee will work hand-in-hand with Chapter and the Province. The Provincial Co-ordinator is lay Canon Rosalie Manning (Provincial Deputy Registrar). From now on nobody will be admitted as a Sunday School Teacher or any other offices in the Church without forwarding to us a clearance certificate from the South African Police Service and also a clearance certificate from the Department of Social Development.

HUMAN SEXUALITY

You are aware that this is an ongoing debate in our parishes, Archdeaconries, Diocesan and Provincial Synod. This debate also continues at the Anglican Communion especially at the Lambeth Conference. The Synod of Bishops has created pastoral guidelines that will assist us as we minister amongst God's people. We ask for your prayers and wisdom as we seek God's guidance in our conversations on human sexuality.

LENTEN APPEAL

As clergy and Diocesan family, you are aware that each Lenten Season is treated as a project in our Diocese. We have a student at CoTT and we pay ±R120 000.00 per year. We also assist the College with R2800.00 per month for its operations as

requested by the Synod of Bishops and PSC. Your parish Lenten contributions will assist in meeting these expenses in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May God bless you all as we continue to be partners in God's mission. Could we ask that each parish makes available envelopes for Lenten dues and return to the Diocesan Office as soon as possible.

CHRISM EUCHARIST

As per our earlier sms notification, please be informed that the Chrism Eucharist (Renewal of Vows – both priests and deacons) will take place at 10h00 on Thursday, 18 April 2019 at Holy Trinity, King William's Town.

CHURCHWARDENS' FORUM

This is to inform you that the Churchwardens Forum has been postponed from 13th April 2019 to Saturday 1st June 2019. The venue will be communicated in due course.

MOTHER'S UNION will have the farewell celebrations of the former President Mrs Mandisa Mhlwatika on Saturday, 4 May 2019 and their conference will take place in East London from 12th to 15th September 2019. We commend them to your prayers.

AWF CONFERENCE will take place from 25th to 27th October 2019. The venue will be communicated at a later stage.

DIOCESAN FAMILY WEEKEND

Please be informed that this will take place from 23rd to 25th August 2019 and will be hosted by the Alice Archdeaconry. Other details will follow soon.

UMJIKELO OF THE DIOCESE

We call upon all diocesan Guilds and Orders to do Umjikelo of the Diocese as agreed on Sunday the 2nd of June 2019 at Bernard Mizeki, Scenery Park with a minimum contribution of R100.00 per person. Further detail will be communicated in due course.

DIOCESAN YOUTH GUILD RETREAT FOR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

We give thanks to God for all our young people in the diocese including the Junior Church. It was good, as a Diocesan Bishop to lead the retreat for the executive members at Hogsback from Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th of March 2019. All the executive members together with the Chaplain attended this retreat. Other speakers we had were Revd Canon Dr Sam Beja, his wife Dr Prim Beja, Mr and Mrs Madyibi. The theme of the retreat was "You are Christ salted and Christ lighted". We call upon you all to pray for and support the young people throughout the diocese.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

New Missionary Diocese of Nampula

We congratulate the Province for creating a new Diocese from Niassa called the Missionary Diocese of Nampula which was inaugurated on 16 March 2019. Bishop Manuel Ernesto became its first missionary Bishop. We call upon you to welcome and to pray for the Bishop and the people of his diocese as they move forward in God's mission fulfilling the call of Christ.

Elective Assemblies

St Mark the Evangelist

Please pray for the people of the Diocese of St Mark as they seek God's guidance in electing their new Bishop. The Elective Assembly will take place from 9 to 11 July 2019.

Diocese of Cape Town (Bishop of Table Bay)

This is to inform you that there will be an elective assembly in the Diocese of Cape Town from 25 to 27 July 2019. We commend this process to your prayers.

Synod of Bishops and Provincial Synod

We call upon you to pray for the Synod of Bishops which will take place at Kopanong Conference Centre, Johannesburg from 23rd September until 12h00 on the 24th September 2019. The Provincial Synod will continue at the same venue from 14h00 on 24th to 27th September 2019.

Diocese of Zululand

The Synod of Bishops has accepted the resignation of the Diocesan Bishop of Zululand, Monument Makhanya. The Right Revd Funginkosi Mbhele has been licensed by the Archbishop as Vicar General to take care of episcopal matters in the Diocese and that the Revd Canon Hamilton Mbatha has been appointed as Vicar General to take care of all other matters in the Diocese. We call upon you to pray for Bishop Funginkosi, Canon Mbatha and the Diocesan family of the Diocese of Zululand.

Diocese of Angola

We congratulate Bishop André Soares who has become the first Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Angola which was changed from a missionary Diocese into a fully-fledged diocese. We give thanks to God for this achievement together with the people of Angola. Please pray for the people of this diocese as they prepare for their inauguration.

College of the Transfiguration

Be informed that CoTT has a total intake of 60 students this year. Remember that this is our only Theological Seminary in ACSA. Let us continue to support all its fundraising efforts including Theological Sunday collections. We will be forwarding the banking details of the College shortly. We call upon you to continue to pray for the Rector, the Revd Canon Dr Vicentia Kgabe, all her professional staff, students and support staff.

INTERCESSIONS

We call upon the diocesan family to pray for our country and the upcoming elections. In so doing please use the following prayer which we are encouraged by the Province to pray:-

God of compassion and hope ruling above all earthly structures of governance:

Guide the people of this nation now called to elect their leaders,
that the parties may present their manifestoes with honesty and clarity,

that the voters may cast their votes in safety and with confidence,
and that those responsible for the elections will work efficiently,
to ensure that the result will be accepted by all parties
and that the new government supported as they seek to build one nation
in which all can exercise the gifts that they will offer and use for the greater
good.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

We also pray for Revd Siyabulela Bam and his family as they mourn the loss of their wife and mother Nontando Bam. The funeral will take place on Wednesday, 3rd April 2019 at St John & St Chad, Zwelitsha and will be conducted by the Bishop. The speeches will start 08h00 and the requiem mass at 10h00.

We also pray for Nyameko Nqodi (who is the Chairperson of Bernard Mizeki Men's Guild) and his family as they mourn the loss of his mother Nomadladla Nqodi. The funeral will take place on Friday 5th April 2019 at Tsolo, Diocese of Mthatha

Grace and peace



BISHOP OF GRAHAMSTOWN

**Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours.
Ours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out;
ours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and ours are the hands with
which
He is to bless us now. (St Teresa de Avila)**