



# The GOOD HOPE

The official newsletter of the Diocese of Cape Town  
(Anglican Church of Southern Africa ACSA)

## ASF students appeal for more pastoral care



On Thursday 4 November 2016 leaders of the ASF in the Western Cape met at Braehead House Kenilworth. ASF/ANSOC branches at the Universities of Stellenbosch, Western Cape, Cape Town and CPUT were represented.

The conference was hosted by HOPE Africa and led by the University Chaplain of the Diocese of Cape Town, the Revd Matthew Esau. Pres-

ent were also representatives of the Bishop of Saldanha Bay, the Revd Rachel Mash, Ms Abigail Hopley and Ignatius Frances for HOPE Africa.

The conference was held in response to a Provincial Synod resolution which asked the Church to “become involved in the dialogue pertaining to #Feesmustfall at national level...” for Diocesan bishops to do the same in their dioceses and “that the ASF

provide updated and relevant reports regarding their interpretation of the current student crisis as well as to provide information relating to Anglican students who are “starving” or are in financial crisis”. The immediate response from the chairpersons of the branches was that the resolution gave the impression that Anglican students were not part of the movement

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## Editorial

Prayer is work. It's really trying sometimes to pay attention to God. Even distractions can play a meaningful role. Distractions give us an opportunity to turn back towards God. When you become distracted, what better time to be kind to yourself and re-orient yourself towards God again.

Pray as you can, not as you can't. Don't look at what others are doing, do what works for you - and then get on with it. God's Holy Spirit sometimes gets on with things at a level we can't discern. Sometimes the answer is very clear and other times not.

But God trust us with the choices.

Love and Light, Rebecca

### THE GOOD HOPE

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**Trip to Goudini Spa:** The Golden Oldies of St Luke's Diep River invite you to join them on a mid week trip to Goudini Spa from 27th - 31st March 2017, departure at 12h00. The cost is R1050 and a deposit of R100 must be paid. For more information contact Gertie Thompson at 021 715 6443 or Lorraine van der Horst at 021 712 8711 or 082 569 9440.

### SERVICES RENDERED

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### SITUATIONS VACANT

**Organist:** St Oswald's Milnerton seeks to appoint a Director or Music / Organist, to foster and develop the well established musical tradition of the church, with effect from 1 January 2017. The successful candidate should be a skilled organist and have experience in training choirs. The commitment includes the Sunday morning, occasional Evensong and Carol services, and, when available - weddings, funerals and other special services. The small but enthusiastic, robed, RSCM- affiliated choir rehearses on Thursdays. The church has a small two manual pipe organ. For more information contact the parish office at 021 551 8529.

### ASF students appeal from page 1:

calling for transformation at universities, and that the ACSA did not speak to the students choosing to engage with the leadership of the institutions.

Students called for more pastoral care and for chaplaincies to be open to the concerns of the students. At the Provincial level students said that there has been a crisis in the Provincial office of ASF and for a long time branches have been continuing ministry amongst students with no support from this office. In the Western Cape the decision was made to grow ASF and use the current student crisis to come alongside of

students by offering counselling, increasing meetings with regular meals and requesting chaplains to be more readily available to students. Chaplains were also requested to inform bishops of ACSA of the activities of chaplaincies and for parents to make contact with them particularly when protests are taking place on campuses.

The conference was the first of a series, which will continue, in the next academic year. It was decided to have a regional service in February 2017 to which the Archbishop and the Bishops of Saldanha Bay, False Bay and Table Bay will be invited.

- **The Revd Matthew Esau**



**INSPIRING:** A one day clergy school was held at Christ Church, Constantia on 18th October 2016. The Rt Revd Alison White, the bishop of Hull and the Revd Terry Joyce from the Diocese of York, addressed the clergy on Ministry in the 21st century. **Photos: the Revd Shaun Cozett**

## Recent appointments in the diocese



**The Revd Natalie Simons-Arendse** was instituted as an associate Rector of St Philip's Kenwyn on Saturday 15th October 2016 by the Most Revd Dr Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town.

**Photo: Mark Kleinschmidt**



**The Revd Ashley Petersen** was licensed as Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers, Port of Cape Town by the liaison bishop to the Mission, the Rt Revd Brian Marajh, on 8th November 2016.

**Photo: Linda Markovina**



## Newly elected AWF Provincial President 2016 - 2018

The 25th AWF Provincial Council Meeting was held from 19 – 23 October 2016 at the Alpha Conference Centre Broedersroom. At this occasion, the Anglican Women's Fellowship also celebrated its 50th anniversary. Ms Lucille Henniker, from All Saints Plumstead was elected by the AWF Provincial Council to lead this vibrant organisation. Lucille has been a member of the AWF since 1989 and has served on various executives in her branch, diocese and the Province.

# Jewel in the city - Evensong at St George's Cathedral

"The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
The darkness falls at thy behest;  
To thee our morning hymns ascended,  
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest" ( A&M Revised 33 )

Many Anglicans grew up with this hymn as part of our regular worship on Sundays when we began in the morning with the Eucharist / Mass and concluded that day with Evensong. It was our way to ask God to accept our thanks for our sabbath rest and to pray for God's blessings for the week ahead. Evensong also gave our choirs the opportunity to show their musical gifts in singing of the Canticles and an Anthem , while we in the congregation rested in the words and music.

Sadly, today there are very few parishes where Evensong is sung regularly but some churches manage to do so one a month. We are in danger of loosing an essential part of our Catholic heritage, since Evensong arose out of Vespers, which forms part of the daily worship of monastic communities. But how many of our parishioners are aware that this tradition continues to be faithfully observed in our cathedral of St George – here is a jewel in the city. Evensong is at 18h00 each Sunday, winter and summer, and those attending come from all over the Peninsula as well as visitors from home and abroad. Here is an opportunity to listen to God with the heart in praise, prayer and scripture. Here, without much effort, we can be still and know God and here we can offer our prayers and praise for our world and bring to God our personal intentions.

As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent  
Nor dies the strain of praise away. "

Perhaps, you might make up a small party and, once a month, come to share in the worship of cathedral Evensong and so extend the blessing to others so that not only our rest but our daily lives and our world are sanctified by God. We need these spaces of stillness in our world today and especially with the challenges we face in our country .

Here we can wait upon God as we ask Jesus to abide with us and be , as he was to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus ,our companion on the road. From our worship then we go forward in faith in the Risen Lord , whose does indeed reign over the whole creation as we end our praise with these word:

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,  
Like earth's proud empires pass away;  
Thy kingdom stands and grows for ever,  
Till all thy creatures own thy sway. "

God bless us all and help us reclaim our rich and enriching Anglican tradition .

- Canon Rowan Q. Smith

## Pride of Table Mountain

Pride of Table Mountain is a wonderful organisation that for 20 years has been taking groups of young people and children onto the Mountain, to teach them and inspire them to take Pride in our beautiful mountain.

This weekend the Sunday School children from Holy Cross Nyanga and Eluvukweni Church in Crossroads were given the wonderful opportunity to grow to know

and love the Mountain. On what started out as a rather rainy morning, they arrived in Kirstenbosch gardens for their breakfast and orientation. They then had some fun educational games in the Goldfields centre before going out into the beauty of Kirstenbosch and heading up to the contour path as the sun broke through.

The Pride of Table Mountain guides are outstand-

ing young people who first went with school groups and caught the bug! They volunteer twice a month to take groups of children and to teach them about all the bio-diversity that there is to enjoy in this floral kingdom.

A huge thank you to Pride of Table Mountain for treating the our Sunday School kids to this wonderful opportunity!





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# Blessing of animals at the Cathedral 2 October 2016



If you were present at St George's Cathedral's 09h30 service on Sunday 2nd October 2016, you might have been forgiven for thinking that the People's Cathedral had become the People's and Animals' Cathedral!

As part of our annual St Francis Day celebrations, we welcomed animals into church to pray for God's blessing upon them and all their fellow animals.

In the procession through the nave to be blessed in front of the altar were Violet (a horse from the Cart Horse Protection Association), Huey (beloved cat of one of our layministers) and innumerable dogs including Tripod (a 3-legged dog from TEARS Animal Rescue).

According to St Bonaventure, St Francis addressed all animals as sisters and brothers "because he knew they had the same source as himself."<sup>1</sup> Having the animals with us in church symbolised our belief that God is indeed Creator and Lord of all – all living creatures, humans and animals, and the entire living system that is Earth – and our desire to spread God's love to all living creatures. It was an expression of Jesus' message of radical inclusivity: God's infinite love embraces us all.

We cannot know how members of our fellow species understand their experience of the

world but, from their behaviour in church, it was almost as if they caught some sense of the Gospel being good news for them too.

For the people present, having the animals in church seemed to be a special blessing for them also. There was warmth and joy in church that was unmistakable. And the children, with their hands upon Violet or standing with their special furry friends, seemed so comfortable, at home and at peace. Was the Gospel of God's love not spread in a special way that morning?

Following the service, many expressed how moved they had been. Were we not blessed with an albeit tiny peek into God's kingdom as prophesied in Isaiah 11:6-9 where "The wolf shall live with the lamb" and we shall experience at last "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding" [Philippians 4:7]?

A further blessing was the presence of various animal welfare organisations that do such sterling work in advocating for animals whose voices are not generally heard or understood by humans, rescuing animals abused by humans, caring for them, and providing veterinary services to animals whose humans are poor.

Represented were the Animal Welfare Society, Beauty Without Cruelty, Cape of Good

Hope SPCA, Cart Horse Protection Association, People's Dispensary for Sick Animals and TEARS Animal Rescue. Praise and thanks be to God for them all.

At the same service the Dean proclaimed St Francis of Assisi as the Patron Saint of the Cathedral Creation Care ministry.

- **Frank Moltano**  
- **Photos: Desirè Martin**

1Br Damian Kirkpatrick et al (eds), Joy in All Things – A Franciscan Companion (Norwich: Canterbury Press; 2002) p.69



## To the Laos: to the People of God

Over the past few weeks I have preached at a number of celebrations, going on consecutive Sundays to Bloemfontein for the 150th anniversary of the Cathedral of St Andrew and St Michael, to All Saints, Durbanville for their 160th anniversary and, close to home, to confirmations at Christ Church, Kenilworth. Looking at both the long history of the Church in these parts—including the joys and the crises we have seen over the past century and a half—and the vibrant life which these parishes display today, I was filled with a renewed appreciation of the power of grace and the resurrection life in the Church.

On the steps of St George's Cathedral in Cape Town, where we held a vigil under the theme "A lament for our beloved country", I was struck by questions around the goal and meaning of life in the broader sense, particularly for those of us who are baptised in the name of Christ. Again and again, the need to address these issues with "faith and courage" seem to undergird this wrestling with and finding answers to the deeper questions of our lives.

South Africa, our dioceses in the rest of Southern Africa and indeed nations across Africa and the world have experienced great challenges in the past year. Our brothers and sisters in South Sudan, northern Nigeria, Burundi, the DR Congo, Ethiopia and Somalia have gone through times of desolation, suffering from political conflict, war, the threat of war, human rights violations and drought. Withdrawals from the International Criminal Court by South Africa, Burundi and Gambia give power to dictators and threaten to rob millions of ordinary Africans of any recourse to justice. The results of the American election have shocked many and it is deeply disturbing to see the emergence of acts of hate in its aftermath, including the daubing of racist, anti-immigrant slogans on our sister churches there.

In South Africa, the tensions and conflict on our campuses continue. The Anglican Board of Education is recommending that Education Sunday 2017, the first Sunday in February (February 5), should be dedicated to speaking to the education crisis and to prayer for students, teachers and parents at our tertiary institutions. Students are looking to the Church and to their parents for our presence, our prayers and



our support. For the sake of our futures we dare not fail them. Let us call to mind John 1:5 – "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

I was reminded of this passage by Mayor Patricia de Lille of Cape Town recently, when she conferred on Archbishop Emeritus Njongonkulu Ndungane the Freedom of the City of Cape Town. Honouring him, she described him as a source of light for us all. Our heartiest congratulations to Archbishop Njongo on this signal honour.

While singling out particular members of our church community for thanks and praise, I want to thank Bishop Garth Counsell's executive secretary, Marlene Cozett, for her faithfulness and diligence over the years. As she goes on retirement, we say to her: Farewell, Marlene, we will miss you but we'll definitely call on you to help especially on such occasions as diocesan synods.

I have asked a few retired bishops of our Province to draft Bible studies for Lent 2017 around the theme of the biblical basis of Anglican social teaching. I recommend these for the the whole Province as a resource enabling us to study, pray and act together. Provincial Synod has declared this a season of the Decade of Evangelisation and the youth have asked that we declare 2017 the "Year of the Young". On behalf of Provincial Synod, I declare it as such, and Anglican Youth and the Anglican Students' Federation will provide us with material af-

ter Easter next year for us to study and pray over as we focus on the young.

If you have not yet prepared a Bible study programme for Advent, I urge you to consider adopting a useful study on the story of Boaz in the light of the growing phenomenon of "blessers", who are—simply put—wealthy elderly men who lure young township girls in need into abusive relationships. It has been prepared by Gerald West and Bev Haddad of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Otherwise, do create an opportunity to use the study next year.

I am about to prepare the Advent homilies which I record on audio and distribute through our SoundCloud channel for people to listen to on the internet and download on their mobile phones. The Advent period never fails to create for me the spiritual as well as the biblical framework for me to ask these deeper questions, to lament and finally to get to appreciate deeply and to value more dearly the hope of Christmas, not as another story but as a very personal and specific life-giving experience.

I want to say that whatever the challenges or sense of darkness you may have felt or be feeling this year, know that Christ the hope and light of the world has been there illumining your path. As you work through Advent to the celebration of Christmas, may you, to borrow a phrase from Advent's sister season, Lent, "bury the past in ashes." Remember that we are people of the Resurrection and are called to spread Christ, the hope of the world, this Christmas, Epiphany and beyond.

Thank you all for your prayers, your messages, your tweets, your Facebook posts, your letters, your jokes and your confrontations over the past year. I feel surrounded and enveloped in these, and especially by your prayers in whatever I do. I pray that you too will continue to feel my humble prayers for each one of you. To the clergy, to Bishop Garth, to the Diocesan staff and to all who help and advise us, a big thank you.

May you all enjoy a blessed and happy Christmas.

**+ + Thabo Cape Town**

## “Language barriers don’t stop God working or just simply sharing His love with others!”



My name is John Packer. I am 23 years old and I work as a PhD student at the University of York researching prostate cancer. I am a leader at youth holiday camps, co-leader of a postgraduate church community centred on bible study and also heavily involved at the York House of Prayer (YHoP).

I came to South Africa to learn about the country and how God was moving here, but to be honest, flying into Cape Town I didn't really know what I had in store for me! Over the next few weeks however I was stretched yet so thankful that I had heeded the call to go! Our team from the York Diocese was comprised of Rebecca, a wiry and crazy-in-the-best-way archaeology student from Durham University, Ellie, a sarcastic and fun Open University student / restaurant manager, and myself. Ellie and I had met before the trip but we didn't actually meet Rebecca until she touched down in the airport after us!

The first week in the Diocese of Cape Town Diocese was highlighted by the great and real friendships that we quickly

forged with those who we were entrusted to. Indeed, wherever we travelled whilst in the country; Heideveld, Parow, Paarl, Okiep, Port Nolloth or Clanwilliam, we were met with welcoming arms. God's family knows no borders, nor race, no nationality, and we truly experienced that in South Africa. You guys know who you are, if I mentioned you all by name there wouldn't be space on this page, but know that you are deeply loved!

One thing that I really appreciated from our hosts is that they not only escorted us around the common and wonderful “tourist traps” around the beautiful mother city, they also showed us her brokenness too. The townships, the division, the economic and residential disparity were laid bare to us as well. While I could never begin to comprehend what apartheid was truly like, through the open testimony of those we met, my heart was moved for the people and the nation of South Africa. With contacts that I made during the trip I hope to set up some intercessory prayer sessions for the country at YHoP over the next few months in response to this. At the end of our

first week, we also had the opportunity to attend the Anglicans Ablaze conference and listen to some amazing teaching from internationally renowned speakers. One thing I really enjoyed was the infectiousness nature of worship at the meetings, people were utterly free of the “fear of man” and could just express and praise God in whatever way that they chose, in much better voices than my own!

After a fun weekend in the Northern Suburbs, we headed up-country on some truly mammoth drives. Travelling up and down the west coast speaking at youth groups, encouraging and being encouraged we saw that God is really at work reviving the Youth and indeed the Church in the more rural areas. We were also able to feedback suggestions to the Bishop and clergy of Saldanha Bay on how things may be strengthened and improved upon to really give the youth a voice in the Diocese.

On our travels, I met some truly “on fire” people and it was a great privilege to have the opportunity to speak at some meetings, pray for people and edify fellow Chris-

tians. One standout moment was that I got to pray for an elderly Afrikaans speaking man who had a bad foot. Although I couldn't ask him if he had been healed or if he felt any better, I could see that he was actually putting weight on the foot when we went our separate ways!

Language barriers don't stop God working or just simply sharing His love with others! There are many differences between how “Church” is done between our two countries, you are definitely more Anglican than we are! However, the real Church is the people, and the people that I met, that befriended me, that cared for me, that spent time with me, are some who I hope to remain in contact with for a long time.

The trip has taught me a great deal and furthered my walk with God and with the incredible people I met along the way. I hope that I too have also imparted something back to strengthen the links between our Dioceses and between us as friends. Thank you so much for looking after us all so well and I hope to be back soon.- **John Packer**

# YPM leadership camp at St Andrew's Arniston 14-16 October 2016



My expectation of camp was that we would be busy all day and that it would only be serious business with no time to interact with each other on a level of fun. I assumed that other youth members would only stick to who they knew within their clicks being church or archdeaconry. I also expected the leaders to be extremely strict and not give us time to enjoy ourselves.

**What camp was actually like:** We had our serious moments and there were times when we played games and had lots of fun. The first night was filled with laughter and many conversations getting to know one another better. The leaders communicated on our level and they listened. We had a chance to relax and we were kept entertained.

We had guest speakers talking on the three topics: 'Protocol', 'Effective communication' and 'Mentoring and coaching.'

I had a great experience growing closer to young people that I have never met before, my leaders and Christ. I now know my purpose which is to grow and to showcase what I am capable of in the different ministries I am involved in.

This camp made me grow spiritually by knowing that with Christ anything is possible no matter the situation and that I can literally do anything I put my mind to if I just have faith in God's timing. Seeing how well the leaders played their part and with the help of the speakers I learnt and realised that becoming a potential leader takes hard work, patience, time, lots of effort and belief.

I am determined to see where and how I can support my leaders within my parish as they mentor and coach me.

- Jamie Platjies



We would love to hear from your parish, send articles and photographs to Rebecca Malambo at [malambor@ctdiocese.org.za](mailto:malambor@ctdiocese.org.za) or call 021 469 3766.

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