



Anglican Church of Southern Africa
Diocese of Grahamstown

The Bishop of Grahamstown
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Special Ad Clerum

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Dear brothers and sisters

Bishopsbourne

- We, +Ebenezer and my family at Bishopsbourne greet the diocesan leadership and the all the members of the diocesan family together with the diocesan staff. We are aware that all of you know about the sickness of Mama Noncedo (pneumonia and Covid 19). We have been humbled by your prayers for a speedy recovery and by the prayers by the Archbishop, ACSA, family and friends. The Lord has listened to our prayers because she stayed in Mercantile Hospital until 12th June 2021 and we have noticed a huge difference each day up to date and we are grateful to God the Father who created and called us for the healing that she has received. Let us continue to pray for her and for each other.
- We have received the good news that our son Anda Ntlali will be graduating his diploma in graphic design at the College of Cape Town. This graduation will be done virtually on 23 June 2021.
- Our daughter who is the wife of the Dean has passed her Masters in Material Sciences *Cum Laude* at the Nelson Mandela University. We will be informed by the Dean and Lilitha the date of the graduation. We congratulate the Dyantyi family on this achievement.
- All of us as Bishop's family are happy, amazed by the Lord who called us by your unceasing prayers for us and your support of every kind. As the diocesan family, be assured of our love and prayers.

COVID-19 REGULATIONS COMPLIANCE DURING THE THIRD WAVE

1. The Diocese of Grahamstown has taken heed of the pronouncements made by the President of the Republic of South Africa regarding the country being brought under adjusted level 3 COVID -19 Regulations compliance as precipitated by Third Wave surge currently gripping the country.
2. We also appreciate the guidance directives issued in this regard from the Province through the able leadership of the Archbishop and Metropolitan of Cape Town the Most Rev Dr Thabo Makgoba
3. We therefore hereby endorse all the measures recommended and encourage all our parishes to accordingly comply. Specifically please do observe strictly the maximum permissible number of participants at regular services and funerals, namely 50 in doors and 100 in open air gatherings.
4. Please do observe and enforce the non-pharmaceutical preventative measures, namely washing of hands regularly with soap and water; wearing masks covering the mouth and nose always in public spaces, watching the recommended social distancing and keeping windows open for cross ventilation.

5. Over and above this, we reiterate our encouragement to all the people of God in our parishes aged over Sixty to please make haste to get vaccinated soonest. Please do take extra care especially during this time to avoid getting infected.
6. Our Rectors and Priests In Charge are implored to please take heed not to neglect pastoral responsibilities as the bearers of cure of souls during this period. We would encourage you rather to leverage and sustain tried and tested innovation such as, conducting virtual services, recording and distributing such via social media networks for sharing with older people who are technologically challenged; by establishing robust and dynamic interactive networks with the youth specifically.
7. We continue to implore all people of God to be soaked in effervescent prayer pleading for the grace of God upon us all and for the ultimate eradication of this scourge from the surface of the earth!
8. As Rectors, Priests-in-Charge we need to counsel the elderly people that are above 60 during this third wave and thank them for their prayers and their support for the parish, the diocese and ACSA and to encourage them not to feel forced to go to church during this peak of the third wave and to ensure them of our love and prayers during all times. We need to trust God that this pandemic will pass as if it never existed.

Be informed that on 26th of June 2021 we will be having the Mother's Union Presidential elections virtually due to the Covid 19 regulations. We commend the leadership of the MU, probationers and members during this time.

We thank the Diocesan family and leadership from the bottom of our heart the way you are trying your utmost to carry the diocese and your parishes and the Province during these hard times of the lockdown. We pray that the Lord will give you the necessary grace to continue with this role that you are playing. May the Lord bless you abundantly.

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)