

NATAL ANGLICAN NEWS

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE DIOCESE OF NATAL
IPHEPHA LESIFUNDAMBISHOBI SASENATAL

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Natal priest appointed Dean of Manchester

The Revd Rogers Morgan Govender originally from Natal has been appointed as Dean of Manchester Cathedral according to an announcement from 10 Downing Street, London.

Originally from Natal, and ordained in 1985, he was Rector of St Mathew's Hayfields in Pietermaritzburg and then of St Thomas's Musgrave Road in Durban before emigrating three years ago to the U.K.

The official announcement from the Diocese of Manchester describes him as "a 45 year old black South African of Indian descent, a Manchester United fan with a liking for rock music, who will be England's first black Cathedral Dean and the third most senior black or Asian churchman in the Church of England.

"A sixth generation South African, born in KwaZulu-Natal in Durban from South Indian ancestry, Rogers was ordained in 1985 in the Diocese of Natal and served there for 15 years."

Rogers went to Manchester five years ago as priest of Christ Church, West Didsbury and St Christopher's Church, Withington. He was soon additionally appointed Area Dean of Withington, overseeing 14 parishes in inner south Manchester.

He said of his appointment to lead the main Anglican church in Greater Manchester:

"The Christian faith transforms people, and I'd like to see the cathedral being a place that encourages and empowers robust faith, relevant to the needs of the 21st century in a multi ethnic society."



Rogers believes that a good Cathedral should be a

hospitable place, for people of all faiths or no faith, different theologies and different political and other convictions. A 'mother' church for all the churches in the diocese, where all can meet and celebrate their common mission.

The Bishop of Manchester the Rt Revd Nigel McCulloch said he was 'thrilled' at the appointment:

"The new Dean has a passion for church growth and is utterly committed to justice and reconciliation. The huge experience he brings will add tremendously to the cathedral's role in building links with this vibrant city and beyond."

Rogers' wife Celia is the administrator of the central Manchester City Learning Centre,

and they have two children, Jonathan, 18, and Claire, 13.

Manchester Cathedral has a reputation in education for its work with visiting schools, and hosts events which connect contemporary culture with the Christian faith and it plays an important part in caring for those who are homeless and marginalized.

In recent years it has become the focal point for people of different faiths to join at times of need and remembrance.



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This newspaper can now be accessed on its own internet website, thanks to his initiative and generous gift of time by our honorary IT consultant Leigh Glaus, and internet server Cybersmart. This means that anyone with a computer anywhere in the world can now read the latest issue of *Anglican News* as soon as it comes off the press by accessing anglican.co.za on the internet, and even look up back numbers, while the editor can be reached at the e-mail address news@anglican.co.za.



From the remote island of St Helena Bishop John Salt writes: "Congratulations. The *Anglican News* on the Web is excellent. I wish I had someone like you here to help with our news. Great to know you are well and happy and working. God bless" and Canon James M Rosenthal the Director of Communications of the Anglican Communion News Service in London says simply: "Well done...Jim"

Over the past five years there has been such a steady development in sophistication and expertise that today much of the work is done remotely by fax, phone and email, and the whole newspaper of eight pages in full colour can be composed on the editor's desktop to be made ready in final form for the printers by our graphic designer Sera Watkinson.

This is transferred to a CD and taken to *The Natal Witness* - which has the most up-to-date newspaper press in the whole of Africa - and within twenty minutes 14 000 copies are produced and bound in plastic-sealed bundles of 100 and immediately delivered by road to the Diocesan Offices in Durban and Pietermaritzburg.

The end result of this speedy and efficient 21st Century process, however, depends for its success on the human element, namely for arrangements to be made for the papers to be picked up promptly and distributed within the parishes of the Diocese. For copies to be found left lying in diocesan or parish offices is unforgivable!

Dear Friends

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,"

One of the things that strikes me most about Christmas is how God was willing to let go his Son, Jesus, in order that he might dwell among us and bring us salvation through his death and resurrection. This "letting go" is something we are not good at. If anything, we tend to spend most of our time and energy collecting, hoarding, gathering, accumulating, processing. If we are going to be honest, we enthusiastically sing "Trust and obey, for there's no other way but to be happy in Jesus," whereas, in reality, we believe happiness is to be found in possessions – not that this works, as a many have come to discover. Life-style as I so often say, can never be a substitute for life, the life, that God gives.

The Christmas message is about sharing and letting go, as God shared Jesus – his only Son – with us. Letting go also means letting go of anger, resentment, disappointment, caused by the loss of a loved one, a divorce, illness etc. As Jesus emptied himself (Philippians 2), so may we empty ourselves of all the things that block a fulfilling relationship with God and with one another – and, indeed, with ourselves.

Thanks

You will have read in the last issue of Anglican News of my illness. I am pleased to report that I am now well. But I would like to thank those parishes, diocesan organisations and institutions, and individuals for your love and prayers. It was wonderful to be remembered in those ways. My immense gratitude to you also for sending Rose and me flowers, cards, emails, letters, sms's, etc. I didn't know that you loved me that much! Siyabonga Ka Khulu!

Prayer

Please pray for our Clergy Synod (stipendiary clergy) which will be held on 23 – 27 January 2006. We will be exploring together how we can grow the church. Our theme is: "Masisukume Sakhe – Arise And Build" (Nehemiah 2 : 18). The next edition of Anglican News will cover this Clergy Synod, the theme in general and how we can plan to roll-out the programme over the next five years.

Rose joins me in wishing you and yours a very blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with joy and peace.

Yours sincerely

+Rubin



Part of the vast congregation that packed the Cathedral and overflowed through all the doors onto the roadway outside when 13 Priests and Deacon were ordained on 26 November



The Bishops kneel with the people in prayer to the Holy Spirit before performing the traditional act of the Laying-on-of-Hands for ordination.



All Priests present gather round with the Bishop's to join in the Laying-on-of-Hands.



Surrounded by the newly-ordained clergy the Bishop greets the congregation.

Clergy Synod

There will be a Clergy Synod from 23rd to 27th January 2006. It will be residential and the venue will be Edgewood College, Pinetown. Every stipendiary cleric - without exception - is expected to attend the entire residential Synod.

Speakers will include Bishop Graham Cray from the UK, who chaired the working group that published the book / report entitled: *Mission - Shaped Church: Church Planting and Fresh Expressions of Church in a Changing Context*. The other speaker will be Dr Makhosi Nzimande, an O.T. scholar from our diocese.

Details of the format will be discussed when the Bishop meets with Stipendiary Clergy on Friday, 2nd December 2005, from 9 to 1.30 at the Cathedral to discuss about clergy packages, including matters relating to tax on fringe benefits, and finally, to do some reflection on the challenges facing the clergy.

Diocesan Ordination

On 26th November at the Cathedral thirteen stipendiary and community ordinands were ordained to the priesthood, and one was made a Deacon

Thulani Goge (Deacon) - Umhlali; Andreas Sistig - Hillcrest; Sbu Mncube - Durban St Paul; Sue Britton - Pinetown; Vivienne Pyle - Pinetown; Jabuliso Chad Khumalo - Estcourt; Shadrack Dladla - Stanger; Margaret Ndlovu - Stoffelton; Desmond Khawula - Osizweni; Sakhele Magubane - Estcourt; Fayera Mahlangu - St Faith, Durban; Jotham Mkhwanazi - Greytown; Bernard Ngubane - Umhlatuzana; Francis Harrison - PMB All Saints United Church.

Natal House for Religious Community?

THE religious society called The Oratory of the Good Shepherd which has four professed Brothers and three Probationers in Kwazulu/Natal, as well as three Enquirers, is seeking to establish a House and become a residential Community.

The General Chapter meeting in the Convent of All Hallows, Ditchingfield, Norfolk has resolved to assist in this development and Fr Thami Shange OGS is presently engaged in negotiations with Bishop Rubin.

The Oratory of the Good Shepherd is a society of celibate priests and laymen of the Anglican communion who are endeavouring, under, the direction of the rule, to live a life of devotion and service.

The Aim of the Oratory is the adoration of God in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the imitation of his holy life.

Its members do not necessarily live under the same roof, but at this year's General Chapter the brothers from Africa presented the need for a house in Southern Africa KZN which was unanimously agreed, and they are now having negotiations with The Bishop of Natal who is also an episcopal Consultant of the Oratory in Southern Africa, about acquiring a house. There are already three brothers awaiting the availability of the House.

Visit OGS Website www.ogs.net for more information.



Seated from left to right are members of the OGS Fr Thanda Ngcobo, Bishop John Salt of St Helena, Fr Thami Shange and Brother Barry Roberts. Standing are Fr Christopher Powell, Brother Siboniso Bhengu and Fr Mark Vandayar.

Rural development

Speaking at the 1st Annual Rural Development Conference at Walter Sisulu University in Umtata on 24th November Archbishop Njongonkulu appealed to government to promote policies that encourage an appropriate distribution of human living and human working between rural areas, villages, towns and cities.

He said that he believed that too much rich land was being left neglected and unproductive. "Cities need thriving secondary towns and rural hinterlands. They are critical service delivery centres, essential to the municipal, provincial and national networks of governance and to the economic fabric of our productive life."

The Archbishop called on government to address the "deep divisions between affluence and deprivation, which are so tied up with the gulf between industrialized core and the weak peripheral economies of townships and rural areas." He appealed for proactive policies of 'localisation'.

"It is a terrible thing to be poor and unemployed, in a shanty on the edge of a vast urban sprawl, without the social fabric of a community which knows us well, through which we have deep connections with relatives and friends," he said.

The Archbishop said that the church also had a role to play in the uplifting of rural communities. He said that alongside the promotion of spiritual life, the church should also contribute to people's physical well-being and to the nourishment of the emotional and intellectual dimensions of human living.

"In rural areas, churches are often the hub of community activities. Often these activities take place mainly on Sundays, leaving the buildings unused for a large portion of the week. Because we are everywhere, we should offer our buildings, where they are needed," he said.

"In partnership with HOPE Africa, the social development arm of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa, we are making serious efforts to use our [Anglican] churches as channels for providing comprehensive processes for capacity building with in our rural communities. We are also increasingly ensuring that our clergy, in their training, receive comprehensive instruction in these areas."

The Archbishop proposed that church buildings and facilities could be used in the fight against HIV and AIDS. He said that churches could become 'one-stop health centres' where professionals and volunteers could work together in providing services such as voluntary testing, counselling, prevention education, drug administration, nutritional guidance and advice. He added that faith communities could help identify child-headed households and offer wider support for orphans.

"Our networks across the country should be increasingly harnessed as conveyors of the hopes and aspirations of our communities - our leaders are not like the leaders of so many institutions - they live and work with our people at the grass roots of society," said the Archbishop.

Diocesan Synod - new date set

The postponed Synod will take place on the 9th 10th and 11th June 2006. As it is not intended to reprint the Synod Book, (but to do a Supplementary Book, with new motions etc), those who were going to be representatives should hand theirs in to any newly elected representative.

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Appeal for stationery

The Pietermaritzburg Children's Choir, under the baton of Rykie Boeke, gave a concert at St Nicholas Diocesan School to thank them for the use of their premises. The St Nicholas Choir, Quiristers and Steel Drum Band joined them for a wonderful evening of music, and the proceeds went for Stationery for the Orphans within the CINDI Network.

St Nicholas Diocesan School is leading a huge drive within their Children Helping Children Programme to collect stationery for the Orphans who sometimes have nothing to take with them when school opens for the first term. The appeal has gone out to all schools to collect excess exercise books and any stationery not needed. Anyone who would like to donate could either phone Marilyn Mills at 3451566 or drop off their donation at 34 Loop Street.



Back row: Lindelwa Ngubane, St Nicholas Quirister, Deb Avery, Deputy Principal St Nicholas Diocesan School and Rykie Boeke, Choirmistress of the Pietermaritzburg Children's Choir. Front row: Lindiwe Khanyeza, St Nicholas Quirister and Kearin Duffy, member of the Pietermaritzburg Children's Choir.

St Nicholas goes up to Grade 10 in 2006!

Jewish Festival

On the 16th October, St Barnabas Anglican Church on the Bluff, Durban, celebrated the ancient Jewish Feast of Tabernacles.

They built a "Sukkah" or shelter and as part of the Feast, celebrated a parish Harvest Festival. The congregation were invited to bring their gifts of produce and put them in the Sukkah. These were then distributed after the service to several needy causes.

The Shalom Dancers took part and their beautiful costumes and graceful liturgical dancing brought a new depth of worship to the Service. Pam Smith, one of the Layministers gave a very interesting sermon on faith lessons from the olive tree and its fruit, and the celebrant was the Revd. Alvin Sigamoney.

The congregation enjoyed a different kind of feast after the service as they joined in a bring-and-share tea.



99 Years young!

Robert Downs, parishioner from St Mary's Richmond on his 99th Birthday celebration. There was a special tea for him after the Sunday Service during which he refused all help to come and receive Communion. He has recently developed a passion for felling trees using a hand saw and, with the sole help of his gardener and to the horror of his family, he has felled (quite accurately!) a couple of large trees in his garden! His knowledge of yesteryear in those early days of Richmond is a gift to history and joy to the listener!



Bishop Rubin licensed ten new Lay Ministers at St Mary's, Richmond, to serve the congregations of Richmond, Byrne, Baynesfield and Indaleni. Lynn Morris (on the right in back row) was also licensed to preach. At the joyful service 6 new members joined the Anglican Communion and new furniture for St John's Indaleni was blessed for use.



Martin Birtwhistle (Chairman of Board) receives a cheque on behalf of St Martin's Childrens Home from Messrs Tony de Bruyn & Jeff Frank Churchwardens of St John the Divine, Clark Rd. Fr. Ronnie Alexander Rector of St John's & member of St Martin's Board supervises proceedings. For their Fete St Johns utilised St Martins grounds next door to enable them to expand their activities & attractions, and in appreciation they presented St. Martins with a cheque to assist with their building refurbishing programme. The fete was a huge success & takings well covered their 10% tithing commitment to include the donation, in advance, to the Childrens' home.

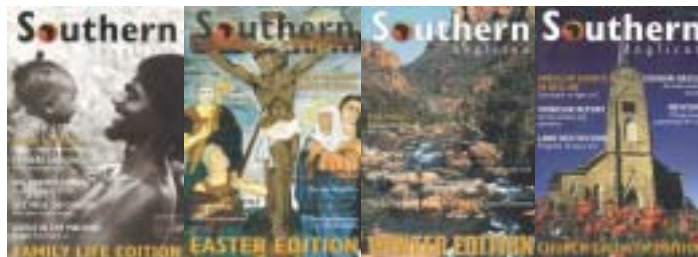


"Southern Anglican" Quality Quarterly

Southern Anglican is a 72-plus page glossy magazine distributed in South Africa, Lesotho Swaziland, Namibia, Mozambique, St Helena and Angola, with the greatest concentration being in the urban areas of South Africa.

The intention is to provide a window on the concerns and activities of the Anglican Church. Articles range from the serious to the light-hearted, from theology to liturgy and church politics and the subscription base has grown at a steady pace over the last six issues to exceed 7000. The magazine is also sold directly to parish members.

The cover price in South Africa is R10 and a year's subscription is R36. Contact the Revd Cynthia Botha on 011 836 5825 or at Southern Anglican, P O Box 61394 Marshalltown, 2107 if you would like to subscribe.



Michael Cassidy celebrates



Natal's internationally-known lay-evangelist, Dr Michael Cassidy OSC, marked the fiftieth anniversary of his conversion - and the start of a powerful ministry - by conducting a week's lightening tour around the country, speaking - predictably - on the theme of conversion and testimony. He himself can pinpoint that moment on October 23rd 1955 when he was led into Christian commitment through an Anglican law student at Cambridge University.

As Founder and International Team Leader of African Enterprise, which was launched with a mission to Pietermaritzburg he has been involved in evangelism, teaching and leadership ministries in cities throughout Africa, as well as in other parts of the world, as far afield as Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Israel, Nicaragua and Panama.

In South Africa he has been instrumental in bringing together a wide spectrum of political leadership in dialogue, making what has been widely acknowledged as an important contributions to the miraculously peaceful South African election in April 1994.

Having purposely chosen to pursue his ministry as a layman as giving greater independence and freedom than one within the formal structures of the ordained ministry of the Church, Michael

Cassidy's ministry has nevertheless been recognised by his election to The Order of Simon of Cyrene, an honour conferred by the Archbishop for distinguished service by a lay member of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa. Membership of the Order is limited to 60.



His anniversary year is marked by the launch of his new book *Getting to the Heart of Things - Reflections on Christian basics*, which is available from African Enterprise or local Christian bookshops, and also on a more personal level by the excitement of his versatile wife Carol's first Art Exhibition.



"Three Journeys, One Life" - Joan Kerchhoff

a review by +Michael Nuttall

Joan Kerchhoff and her husband, Peter, were the founders of PACSA (The Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness) in 1979 when apartheid was at its height and the struggle against it, both internally and abroad, was intensifying. Peter survived many political threats but died tragically in 1999 after a road accident. Joan describes this event in her book as "a rough and sudden ending to his life...with no chance for good-byes when the final moment arrived."

In a mere 45 pages, with a remarkable economy of words, through the recording of poems and dreams and some brief quotations and commentary, Joan weaves these two threads of her life together, calling them her socio-political journey and her personal journey. As if with delicate brushes of paint, she records her vicarious and her personal suffering and sorrow.

There is a third thread in this profound, slim volume. Joan calls it her spiritual or inner journey. Her feminism and her new beginning come through. She has had dreams which have encouraged, awakened and challenged her. She has been drawn to "the gospel according to Thomas" which was denied a place among the New Testament books because it belongs to the Gnostic tradition. She quotes a saying of Jesus there: "Let one who seeks not stop seeking until he finds. When he finds he will be troubled."

The book is available for R30 from PACSA (telephone 033 342 0052). You could not spend your money more profitably, provided you are willing to ponder with an open mind and heart. This book would also make a fine Christmas or birthday present for someone.



New Chaplain for St Anne's...Seen here with Headmaster of St Anne's DSG Mr. David Wilkinson, the Revd Stuart Mennigke was commissioned by Bishop Rubin on the 2 November as School Chaplain, at a special Chapel services attended by girls and staff.

"Our understanding of the human vocation as stewards of creation is a vital contribution and alternative morality in right-thinking people's attempts to save the world from ruthless economic exploitation. Some scientists are predicting that global warming and environmental degradation will soon be causing more deaths than the 3 million a year from HIV/AIDS. We have to speak out, be engaged." +Njongonkulu

Lent Course...A Diocesan Lent Course is being prepared for Lent 2006, on the theme: Let us Build. It will be based on Nehemiah. The course will be available in English and Zulu, and parishes are asked to give notice well in advance of how many copies they would like.

Weedbusters Week...On Saturday 15 October the Anglican Diocese of Natal Environment Committee arranged an event to celebrate Weedbusters Week at Koinonia conference centre in Botha's Hill. Three speakers gave input on the problem of invasive vegetation and discussed ways of controlling the spread of these plants, which includes mechanical, biological and chemical methods. An opportunity was then given for people to identify invasive species on the grounds of Koinonia and to remove them. The day was ended with a picnic lunch and the resolve to repeat the event next year.



Tsunamis? Earthquakes? Landslides? Floods?

*A scientist looks at the age-old theological question
Why does God allow the existence of evils?*

by Peter Barrett

It has often been said that the existence of horrendous evils in the world - whether in the form of natural disasters or of human wickedness - constitutes the most serious objection to belief in a God of love.

Again and again in the face of extreme tragedy people ask, Where was God? Why did God, if all-powerful and all-loving, allow it to happen? - questions that go back to early Greek philosophy and have continued to exercise the minds of philosophers and theologians ever since.

Commenting on the devastating tsunami of Boxing Day 2004, Archbishop Njongonkulu and Bishop Rubin each reiterate the fundamental Christian belief that God was in the midst of it all, sharing the pain and suffering.

They also refer to the situation as theologically complex - +Njongonkulu remarks that the ways of God are not always open to finite human minds, and +Rubin mentions the biblically suggested idea of a universe in travail as the result of the Fall.

Such comments lie within the concerns of the lively science-and-theology discourse of the past four decades in which the ways of God seem to be not totally closed to finite human minds and the travail of the universe in its evolutionary unfolding is not linked to the Fall.

Here the big questions about the origin, nature and meaning of life have been discussed in the light of both Scripture and the world-picture of the sciences. Against that background, theologians continue to be challenged to formulate a *theodicy* - the attempt to justify, or at least to try to understand, how it is that a benevolent omnipotent God allows evils to arise.

Turning first to the well-established findings of 20th century science we find, as a key feature, that the universe itself has a history - a 13.7 billion year process of expansion, cooling and complexification from an initially unstructured super-hot super-dense gaseous state.

We see a world of interconnected multi-levelled structures and processes, operating together in a causal network that is loose-knit - not clockwork-like. It is 'vast and old, dark and cold' and we now know that it contains many billions of solar systems, in at least one of which an astounding variety of life has emerged, including human beings who can think and reflect upon the nature and meaning of it all.

The earth, too, has a remarkable 4.6 billion year history of development from its initial molten state. Earth scientists now speak of our planet as a dynamic entity that operates from its innermost core to its outermost atmosphere as a single interconnected system - one that gradually developed the layers of sea, land and air that constitute an environment superbly hospitable for life.

As the eminent British biologist Simon Conway Morris says, 'the way the whole thing is put together is quite astonishing, and the beauty of it is just incredible!' And alongside the scientists' sense of awe and wonder stands the question that intrigued Einstein: Does the universe have to be the way it is or could it have been otherwise?

This is both a scientific and a theological question: scientific in that the universe is so tightly interlinked that if any of its starting conditions or key physical parameters had been slightly different this may well have rendered it unsuitable to support life; and theological insofar as we assume that the universe was created by an inexhaustibly loving self-giving God, for reasons that include the emergence of beings who can act morally and can respond freely to the divine love.

On the scientific side we see a universe that is still in the making, evolving on all scales through the operation of the laws of physics, chemistry, biology and neuro-physiology. And from the fossil record, with its progression of increasingly complex life-forms, we infer that matter is endowed with a capacity for self-organization - operating with a delicate balance of randomness and orderliness as it explores the vast variety of arrangements open to it.

Thus does it progress from molecules to macro-molecules to simple one-cell creatures to much more complex life-forms and, in due course, to human beings with powers of reason and imagination and, indeed, eventually, the capacity for unselfish love.

On the theological side we speak of God as the primary cause, the source and ground of the entire creation, who creates it out of nothing and then keeps it in existence.

Furthermore, it seems that God acts in the world through the thoughts and actions of human beings and through nature's normal divinely-instituted processes - not interrupting them but working as 'an Improviser of unsurpassed ingenuity' within the looseness of nature's causal networks.

Here we have the idea of the gracious gift of 'free process' to the world, as physicist-theologian John Polkinghorne puts it - the opportunity to explore and realize its potentiality, whatever the ragged edges that emerge. 'There will be accidents and casualties by the million every step of the way', wrote Bishop John Taylor, 'but there is no other conceivable environment in which responsive self-giving love could have evolved'.

Recent theology has dwelt on the self-giving nature of God. It is the keynote of the entire creation enterprise. From the beginning onwards, there is no holding back of any reserves of power or wisdom or love - all is poured into the making and sustaining of the world and the bearing of all consequences.

We are part of a creation that is stunningly imaginative and unimaginably costly. Costly to its creatures and, above all, costly to God. Costly in the bearing and forgiveness of sin on the Cross; costly in the sharing of every moment of suffering.

There is no complete answer now but we can surely trust that, through patient process, God is able and willing and longing to transform the world and its creatures into the fullness of their being. For St Irenaeus that is the ceaseless task of the enlightening, inspiring and enabling Holy Spirit, Beautifier and Perfecter.

Dr Peter Barrett is a retired Associate Professor of Physics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a Lay Minister at St Cyprian's Church in Durban. He is the author of the book "Science & Theology since Copernicus: The Search for Understanding" (UNISA 2000)



Honoured

During the Ordination Services in the Cathedral 26 November Sister Abegail Mtleko and Mr. David Scoggings were admitted to the Order of the Holy Nativity in recognition of long and faithful service in the Diocese.

Service for the Aged

- by Christian Ngiba

The Layministers of Ekuvukeni, KwaMashu, revived a long-forgotten tradition for the parish - a Service for the Aged, specifically for those old congregants who no longer have the ability to make it to church on Sunday.

They were collected from their scattered locations and brought together for fellowship with the congregation at Holy Mass on the 9th of October at the parish of Ekuvukeni.

The occasion was a great success ending in a celebration in which those old people of God received gifts from the congregation. This might have been their last Mass together within the Church Militant preparing them for their union with the Church Triumphant. Thank you to the Lay Ministers.

The Reverend Father Jeremy Green, from the Link Diocese of Southwell, England, visited the parish of Ekuvukeni and stayed there for a week.

In his visit he experienced the life and ministry of the Rector, Canon V.Mnculwane, along with the Head Server Mlungisi Hadebe.

Around the Diocese



The Revd Jennifer Sistig is on leave until 4th January having given birth to their second daughter, Hannah on October 12th at Westville Hospital. After a scare with Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn due to ABO Blood type incompatibility, Hannah is recovering well, "thanks to quick-thinking paediatricians and the services of the South African Blood Transfusion Service, and above all to God."

The Parish of Umhlali All Souls' Anglican Church has 147 copies of 100 Hymns for Today and 89 copies of Ancient and Modern to give away, so contact the Parish Office on (032) 947 2001 or admin@allsouls.co.za if you are interested.

The Revd Roger Sparkes is urgently looking for retirement accommodation to rent from January in the greater Durban area - contact him on 031-916 3245. or through Celia at work on 260-2086

The Revd Stephen and Avril Collis previously of this diocese have returned to retire in Chapter Close in Pietermaritzburg.



Retiring

On 16 November the Staff of St John's DSG had a Farewell Service and Lunch for the much loved headmistress Mrs Jill Champion, seen here in the Chapel with School Chaplain the Revd Lloyd Smith and assistant Fr John Read, who is also retiring.

Buka-hlaziya-yenza indlela yokufinyelela emphakathini

Ubuthunyuwa yingxeny ebalulekile empilweni yeBandla. Ngeshwa, nxa kukhulunywa ngobuthunyuwa beBandla(Christian Mission) iningi lethu licabanga ukuthi izithunyuwa zevangeli yilabo abavela eNtshonalanga bezoshumayela e-Afrika. Nokho imfundiso yeBandla ayisho njalo.

Enye yezindlela esifeza ngazo ubuthunyuwa bethu wukuletha intithuko emphakathini. Ngike ngathola ithuba lokuba yingxeny yabefundisi abebethamele izifundo zokuthuthukiswa komphakathi. Lezizifundo bezihlelwe ngu-Hope Africa. Inhloso ka-Hope Africa wukwelelela amaSheshi ngezindlela zokusiza ekuthuthukisweni komphakathi.

Kuloluhlelo ebasilwethamele, sifunde ngendlela ebizwa ngokuthi "see-judge-act"(buka-hlaziya-yenza). Lapha siqala ngokubheka isimo esikuso. Sibonani? Yiziphi izingqinamba okudinga sibhekane nazo emphakathini wethu. Okwesibili, siyahlaziya. Zibangwa yini lezizingxaki? Zingaxazululwa kanjani? Ekugcineni senza okuthile ngesimo sethu. Uma singenzanga lutho ngalokho esikubonile sakuhlaziya asinamsebenzi walutho. Njengezithunyuwa zevangeli sibizelwe ukuletha uguquko emphakathinin yethu.

UMfundisi Simanga Khumalo weBandla lamaWeseli uke wenza ucwaningo ngalendlela yokuthuthukisa umphakathi ebizwa ngo see-judge-act. Iphepha lakhe locwaningo, Iweziqo zeMasters, lishicilelwe lenziwa incwadi enesihloko esithi "Turning deserts into forests" (Ukuguqula amahlane abe ngamahlathi).

Ebandleni engisebenza kulo, e-Harding, ngizibona nginethuba elihle lokusebenzisa lendlela yokuthuthukisa umphakathi ka-see-judge-act. Ibandla lethu linabantu abavela edolobheni, ezindlini ze-RDP, ezindaweni zasemakhaya nasemapulazini. Inselelo engibhekene nayo ngeyokuthi singawofeza kanjani umsebenzi wobuthunyuwa kulababantu abavela ezindaweni ezahlukene. Ngosizo lweNkosi siyophumelela.

UMfu. M.M. Khumalo

See-judge-act a strategy for mission

Mission is essential if we are to be effective in reaching out to the world in this century. Unfortunately, we have in the past, seen missionaries as outside people, especially westerners, coming to do God's work in our land. We have not seen ourselves as an essential part of the Church's mission. This needs to change.


I was privileged to be part of a team of clergy that attended a course on development that was organised by Hope Africa. Hope Africa's aim is to do capacity building among Anglicans so that they can play an effective role in development. Different areas of life are focused on and we learn to plan strategically for effective mission.

One of the tools for development that we got to learn about was the see-judge-act method. Here we firstly observe the situation we find ourselves in. Secondly we analyse the situation as we look at causes of why the situation is the way it is. Lastly, we act on the basis of what we have seen and analysed. It is a pity that most of the time we tend to do a lot of analysis and not act. I once heard Bishop Rubin calling this "analysis-paralysis". All our reflection must lead to action.

In this see-judge-act model, clergy are called to be facilitators. Our primary role is to equip the laity for mission and become listeners in this process. They are the ones that have to do the work. Otherwise the clergy will be overworked. Reverend Smanga Khumalo, a Methodist minister, has used this method effectively. His Masters Thesis, based on the see-judge-act model, has been published into a book entitled "Turning deserts into forests".

Having attended the course, I find myself in a privileged position as I am working in Harding. Our parish is made up of people who come from town, the RDP houses, rural areas and farms. The challenge for me is, "How do I effectively equip all these people for mission in their diverse backgrounds?" I look forward to learning more.

Fr Madoda Khumalo



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Chapel of Reconciliation at Trust Feed

"Peace does not simply imply the absence of conflict, but the complete well-being and health of a community, incorporating fullness of life, the fertility of the land, the blessings of God, and the joy of community".

This was the theme of his address when Bishop Rubin Philip led the peace service after the unveiling of the memorial chapel at the Trust Feed Reconciliation and Development Event organised by PACSA (Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness) with the Masi Buyisane Reconciliation and Development Association.

PACSA Director Daniela Gennrich said the event was in honour of those who had lost their lives or been injured at Trust Feed, and also of Brian Mitchell who had been "a role model in terms of a person who is able to face his past, face the people he has hurt and beg forgiveness".

She said planes flying overhead would see the cross in the middle of a settlement in the heart of the midlands, making a place of shame become a place of hope.

Writing of the occasion in The Natal Witness Nalini Naidoo described it as "an event that sceptics said would never happen: the official opening of a chapel of peace and reconciliation at the site of the Trust Feed massacre."

New Bishop of Namibia

Archdeacon Nathaniel Ndaxuma Nakwatumbah, has been elected as the next Bishop of the Diocese of Namibia at their Elective Assembly on November 18th.

He will succeed Bishop Shihala Hamupembe who retires at the end of the year, and the Consecration will take place on Saturday, 25 March 2006.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

After a very successful Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in June 2005, the Revd. Colin Peattie will be leading his 5th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in October 2006. This will be a 11-day Pilgrimage, followed by an optional extension to attend the Annual Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem for a further 5 days.

The Pilgrimage itself will cover most of the traditional Holy Sites, including such highlights as the Garden Tomb, the Mt. of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane in Jerusalem; while visiting the Galilee, there will be a boatride on the Lake, and celebrations of Communion on the Mt. of Beatitudes and at the Garden Tomb. There will also be a swim in the 'Med' and the Dead Seas, a climb into and through ancient water systems, tombs, stables, Roman baths and mountains made of salt. There will be drives through desert, a stay in Kibbutz Hotels and an opportunity to enjoy contemporary Israeli food, as well as sharing in a Biblical meal, when we will learn in depth about the Last Supper.

For full details and further information, contact Colin Peattie - P.O. Box 222, Salt Rock, 4391; Phone 032 5254004, or e mail cpeattie@absamail.co.za

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If you find your church has copies left over in church please let us know so we can allocate them to other parishes where demand exceeds supply.

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It is thanks to you, the readers, that *Anglican News* is becoming so newsworthy. We are already finalizing material for the next issue. Do please send in your news as promptly as possible.

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Fr John Read on his retirement in October 2005, of St Alphege's Church, Scottsville, where he has been involved in the ministry of the parish which included serving as Assistant Chaplain to St John's DSG. He came to St Alphege's Church in February 2002 as a result of his wife, Dr Catherine Woeber's appointment as a senior Lecturer in the English Department of the University of KZN.



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