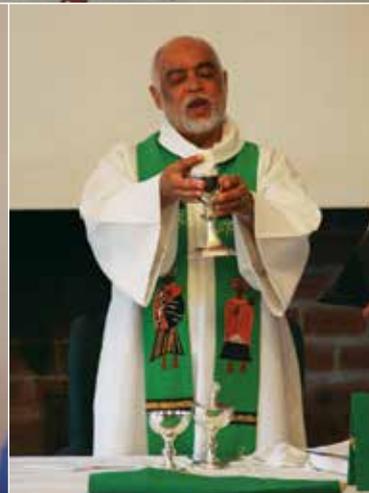
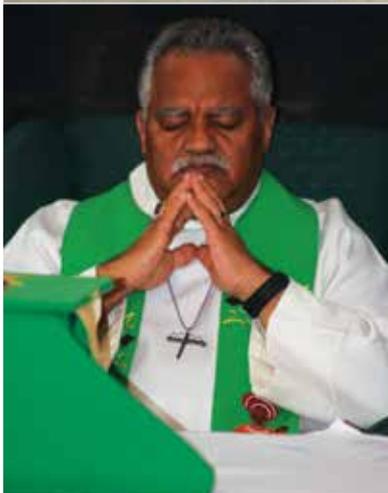


## Clergy Conference 2018

### “Church leadership in the context of today’s world”



**PAGE 4**  
Provincial conference  
for Deacons



**PAGE 5**  
St Lazarus pilgrimage  
of hope and love



**PAGE 6**  
To the Laos, to the  
people of God



**PAGE 7**  
Anglicans Ablaze in  
Durban

The report follows on page 4. Photographs: the Revd Allen Goliath

# CLASSIFIEDS

# EDITORIAL

## THE GOOD HOPE

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**“A grateful heart is a magnet for miracles.”**

These words caught my attention while scrolling through my news feed on a social media platform. Living in South Africa right now is quite challenging. We are faced daily with bad news reports, rising crime; food and fuel prices and looming retrenchments and job losses due to the strain of the economy. Everyone is affected. Yet, despite all the negativity, we live in one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

We all want a better country, raised living standards; efficient public transportation and peace among our citizens. These yearnings are not out of reach and it doesn't need a miracle to happen. It starts with you and I. In gratitude and giving, we attract good vibrations, blessings and happiness. Let's make the last few weeks of 2018 count and focus on the Fruits of the Spirit: “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

Love and Light, Rebecca

# EVENTS AND NOTICES

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**Morning Market:** All Saints Plumstead, 6 Brent Road, Plumstead invite you to the above on Saturday 25th November 2018 from 09h00 - 13h30. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the day browsing the stalls; listening to good music while having a picnic in the gardens and let the kids spend time in the kids corner. There will be a few stalls for hire, please contact Verona at the parish office on 021 797 4176 for more information.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOP

**Child Protection is also the Church's business:** All children and families live in society and are dependent on institutions for healthcare, shelter, and access to social services, safe drinking water, information and safety.

The church must collaborate with these institutions for the common good, and if they fail, the church must speak and act with and on behalf of the vulnerable.

God intends children to flourish in a just society. James 1:27 – ‘Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.’

The church should be at the forefront of demonstrating what providing safety for children is all about, through the implementation of policies and procedures that ensure that children are protected from any form of harm. There are many ways the church is able to encourage the implementation of child safety

interventions and measures, and this is the core of a **Child Protection Information Workshop** to be hosted as follows:

- **Theme:** Child Protection – the Role of the Church
- **Venue:** St. Mark's Hall, Cor Church Street and Bamford Avenue, Athlone
- **Date:** Saturday 17th November 2018
- **Time:** 09:30 for 10:00 till 13:00
- **Hosted by:** Tony Lawrence (The Guardian) supported by SAFFI, Protective Behaviours, Child Protection Collaborative, Child Friendly Church and The Warehouse - all working in the Child Protection space.
- **Admission:** FREE
- **Who should attend:** Clergy, lay leaders, organisational leaders, Sunday School Teachers, Children's Workers, Youth leaders, Parents, and everyone else.
- **Registration:** Email your name(s) to: tony@tonylawrence.co.za or Whatsapp your info to 083-7017012 before 9th November 2018 to secure your seat and stand a chance to win a surprise gift.

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# Pastoral letter from the Synod of Bishops ACSA

Dear People of God,  
We greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
As Bishops of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA), we met

in Synod in Benoni from Sunday 23rd until Wednesday 26th September 2018. We were joined by the Vicars General of the Dioceses of Mzimvubu and Port Elizabeth. ACSA includes the countries of Mozambique, Angola, Namibia, St Helena, Swaziland, Lesotho and South Africa.

As always, our meeting took place within a rhythm of prayer, worship and fellowship. During our time together we shared at a personal level and debated issues facing the church, local communities and our various countries. In the opening Eucharist, we were challenged by Jesus' words in Luke 8:16, "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light". We reflected on the fact that the histories of our countries include great darkness coming in forms like colonialism, genocide, racism, oppression and abuse. We continue to suffer from darkness in many forms, including tension around racial, tribal, economic and land issues.

Painfully, we also recognised that there is often darkness in the church as well! We dare not point our fingers at others without examining ourselves honestly. We also experience abuse, corruption, conflict and financial problems. Sometimes even the Bible is misused to bring darkness, death and oppression, whereas God's intention is for it to be a source of light, life and freedom in Christ. All of this is a call to repentance for us as leaders and members of the church. But there is good news: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5). Jesus said in Luke 8:18, "Then pay attention to how you listen". We need to hear God's "still, small voice" (1 Kings 19:12) amidst all the noise and clamour around us. If we hear God and respond with faith and obedience, the light of God will shine ever brighter in us. We were reminded in Proverbs 30:5 that "every word of God proves true; God is a shield to those who take refuge in him". Jesus calls us to "proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal" (Luke 9:2). We cannot do this alone, but only together as the family of God in Christ. As Jesus said in Luke 8:21: "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it". These thoughts about light and darkness provided a background for all that we did together.

## Theological Education

We spent most of our time considering the future of Theological Education and Ministerial Formation in ACSA, including the role of the College of the Transfiguration (COTT) in Grahamstown. We received presentations from two angles.

1. Prof Barney Pityana introduced us to the

conceptual framework of the **Archbishop's Commission on Theological Education**. Their focus is on three areas:

- Research into what training is taking place at present, and what we need;
  - Analysis and action to address the financial challenges facing us at COTT in order to be sustainable;
  - In depth theological reflection about Theological Education in ACSA, in a radically changing world.
2. We began to look at the possibility of **developing the property** at COTT in Grahamstown so that it can become income generating and sustainable in the long term.

## Leadership and Governance

We exercised our minds on several issues of leadership and governance in the church:

1. We held an Elective College for the Diocese of St Helena. **Ven Dale Bowers** (49) from the Island of St Helena was elected to be Bishop. We extend to him, his family and the Diocese of St Helena our love and congratulations.
2. Exciting news is that the Synod of Bishops agreed to establish the new **Anglican Missionary Diocese of Nampula** – which has been multiplied from the Diocese of Niassa. It is made up of the Provinces of Nampula and Cabo Delgado in northern Mozambique. Bishop Manuel Ernesto is Bishop of this new Missionary Diocese. Plans are being made for a celebration of its formation, and a team from the Province is being set up to help them with the process.
3. Provincial Synod **changed the Canon about the retirement of Bishops in 2016**. We clarified the process of retirement, or of extending the tenure of Bishops beyond the normal retirement age. We also agreed on the need to review a Diocese financially when it becomes vacant and before an Elective Assembly takes place.
4. We agreed on a proposal to review the missional priorities of ACSA, so that they are more in line with the Vision1 and Mission2 of our Province. These three priorities include the eight that have been priorities until now:
  - **Liturgical** renewal and transformative worship
  - **Discipleship** – including theological education, formation and leadership development
  - **Prophetic ministry** – including advocacy in education, nurture of the young, women and gender, environment and health.

This proposal was sent to Provincial Standing Committee for debate and adoption.

## Reports

We received and discussed progress reports on some important areas affecting our life and ministry:

1. Good progress is being made with the Anglican Communion's **Season of Intentional Discipleship and Disciple-Making**, also known as "living and sharing Jesus-shaped life". We received a pamphlet introducing the season, which will be distributed widely throughout the Communion. We noted with joy that our Anglicans Ablaze Conference

(3rd-6th October in Hillcrest, Natal) is seen as one of the key strategies to promote Jesus-Shaped Life in Southern Africa and the wider Communion.

2. We received a very serious report on the **Safe Church Commission**. It was emphasised to us that it is urgent and important for every Diocese to:

- Set up a team to deal effectively with allegations of abuse in the church. These teams will receive training for this important ministry, and guidelines for action will be prepared.
- Respond to the questionnaire that was sent to Bishops earlier this year.
- Require police clearance certificates for all people being ordained or licensed, and those working with young people and children.

There are also plans to amend Act XV, on the Pastoral Standards, at Provincial Synod next year, in the light of new developments.

An email address has been set up for those who wish to report abuse that has taken place: [safechurches@anglicanchurchsa.org.za](mailto:safechurches@anglicanchurchsa.org.za). This may be done anonymously. This is also a call for us to soak the church and all God's people with prayer.

3. **The Archbishop's Commission on Human Sexuality** reported to us about progress, especially in holding consultations with the Dioceses of ACSA. As before, we recognised that there is a great variety of opinions among us, and that there are strong and deep feelings on all sides. In general, there seems to be a greater openness to listen to one another and talk about these things. Most urgently, we noted that the Pastoral Guidelines for those in Civil Unions (in South Africa) are not yet complete. We committed ourselves to do that.

4. We received a full report from the **Liturgical Committee**. They continue to work on the development of a revised Anglican Prayer Book, but they are looking at new approaches – it will be different from previous Prayer Books, reflecting the massive changes that are taking place in the world. They will pay special attention to the principles and values of our worship; the shape of our services; and the resources that are available for liturgical renewal and transformative worship.

An exciting new development is that we agreed to add three commemorations for our calendar:

- Steve Biko, Sophy Gray, Bishop William Colenso.

We welcomed the new ordination services that have been drafted for Bishops, Priests and Deacons and were encouraged to begin to use them on an experimental basis. We also heard the plea from the Liturgical Committee that we should make a special effort to train more liturgists and worship leaders.

**We wish you God's richest blessings** individually and in your communities. Let the light of Jesus shine in the darkness around us and within us. "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light" (Luke 8:16).

**Clergy Formation from page 1:** The clergy of our Diocese, led by Bishop Garth Counsell, met at the Houw Hoek Inn from Monday 8th to Wednesday 10th October. It had been two years since we last met there and signs of a new vibe about the place are evident.

The theme was, "Church Leadership in the Context of Today's World". Moruti Mark Long set the tone by reminding us that ALL are called to lead and that we are not alone in this but rather part of a bigger family, a diverse Diocesan family, whose vision is **'to be a community rooted in the sacrificial love of Jesus which seeks to bring God's wholeness, healing and hope to a broken and bleeding world.'**

Mark reminded us that our rootedness unites us as we seek to build and attain our common vision. Our guest speaker was Professor Jonathan Jansen who reminded us, tongue in cheek, that his parents were named Abraham and Sarah, that he has siblings named David and Naomi and that he has a nephew named Apaphroditus, as proof of his thorough evangelical Christian upbringing!

Using the words of the pilot of the Apollo 13 space mission, when that mission was facing life threatening challenges in outer space, asked control in Houston, "How do we get our people home?" The professor contends that this statement describes the extent of the challenge facing us and used it to depict the nature and qualities of leadership required to see our people home intact.

He urged us to recapture some of those peculiarities which are unique to us in this country like our resilience and strength which enabled us to overcome seemingly insurmountable odds in the past. He encouraged us to be leaders who draw on and tap into our extraordinary capacity for forgiveness. He highlighted an irony that our greatest export and gift to the world has become comedy and invited us not to lose our capacity to laugh at ourselves and to remind ourselves that we are better than our politics. From listing iconic personalities raised from our soil like Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu and Dulcie September, who led in bringing hope and belief in times of darkness and who were not overcome by despair despite the odds they faced.

Bishop Garth shared some poignant reflections on his ministry both as priest and bishop in the Church of God inviting us to emulate the manner of leadership we see in Jesus, who, 'knowing who he was', stooped to wash the disciples' feet. In our worship, the homilies were given by Moruti Reeve and Moruti Isaias. We shared in Archdeaconries some of the daily realities which people experience and in which both faith and hope are being cultivated in the hearts of God's people. Two Morutis, visiting from York Diocese, shared their reflections and set the scene and tone for a very deep-felt discussion on the ordained ministry of women in our Diocese. We return with the reminder of the importance of building our fellowship but also that we are not alone in building wholeness, healing and hope!

- the Ven Terry Lester



**Licensing of Provincial Canons:** Left to Right - Charleen van Rooyen, Diocesan Administrator of the Diocese of Cape Town, Archbishop Thabo Makgoba and the Revd Rachel Mash, Co-ordinator of the Province's Environmental Network.

Photo: John Allen

## Provincial conference for Deacons

The 3rd Provincial Conference for Deacons was held from 13th-16th September 2018 at Christian Brothers Stellenbosch. A beautiful, contemplative environment with a simplistic chapel set in the centre of the property. The theme of the conference was – "From the Altar to the Street".



The conference was organised and hosted by the Ven Ruth Swartz and her team from the Diocese of False Bay. We were approximately 43 delegates who visited the Drakenstein Correctional Institute (old Victor Verster prison) noted as: "to the street" ministry. It was an emotional, enjoyable and enlightening experience as we listened to a few wardens and inmates share their stories. The young inmates are taught through various skill programmes which assists them to become rehabilitated. They are also encouraged to play soccer or rugby. Some learnt to play various musical instruments and they formed a gospel band that is given opportunities to play for churches or small functions in the area. We were privy to visit the late Tata Madiba's house on the grounds of the correctional institute. Additionally, one of the wardens gave us a detailed and interesting version of Madiba's incarceration at the homestead that they are planning to render as a museum in the future.

Topics that were covered over the weekend included the Deacon in the liturgy at the altar, the Diaconal Ministry and Deacons and Training for Ministry which was very directive and interactive. We had overseas visitors, Revd Marianne Uri (from Norway) who shared about the function of the world wide Diakonia Network and Reverends Carol and Claire from Yorkshire, UK who shared about the various genre of training for deacons and priests. All the delegates engaged in a panel discussion that included the Deans of Study. This Discussion revealed our commonality as well as our diverse experiences in the diaconate and the importance of education. We spent a session unpacking a draft for the constitution of the Fellowship of Deacons and also selected a committee. We completed the Sunday with the Eucharist in the chapel with the stained glass window that was in the shape of the cross. It was set in the wall and reflectively for me, it resembled a key. Jesus Christ being the Key to our journey in Him and through him.

- the Revd Glynis Rhodes

## St Lazarus Pilgrimage of love and hope



Anglican layperson and member of the small, but active charity, the Order of St Lazarus, Caroline Isted, took advantage of Heritage Day to organise a second Pilgrimage of Love and Hope this year. The event focusses on enabling pilgrims to walk through some of Cape Town's most historic neighbourhoods, reflecting on the difficulties and challenges of our oftentimes dark past, but at the same time finding hope in the amazing love and energy of communities living, working and worshipping on these streets.

The pilgrims were joined for some of the way by members of Providing a Tailwind - Hanover Park Girls Matter, a project providing peer group support, affirmation, guidance, and training to high school dropouts in Hanover Park. The aim of the project is to enable the girls to regain their balance sufficiently to return to school, start training, or find employment. Pilgrims left St Michael's Church in Observatory (the spiritual home of the Order of St Lazarus in Cape Town), and made their way to St Luke's, Salt River; All Saints, Roodebloom; and the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of St George in Woodstock. Lunch was wonderfully peaceful – almost contemplative – with sandwiches made by Providing a Tailwind - Hanover Park Girls Matter, enjoyed on the grass by the side of the road in Searle Street.

After the mid-day break, the pilgrimage continued across the Basil van Rensburg Bridge, to visit the New Apostolic Church in Harder Close in Zonnebloem; the Moravian Chapel; and St Mark's, District Six. From there it was into the city centre, to visit the Groot Kerk

and St George's Cathedral, before ending the day at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral on Roeland Street. Along the way pilgrims heard moving presentations from the well-known historian, John Ramsdale; Father Austen Jackson of St Mark's District Six (chaplain to the Pilgrimage); Bishop Augustine Joemath of the Moravian Chapel (Pilgrimage project team member), and representatives of the Anglican, Orthodox, New Apostolic, Dutch Reformed, and Roman Catholic churches we visited. It was a day of love and hope - but also a day of peace and reconciliation, and of healing and re-assessment. Thanks are due to the project team, our hosts, collaborators, and pilgrims, for making this a Heritage Day to remember.



## RSCM honours cathedral choir conductor

St George's Cathedral choir conductor Jonathan Langenhoven travelled to England with his wife Susan in September 2018 to receive an award from the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) in recognition for his services to church music. He was honoured as an associate of the RSCM during a celebration service at Salisbury Cathedral on September 8th. The award was presented to Jonathan by the Rt Revd Nick Holtam, bishop of Salisbury. Jonathan was one of 9 recipients of the ARSCM award for 2018 and the only recipient from Africa this year.

The RSCM is an international organization, with headquarters in the UK, which aims to encourage and support music in churches. It is represented in the UK, USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.



## To the Laos - to the people of God

Since my last Ad Laos to you, I have been constantly on the move, carried by your prayers, for which my grateful thanks.

From our September meeting of the Synod of Bishops and the annual Provincial Standing Committee, I visited Grahamstown – now Makhanda – where I hosted a guest lecture, and East London, where we did the Eastern Cape launch of my book, Faith & Courage. From there, I went to spend three days at the Anglicans Ablaze conference in KwaZulu-Natal. I need to congratulate very warmly Bishop Martin Breytenbach of the Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist, who has led the movement, Bishop Tsietsi Seleokane of Natal, the liaison bishop for Anglicans Ablaze, and the Revd Trevor Pearce of Growing the Church, the principal organisers, on a job well done.

I enjoyed the worship, the teaching, the sharing and just being in the company of 2000 Anglicans, all united in seeking to hear the word of God. I left Durban recharged and excited about the discipling of our members who attended. Thanks also to the other nine bishops of our Province who attended, as well as to Archbishop Ng Moon Hing, Bishop of West Malaysia and Archbishop of South East Asia, one of the speakers. As I travel the Province, I look forward to meeting Anglicans who are still “ablaze”.

From Durban I went to Mpumalanga to host another lecture at the university there, then returned to Cape Town to host at Bishopscourt another of the Days of Courageous Conversation which we in the faith community have been convening for the past three years to plan the future of mining communities.

This initiative, part of an international pro-

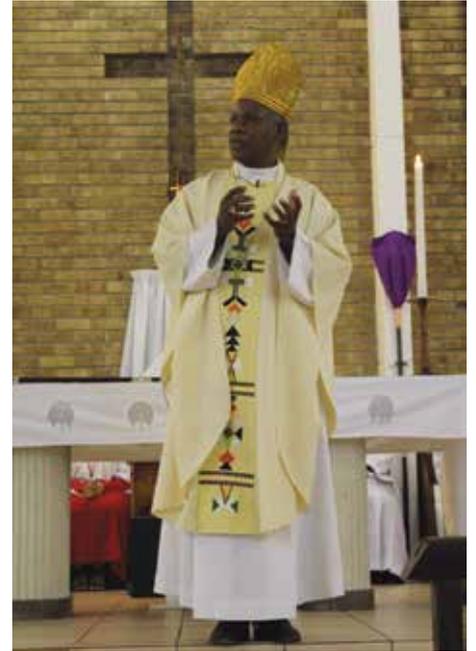
cess which includes the Vatican in Rome and Lambeth Palace in London, brings mine owners and unions together with government and civil society to address the serious challenges which are facing the industry as new production methods change the nature of their labour needs and as mines come to the end of their life spans. I am very grateful for the choir at the Church of St Mary Magdalene in Gugulethu, Cape Town, for leading us with beautiful music at the opening service.

Then we spent a day wrestling with what constitutes the common good for all the parties who earn their livelihoods from our mines. We have piloted partnerships between the industry and churches aimed at finding opportunities for socio-economic upliftment, and in a global first a theological team has been developing material to support inter-faith pastoral care at mines, ensuring that miners have the spiritual support they need.

Over the past decade we have seen an erosion of trust in South African society. But in the Courageous Conversations we have seen a good deal of trust re-established and I believe that the process offers to wider society the potential to form a new compact; a healing and building process which can include government, unions, business, civil society and the wider faith community.

From the discussions at Bishopscourt, I went to the Diocese of Pretoria for the celebration of the 140th anniversary of its establishment. We congratulate the diocese, which since its founding in 1878 has given birth to six other dioceses: Johannesburg, St Mark the Evangelist, the Highveld, Christ the King, Matlosane and Mpumalanga.

By the time you read this, we shall have paid a special tribute to Canon John Suggit, who this year celebrates 70 years in the ordained ministry. John is one of those special clerics



in our Church and in the Anglican Communion. We are grateful for his scholarship, his pastoral heart and his generosity in sharing these with us through his writing.

We also congratulate Geoff Burton, a long-time stalwart of the Diocese of Cape Town, on the Synod of Bishops' decision to name him to the Order of Simon of Cyrene, our highest honour for lay service to the Church. We give special thanks to God for the lives of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond and Mama Leah Tutu, who last month celebrated their 87th and 85th birthdays respectively, and I join with you in wishing Bishop Counsell a happy and blessed birthday on November 24.

**God bless you.**  
+ **Thabo Cape Town**

## ACSA takes new steps to combat sexual abuse

The following resolution was approved by PSC:

### **MOTION ARISING FROM SAFE CHURCH COMMISSION REPORT**

#### **This PSC**

1. Noting the work and efforts on the part of the ACC Safe Church Commission as well as its acceptance and introduction into ACSA  
2. Recognises the need for the preventative measures of the Safe Church Commission to be implemented while the necessary Canonical amendments to Canon 4 are being prepared for Synod 2019:

#### **Hereby resolves:**

That with immediate effect, all ordinations, elections or consecrations of ordained ministers will include the requirement for a police clearance certificate to be obtained from a verified agency. Should an adverse finding be made in terms of such police clearance, then the Diocesan Bishop or Archbishop as the case may be, should in their discretion determine how to deal with the finding. In the case of lay ministers, especially those involved in youth and Sunday School teaching, this will be progressively implemented from

1 January 2019. Arising out of the Bishops' and PSC deliberations, Archbishop Thabo released the following public statement on 3 October 2018):

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa has adopted new measures to deal with sexual abuse and harassment. In future anyone wanting to be ordained to serve as a clergy person will have to provide a police clearance certificate. The church has also set up an email address to make it easier to report allegations of abuse. **continues on page 7**

**ACSA takes new steps to combat sexual abuse from page 6:** This was announced by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba. He said in a statement:

“At meetings held in September 2018, our church’s Synod of Bishops and our Provincial Standing Committee – which includes clergy and lay people from every diocese in Southern Africa – had their first opportunity to discuss the reports of clergy abusing children which received widespread publicity earlier this year.

“We were made acutely aware of the pain of those who have been hurt by the church. Although the number of cases reported so far is limited, we resolved to take up the issue with the utmost seriousness. Experienced lawyers and clergy serving on our Canon Law Council reported that our Pastoral Standards, which are incorporated into church law, set out a sound basis on which to handle complaints of abuse. But the council has said we need to make it easier for complainants to access procedures for laying complaints, and to provide better support for them along the way.

“The council also reported that complaints, especially historical complaints, are not being handled quickly enough. It recommended that we set up a central register of complaints, including details of what action has been taken. Although complaints of abuse can be made directly to the Diocese in which it has taken place, we have now also set up a dedicated email address for those who wish to report them through that channel:

safechurches@anglicanchurchsa.org.za. This may be done anonymously.

“The council will propose changes to church legislation at the next meeting of the three-yearly Provincial Synod, our top legislative body, next year. In the meantime, the Provincial Standing Committee has resolved that, with immediate effect, all ordinations, elections or consecrations of ordained ministers will include the requirement for a police clearance certificate to be obtained from a verified agency.

“From January 2019, we will progressively enforce the same rule for lay ministers, especially those involved in youth ministry and Sunday School teaching. In addition, the Canon Law Council emphasised to the Synod of Bishops that it is urgent and very important that every diocese set up a team to deal effectively with allegations of abuse. We are arranging training for the bishops at the next meeting of our Synod of Bishops, and have asked each diocese to ensure that its teams also receive training in how best to respond to complaints.”

“Most of the half-dozen cases which have emerged this year concern events which occurred more than 20 years ago, which – except in cases of rape – prevents victims from pursuing their cases through criminal courts in South Africa. I therefore reiterate my earlier support for quick action by Parliament to change the law to allow such prosecutions to take place. Victims of sexual abuse need to be able to pursue charges both in criminal courts and in church tribunals.”

## Anglicans gather in Durban for Anglicans Ablaze



More than 2000 Anglicans from Southern Africa and around the world were in Durban, for Anglicans Ablaze, an international conference within the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. The biennial event, which ran from 3 – 6 October, is a renewal platform meant to set Anglicans “ablaze with God’s love and power in order to build up the church and to serve God in the world.”

The Bishop of the North Western Episcopal Area of the Anglican Diocese of Natal, Tsietsi Seleonne, is the new liaison Bishop for Anglicans Ablaze. The event, he said, is a continuation of the Anglican Renewal Ministry that began in the 1970s. “It’s a diverse kind of ministry showing the Anglican life at its best – from extreme Anglo-Catholic to extreme charismatic expressions of our worship, and this is why we want people to see how they can transform their own parishes after being enriched by this renewal ministry in our church”, he said.

“Anglicans Ablaze is about church growth”, said Nonkonzo Xintolo, a priest from the Diocese of Mthatha. “This gives me a chance to mix with other people and learn because you cannot go back home and grow the church unless you grow yourself first.”

Anglicans Ablaze has a special place in the lives of young people because for the most part, it presents an opportunity for them to experience church in a way that’s different from what they experience in their parishes. Jesse Rajee, an 18-year-old Anglican from Cape Town who was attending Anglican Ablaze for the first time.

“After listening to the experiences of my friends who attended the last conference, I got inspired and knew I also wanted to be attended someday,” he said. “I have been challenged and my goal is to inspire other young people as I have been inspired here.”

Another young Anglican, 17-year-old Lavern Luiters, talked of how this experience has impacted her life. “I have heard a lot of good things here that the Lord has done for other people and now I know that he is going to do it for me as well”, she said. “It’s indeed an honour to be here to worship God with people from different churches.”

When more than 2000 people meet in one place for a conference such as this one, the amount of garbage produced can be overwhelming. But the organisers foresaw this and came up with various innovations to minimise the amount of waste produced. “Instead of single use containers, we have made available over 2000 reusable mugs which has helped us stop about 12,000 plastic containers from being used here,” said the Coordinator of Green Anglicans, Canon Rachel Mash. “We have also made available wooden stirrers instead of plastic spoons.” She added: We have to change people’s theology by emphasising that caring for the environment is a key calling of a Jesus shaped life. You cannot say you care for your neighbour if you don’t care for creation.”

**continues on page 8**

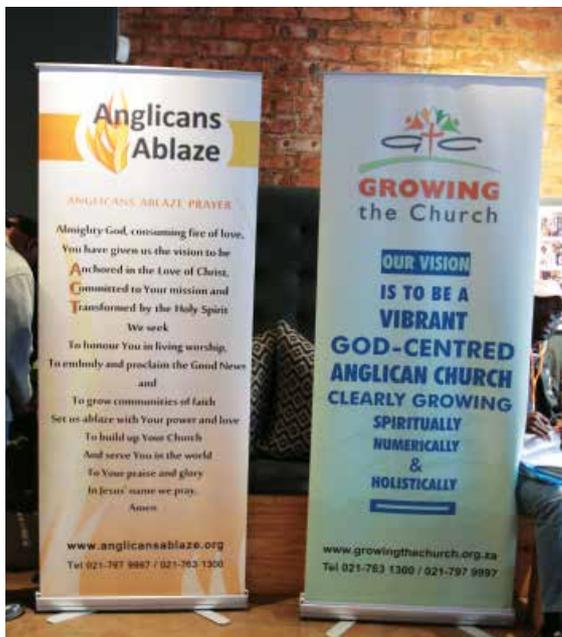
**Anglicans Ablaze from page 7:** The highlight of the event came from the prolific church planter and keynote speaker for the conference, Archbishop Moon Hing of West Malaysia, the Primate of South East Asia. He gave a moving account of growing up in a Buddhist family in an area where Christianity accounted for less than one per cent of religious affiliation.

“My family didn’t like it when I converted to Christianity to an extent that they stopped me from speaking to my family about it,” he said. “But after so many years I would like to thank God that I have managed to convert 80 per cent of my family including brothers, sisters and cousins among others to Christianity, and had the privilege of baptising my own mother.”

In an interview with the Anglican Communion News Service, he spoke of the importance of Anglican Ablaze: “There is hunger for Christ everywhere – people need motivation, encouragement and direction, and Anglicans Ablaze offers that opportunity and I pray that it spreads to other regions and the whole of the Anglican world.

“This movement will transform the lives of people and communities and the world will have hope because it’s a reminder that God is our priority in a world which is going in the opposite direction.” The atmosphere was spirit filled as Anglicans worshipped God in an apparent hunger for transformation and a different kind of experience.

- Bellah Zulu  
- Photos: GtC



## GBFS 10th Conference



On the weekend of the 28-30 September 2018, the GBFS held a conference at St Cyprian’s Langa celebrating 10 years since the launch of the Guild. The theme “We are more than conquer in Christ” - Romans 8:37. The celebration consisted of an award ceremony as an opening where we awarded and appreciated our previous leaders and presidents for the love, dedication and sacrifices to the guild. There was an election process where the new executive of the diocese was elected and will be serving for two years. An executive that will focus on spiritual growth, building an unshakable relationship with God and the people that they will be leading. Trying by all means to be proper and respectful examples and keeping in mind that we not only leading people but their spirit too.

Our Liason Officer Mrs Abia Mokgethi, was our guest speaker and conducted an Emotional Intelligence session under the scripture: Revelation 21- 1:5 Teaching us to know how important it is to do proper introspection, to forgive ourselves first and doing everything for Christ and not ourselves. An important characteristic to uphold is to be trustworthy. She also focused on the following scriptures as relevance to the topic 1 Samuel 3:1, Luke 2:29 and Jeremiah 29:11. We closed off that evening by embracing our different cultures as a celebration of our heritage month that was also coming to an end that weekend. We taught ourselves the difference and similarities of our cultures.

On Sunday the conference came to a closing with a Holy Eucharist and an admission process of our new executive by our chaplain, the Revd Dano.

- Yanga Kwanini



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.

Visit the Diocese of Cape Town’s website: [www.ctdiocese.org.za](http://www.ctdiocese.org.za)

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