

# THE Good Hope

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN • ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



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October 2023



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## Clergy Conference 2023



In a world where challenges and changes abound and where one needs to find space to reflect and rest, the clergy of the Diocese withdrew for their annual clergy conference for a time of shared engagement. This year it was decided for a non-residential conference held on the 18th and 19th October at Church of the Holy Spirit in Kirstenhof.

We explored the themes, 'Spirituality for a time like this' on Wednesday with Prof Nadine Bowers Du Toit and on Thursday we looked at 'Memory' with Dr Bonita Bennet. The speakers came with a wealth of experience and invited us to reflect, lament, remember and explore ministry paradigms that embraces context, individual and collective stories of persons and place whilst engaging in the intergenerational diversity of those present in the room.

Prof Nadine invited us to look at the intersection of faith and the contemporary world in a time of profound challenges, uncertainty, change and our rich faith and spirituality. It offers guidance, strength and a sense of purpose as we as a Church navigate within our city.



Dr Bennet helped us to engage with the gift of memory, both personal and collective which serve as the threads that connect our past, present and future. It is through memory that we remember the stories, the lessons and communal journeys that have brought us to where we are today. It helps us explore healing through memory by addressing the role of memory in healing, forgiveness and reconciliation.

The conference was not all serious reflection and deep talk but also a space to let one's guard down and be with colleagues. On a lighter but serious note the clergy were invited to engage with their own stress

triggers and built up tension within their bodies. Canon Emma Arogundade ended our conference days with a series of breathing, stretching and tension release exercises. These exercises helped us identify trigger points of stress and tension within the body. These sessions were light and fun but also beneficial as one considers stewardship of one's body and mental health. Thank you to our three guests who served us in this way.

Behind every conference lies a team of dedicated individuals who work behind the scenes organizing various aspects of an event.  
**continues on page 3**





# CLASSIFIEDS

## Archbishop's Education Endowment Fund for Theological Education

Please support the Archbishop's Education Fund so that we can continue to train priests for the future of our church. Thank you for all donations received. If you would like to contribute please consider a donation.

A sum of R1 483 201.67 has been raised thus far.

Bank: Standard Bank  
Branch Code: Thibault Square  
Branch Number: 020909  
Account Number: 070332428

# EDITORIAL

It's been wonderful to witness our South African 'gees' in the past few weeks with regard to our national teams' performance on the cricket and rugby fields. Despite our adversities, we have shown the world that we display a spirit of ubuntu. This has fuelled our national teams to play their best. Sports unites us and during this time, we can put differences aside and focus on being proudly South African.

We especially pray for the Middle East, the Ukraine & Russia and Armenia & Azerbaijan, riddled by war and unrest. We pray for transformation in the hearts and minds of all who perpetuate violence and oppression. We pray to end conflict in other parts of the world and that God's peace will prevail.

The Class of 2023 are preparing for the NSC examination, which starts on Monday 30th October. Our diocesan office has two families with matriculants. They are Lisa Moses (daughter of Brigette) and Jayden Pastor (sister of Jesse). We pray that all learners and students writing their final examinations remain focused, calm and confident in their abilities. We pray for families, too that they be supportive during this stressful time.

**Love and Light, Rebecca**

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Scan QR code with your mobile and learn more about the Diocese of Cape Town

# Events and Notices



## SAFE SPACE NEEDED

### AYP (Adolescent and Young

#### People) Programme

One of the programmes run by Hope Africa uses a preventative approach, aiming for healthy, educated, empowered and safe adolescents.

#### Objectives of the AYP programme:

- o Increase retention in school
- o Decrease HIV incidence
- o Decrease teenage pregnancy
- o Decrease gender-based violence
- o Increase economic opportunities

We work at the coal face, within the communities, literally walking the streets to find beneficiaries. One of our needs is for a safe space within the community to use as a base. Our biggest struggle is in suburbs of Hanover Park and surrounds. Our appeal is to churches, community organisations, individuals to make a venue available for our use. We provide homework support, counselling services, biomedical services, grief support as well as work readiness.

Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. Calls may be directed to Melanie or Natasha at 021 763 1300.

### All Saints Plumstead Patronal

**Dance:** Please support our Patronal Dance fundraiser, tickets are R150 per person. Tickets will be available at the office (during office hours 9am - 1pm) from Monday the 4th of September. Contact the office at 021 797 4176 or email: office@allsaintsplumstead.org.za

### St Andrew's Steenberg Patronal

**Dance: will take place** on 24th November 2023 at Grassy Park Civic. Ticket cost R150. For more information you can contact our office 0217012500 or WhatsApp only on 0678046497.

### All Saints Plumstead Market: will take place on Saturday, 2nd December 2023 12-5pm.

We are calling all crafters! Do you want to have a stall, non food items, (R100) at our market? Contact the office to book your spot now at 021 797 4176 or email: office@allsaintsplumstead.org.za



**Diocesan Children's Homes Thanksgiving Service**

The diocesan family and friends are invited to join in celebration and thanksgiving for the work and ministry of our Diocesan Children's Homes

**St Cyprian's Church, Retreat**  
Car of Sts Ave & Conour Rd, Retreat

**Sunday 29 October 2023**  
15h00

**Preacher: Bishop Joshua Louw**

Leliebuis House, St George's Home for Girls, St Michael's Children Home, Fikelela Children's Home

**ST MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH FAMILY FUN DAY FESTIVAL 2023**

1903 - 2023

COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN AND CELEBRATION

11h00 - 4h00

100% of the proceeds will go to the St Martin's Anglican Church Family Fund

For more information, contact: 021 797 4176

**St Martin's Anglican Church Patronal Dance**

A DANCE FUNDRAISER IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATRONAL DANCE

2023

11th November 2023

12h00 - 10h00

Ticket cost: R150

For more information, contact: 021 797 4176

**The 55th Children's Christmas Pudding Fund Christmas Puddings for Sale 900g - R150**

For more information, please contact the fundraising office at 021 797 4176

**St Mark's The Dargatist Theatre Presents MAD HATTER TEA PARTY**

4 November

Tickets R150 (incl. drink)

For more information, contact: 021 797 4176

**All Saints Plumstead Patronal Dance**

with Cockband in attendance and St Anne's

**Friday 3rd November 2023**

From 6.30pm at Witteboorn Civic Centre

**R150 per person**

For more information, contact: 021 797 4176





## From the Bishop's Desk

### Psalm 121:1-4

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from?

2 My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven

and earth.

3 He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber;

4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

### Dear Friends,

In our everchanging and challenging world where we are confronted with so many challenges, the word of God continues to give us courage to carry on. In the few verses from Psalm 121 which I have chosen for this article, the psalmist encourages us to look towards the mountains (upwards) and know that our God will be our help in troubled times. God will watch over us even when things seem as a loss.

Thank you for your messages of support for me and my family as we mourned the loss of Joan's brother, Stanley Marinus. Your prayers and support kept us going. It is much appreciated.

We have experienced real stormy weather recently and many of our communities in the Western Cape have been badly affected. Thank you for your help and support when called upon. With the constant change in weather patterns, we can never say that we are over it, though it feels like it. I want to encourage you to continue supporting the work of Hope Africa as they are our provincial social development arm and respond to crises across Southern Africa.

We have been praying for peace in the middle-east, especially for a just resolution to the conflict between Israel and Palestine. As we pray for peace, let us also pray for the emancipation of God's people in Palestine (Christians, Jews, Muslims and others). It is important for us to know that when we condemn the Israeli regime for their cruelty against the Palestinian people, we are not talking about the Israel of the bible, but a cruel and oppressive regime. Remember that



Jesus said that he is coming to make all things new, all of us who believe in Him are the new Jerusalem of Israel. We are the chosen people and part of our duty is to work for justice for all God's people, irrespective of where they are. We are to condemn all brutality and wars in our world whether it is from Russia, Israel, Hamas or the USA. We want a peaceful and just world.

On the home-front we are confronted with ongoing violent conflicts and it seems that those in power do not have the political will to do anything about it. The poor and vulnerable are the people who suffer most. It is with this as background that churches have been called to action. Watch this space for an update.

In the meantime, gang violence and extortion are still rife on the Cape Flats. NGO's including Hope Africa, have been targeted to pay protection money to work in our townships. Where will it all end if we don't do something? As people of prayer, we are busy planning an Ecumenical prayer march through parts of Manenberg on Sunday, 12 November at 3pm and you are all invited to join in. I know that some of you might be saying that prayer is not enough but I am seeing this as an essential first step as we engage.

Amid all of this, let us find comfort in Psalm 121 and keep focussing on God for courage and wisdom.

Our matriculants are going to start their final

exams and I ask you to keep them in prayer, together with those in lower grades and tertiary institutions. Examinations can be a very stressful period. Let us be gentle with one another and assist our students where we can.

We had a most wonderful Clergy conference. I want to thank the Canons of our diocese who were tasked with the planning and execution of it as well as all those who assisted them. A special word of thanks to the Church of the Holy Spirit, Kirstenhof, who allowed us to use their beautiful space. We really appreciate it. We had wonderful facilitators in Professor Nadine Bouwers-Du Toit and Dr Bonita Bennett, thank you for your generous sharing of knowledge which has enriched us. Lay Canon Emma Arogundade, your wellness exercises were indeed enriching tools which I am sure we will use. Thanks to all the parishes for your financial support to make this a reality.

### A few placements were made:

The **Ven Reeva Mulder** has been appointed as the next rector of All Saints, Plumstead as of 1 February 2024.

The **Revd Kevin David** from the Anglican Diocese of Mauritius has been appointed rector of St Aidan's, Lansdowne as of 1 February 2024.

The **Revd Grant Walters** has been appointed Provincial Executive Officer as of 1 February 2024.

Congratulations to our **Canon Theologian and Dean of Studies, Professor John Klaasen** on his appointment as the Dean of the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of the Free State as of 1 April 2024. We wish you well as you take this new leap in faith.

Let us continue to keep the parishes in interregnum in our prayers, praying that God will send them a faithful shepherd.

Like the seasons of the year, yes we had a very wet and cold winter, but it seems as if spring has finally arrived. So also in life, we sometimes go through dark times, but that will also come to pass and the light will come through. Remember that God is present even in the darkness.

**God bless! +Joshua Table Bay**



**The Revd Ronald Dias** was licensed and instituted as rector of St Faith's Plumstead on 1st October 2023 by Bishop Joshua Louw.

**Clergy Conference continued from page 1:** Without mentioning names we appreciate all who worked, thought through and planned the clergy conference 2023. From the admin, welcome team, hospitality, liturgy, musicians, speakers and host church. We appreciate all that you have done and say thank you, dankie, enkosi.

Conferences offer opportunities for inspiration and refreshment and we left the conference refreshed and inspired to do the work of God, amongst the people of God.

- **Revd Jeremy Smith**  
- **Photographer:**  
**Ven Allen Goliath**





## Twenty-two Layministers receive Preaching Licences



It was a stormy cold and wet Sunday - 24th September 2023 - which saw the completion of a plan initiated in 2018. Twenty-two Layministers received their Preaching Licences from Bishop Joshua Louw and certificates for the completion of the Preaching short course from the Rector Revd. Canon Dr. Percy Chinganga of the College of Transfiguration (COTT). The celebration church service at St. Cyprians Church in Retreat was attended by Layministers, family members and parishioners of the twenty-two Layministers. What a spirit-filled service it was to commemorate the culmination of dedicated planning and implementation of a short course, and diligent attendance of the registered members.

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba endorsed this pilot project. This was made possible by the determination of the Bishop of Table Bay, Joshua Louw, who considered it important to empower the Layministers and to be 'legally' licensed to preach in the parish. The enthusiasm and willingness of the Revd Dr John Klassen steered the process and facilitated the weekly sessions. While on sabbatical Revd Dr Klassen facilitated the sessions in an informative, professional and caring manner.

The Layministers responded to the gentle approach of constructive criticism and guidance of an academic but also a preacher. Wayne Jones, the Diocesan Layministers Facilitator - a member of the steering committee - supported, encouraged and facilitated the Saturday morning sessions but also worked diligently behind the scenes deal-

ing with managerial matters. Revd Veliswa Baduza and Ilda Chachine (Administrator) were constantly supportive throughout the process of the preaching course.

Members of the Diocesan team facilitating this project, rolled out the preaching course on - yet also - a cold and wet Saturday morning (7 July 2023) at St. Cyprians Church in Retreat with the twenty-two registered Layministers. Isn't it ironic that the preaching course would start on a cold and wet day and end with the same type of weather? Despite the harsh cold and wet weather during the 8 weeks, there was good attendance. It was evident that these Layministers were determined to be equipped to preach God's word - a plan truly coming together despite the odds - the weather.

Various facilitators namely, Revd. Gcebile Phumzile (Gina) Gregory of COTT, Revd. Shaun Cozett and Revd. Melanie Klassen conducted meaningful topics to assist with the preparation of sermons over the 8 weeks. An additional two weeks were primarily devoted to the delivery of well-prepared sermons at St. Cyprians (Retreat) and St. Martin's (Bergvliet).

The Rector of CoTT, in his sermon at the celebration service, used this line from Shakespeare's King Henry IV, "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." He reminded the newly licensed Layministers of what lies ahead in their new role of ministry. Many encouraging words were expressed at the service.

In the various parishes there are now twenty-two Layministers equipped to preach a sermon. Hopefully they will be given the opportunity to use their skills and be inspired by the Holy Spirit to deliver God-inspired sermons to the congregations. The Layministers wish to thank the Diocese of Cape Town and all the clergy who have supported this initiative and made it possible. As the Bishop of Table Bay, Joshua Louw, expressed: It is essential to empower the Layministers in their different roles.

**Preaching course units are:** Introduction: What makes a good sermon; The Preaching of Jesus; Preparing sermon; Working with Scripture; Sermon forms; Focus, Function and Form of sermon; The Language of sermon and The Context of sermon. - **Lucinda Rutter**

## Eluvukweni Anglican Church – a worshipping presence for 40 years!



Although many in the Diocese might not have heard of the Anglican Church of Eluvukweni in Crossroads, faithful members have been worshipping here for 40 years! Over the years the congregation has been able to raise R2.6 million rand towards a church building. Plans have been passed through the council and a date had been set for the turning of the soil on the 3rd of September. Unfortunately, when the church went out to tender the prices came back at nearly double (R4.9 million) leaving a large short-fall.

Bishop Joshua felt that it was now time to put the plight of the church to the whole Diocese so that we can work together so that the congregation can have a decent spiritual home to worship in. And so on the 10th October 2023 he invited the Diocese to Eluvukweni. The purpose

of the visit was to view the site and current worship space, hear stories from parishioners about the last 40 years and to be updated on the building plans.

Mr Siyabonga Jokani, church warden, shared the history of the parish community and how the worshipping community was founded by the then Rev David Russell (Later the Bishop of Grahamstown) more than 40 years ago. It was a deeply moving experience seeing the sad state of the current structure which has a leaking roof and has no flushing toilet. The congregation is serving the community from an onsite container used to cook meals for over a hundred children, three times a week. This soup kitchen is supported by the Siya Kolisi foundation as well as others. Due to a family bereavement Bishop Joshua was unable to attend but, undeterred, a small group of clergy and parishioners still went ahead and attended the visit, and committed the project and people of Eluvukweni to God through prayer. The dream is now coming to fruition. If you can assist in contributing toward to building fund, please do so by using the banking details below. - **Jesse Pastor**

**Diocesan Finance Board**

**Standard Bank** – Thibault Square

**Account Number:** 070696039

**Branch Code:** 051001

**Reference:** Eluvukweni Building Fund



# Transitus of St Francis



On the 3rd October every year, Franciscans throughout the world hold an evening vigil, known as The Transitus where they ritually remember the passing of Francis of Assisi from his earthly life into eternal life with the Lord.

On Tuesday evening, 3rd October 2023, the Cape Town Group of the Third Order of the Society of St Francis held a Transitus Service at St Matthew's

Church in Harfield Village, Claremont. Present on the evening was Bishop Joshua (Liaison Bishop Africa Southern Region), the Revd Michael Twum-Darko (Minister General), Paul Muspratt-Williams (Covenor Cape Town Group), the Revd Moeketsie Motojane (Rector of St Matthews), Jackie Zils, the Revd Craig Abrahams (Rector St Johns, Belville South), and the Revd Zukile Dondolo (Curate- St Mark's, District Six) and his wife.

The Transiyus was written as Francis began to embrace his own death and reflects the importance of death in the life of creation. As such Francis was not afraid of dying or what would become of his earthly life but chose instead to recognize the experience of dying as a way of transition from one way of living to another. He embraced death and saw it as part of the natural transition from a life on earth to a life in heaven with Christ, who he modelled his life on. This can be seen in his famous Canticle of the Creatures, when Francis wrote "Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape."

In Transitus we have a written account of his last Testament that he left for his brothers. This was beautifully chanted by Rev Craig Abrahams, who also chanted Psalm 142 which Francis was reciting as he passed on.

A key part of the Transitus is to read and reflect upon the Gospel passage (John 13:1-17) which Francis asked his brothers to read aloud while they gathered around his death bed. In this part of the reading where Jesus washes the feet of the disciples, we are given a glimpse into the Gospel life that Francis tried to live by, and which his spiritual heirs have inherited. At the heart of the reading stands the example of so-called servant leadership modeled by Jesus Christ Himself.

The Transitus therefore serves as a reminder to all Christians, not only Franciscans to renew our commitment to follow Christ in the footsteps of the poor man of Assisi, known to us as St Francis. - **Paul Muspratt-Williams t.s.s.f**

# Anglicans Ablaze 2023



**WE REJOICE & GIVE GOD THANKS FOR ANGLICANS ABLAZE 2023!**

As we look back and reflect on the last week, we rejoice and give God thanks for Anglicans Ablaze 2023! We thank each and everyone of you for being there, for your excitement and enthusiasm for a conference of this scale, for each of you who picked up the banner and the challenge to become 'The Whole Church for the Whole World'. Thank you, Jesus, for all the work that you have done!

We are blessed by each message and comment we have received from you, you know that we would not be able to do what we do without you.

A conference of this magnitude needs every single one of us to acknowledge that WE are part of GOD'S story and a huge part in growing HIS Church and Kingdom. We are reminded of 2 Corinthians 1:10 "He who supplies seed to the Sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be excited in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."

With this blessing in mind, we ask you to prayerfully consider giving generously towards Anglicans Ablaze or Growing the Church. We are already planning future conferences and trainings, but we need YOU to make it possible.

Please use the QR code or link to participate in evaluation of Anglicans Ablaze 2023  
<https://events.cw-09.co.za/1091100/>

**If you would like to give please use the info below:**

**Your banking details:**  
 Beneficiary: Bishop, Roseville Branch  
 Account Name: Growing the Church  
 A/c no: 571 625 886  
 Branch Code: 081 201  
 Swift code: 230420AD

**Should you wish to give electronically, copy and paste the link in your browser:**  
<https://www.givingwithfaith.org.za/>

**Video payments:** <https://pay.gov.za/>

**Make use of one of the PayFast payment options on the 'Support' menu item: VFF, bankcard, Mastercard etc.**



**The Feast Day of St Francis** was celebrated at St George's Cathedral on Sunday 8th October 2023. The Blessing of the animals took place during the service. Parishioners brought their furry family members to church for their annual blessing. Photographer: **Andile Weeder**



## Confirmation on the island of Tristan da Cunha

**The Rt Revd Geoff Davies** and his wife Kate travelled to the island of Tristan da Cunha to confirm 8 candidates on 24th September 2023.

Bishop Geoff was assisted by the Revd Margaret van den Berg.





Since I last wrote to you, the world has been busy and I have been busy too with the work of the Lord, trying in the midst of a punishing travel schedule to keep focussed on the Lord of the work.

After the September meeting of the Synod of Bishops, I left Provincial Standing Committee early so Lungi and I could travel to the Vatican to attend the consistory at which Pope Francis created 21 new cardinals, including my Catholic counterpart in Cape Town, Cardinal Stephen Brislin. It was a spiritually uplifting service, as were his first Mass as cardinal in St Stephen's Chapel in the Vatican Gardens and the ecumenical prayers for the opening of the church's worldwide Synod of Bishops. We also enjoyed worship and the opening of an exhibition at the Anglican Centre in Rome by Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury.



**Archbishop Thabo Makgoba in Westminster Abbey with his Catholic counterpart in Cape Town, Cardinal Stephen Brislin, right, and the former Vicar-General of the Catholic Archdiocese, Father Peter-John Pearson.**

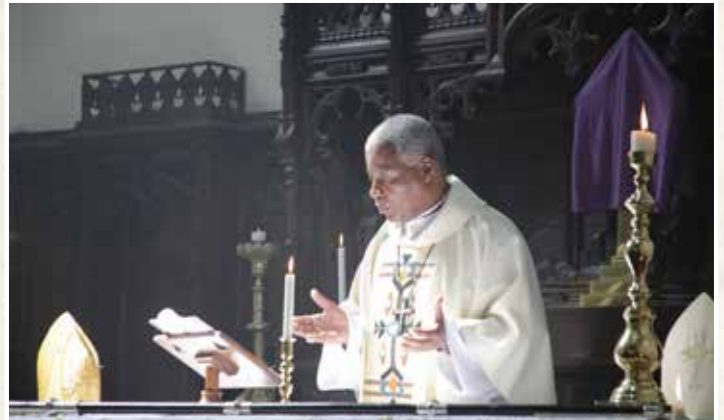
From Rome, I returned home to preach at this year's Anglicans Ablaze conference in Johannesburg, which, as always, is a time of blessing and joy. Now led by the Revd Bruce Woolley as director, Growing the Church, which stages these very successful conferences, has since welcomed Bishop Dalcy Dlamini of Eswatini, appointed by the Synod of Bishops as its new Liaison Bishop. During the same weekend we held a glorious service in the Diocese of Christ the King where we consecrated Bishop Mkhuseleli Sobantwana as their new bishop. Congratulations to both Bishop Dalcy and Bishop Mkhuseleli.

Then it was back to Europe for a "Mining and Faith Day of Reflection", a 10-year-old initiative I have been part of which creates safe spaces for courageous conversations to discuss how mining can best serve the common good and to commit to practical action. The event comprised faith leaders from across the world, also including Ghana, Brazil and Zambia who met with leaders from some of the world's largest mining companies. It was good to connect there again within the space of a week with Cardinal Brislin and Archbishop Welby.

As we prayed and shared fellowship together in St Peter's in Rome and Westminster Abbey and the Charter House Chapel in London, the sadness and hurt of the violence in many parts of our world intruded on us, especially when the true horror of the killings and abductions perpetrated by Hamas on Israeli civilians began to emerge. In my own moments of prayer, I could not help but think of the first century killing of Jews in Rome, of pogroms down the ages in Europe and genocide in Germany.

Thirteen years ago, at a United Nations meeting in Morocco convened to discuss Africa's stance on Palestine, I appealed for faith communi-

## Ad Laos to the people of God



ties outside the region to draw on their various religious traditions to help find a just, sustainable and lasting peace in the Holy Land. In the last few days, I have prayed over the situation created when Britain was given a mandate to rule Palestine after World War I and then gave 55 percent of Palestinian land to Israel after the Holocaust of World War II.

Just as we need sensible land reform in South Africa, something I told the General Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church a few days ago, we also need to find a solution which brings justice, safety and freedom for all in the land we call 'Holy'. The occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan has to be ended and the Palestinians given the right of self-determination, but the horrific attacks on Israelis by Hamas will intensify the conflict, not help to resolve it. Equally, Israelis need to be able to live in peace and security, but neither will the air strikes which bring horrifying death and destruction to civilians in Gaza achieve that end.

Let us continue to pray for those caught up in all places of conflict, also thinking especially of Ukraine. The five biggest exporters of armaments in the world are the United States, Russia, China, Germany and France. Let us pray that they will promote diplomacy instead of peddling weapons of death and destruction. As we approach the Season of Advent, I ask that we turn our prayers to all victims of war, for those without food, water, warmth and shelter and for those who have had to bury their loved ones.

Closer to home, we urge our leaders at various levels of government to intensify efforts to resolve our transport crisis, especially the passenger rail service. In the Western Cape, the collapse of much of the commuter railway system is a scandal which hits workers and the poor hardest.

In the church, the graduating class at the College of the Transfiguration deserves special mention this year. They are a unique class, who began their formation and studies as Covid-19 struck and faced all the challenges associated with it. Congratulations to them all.



**Photo: SABC News Western Cape**

Congratulations also to Mama Leah Tutu, whose 90th birthday we celebrated with a special service in the Cathedral in Cape Town on October 14th.

We will soon be focussing on the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence – may this focus not be drowned out by global war.

Finally, may you be still and know that God in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit is in each and every situation. Our hope is founded on Him.

**++ Archbishop Thabo Cape Town**



# Provincial Standing Committee 2023

## **PSC Resolutions declaring Israel an apartheid state and on pilgrimages to the Holy Land:**

The following resolutions were approved by Provincial Standing Committee at its 2023 meeting in September.

### **ON ISRAEL AS AN APARTHEID STATE**

1. Whereas:

- Many global human rights bodies including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have now declared Israel an apartheid state;
- The SACC National Executive Committee has now also declared Israel an apartheid state;
- The Dutch Reformed Church Western Cape synod has now also expressed its opinion that Israel should be declared an apartheid state and has asked its church's National synod to consider this at its October 2023 Synod;
- Most Palestinian civil rights bodies consider this to be true;

2. This PSC Resolves to:

- Endorse the position taken by the SACC national executive committee declaring Israel an apartheid state;
- Respectfully request the Archbishop to inform the Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East of this decision;
- Pray for our Anglican brothers and sisters in Palestine and to express our solidarity with them;
- Express support for the upcoming global anti-apartheid conference on Palestine to be held in Tshwane in November 2023.

### **ON PILGRIMAGES TO PALESTINE AND ISRAEL**

1. Whereas:

- the definition of Israel as an apartheid State has become more widely used, including by the National Executive of the South African Council of Churches;
- the Archbishop's Lent Course 2023 on The Bible and the Land Called Holy helped significantly in raising awareness in ACSA about the plight of the Palestinians and that there was a strong interest expressed in continuing this focus;
- One of the possible actions emanating from this course is to promote solidarity visits to Israel-Palestine;

2. PSC Recognises that:

- In the Provincial Synod Resolution of 2019 "Many Christian pilgrim-

ages to the current state of Israel often ignore the Christians living in Palestine";

b. Visits to the Christians of Palestine to hear their stories are often not on the programme of these pilgrimages and, furthermore, the word "Palestine" is never or hardly ever used in the marketing material or in the preparation for the pilgrimage;

c. The military occupation of Palestine is hardly ever talked about or discussed in these pilgrimages and the similarities to apartheid South Africa seldom discussed.

3. Affirming that:

In respect of Christian pilgrimages to the Holy Land it is desirable to:

- include an interfaith (or at the very least "Abrahamic") component and a discussion regarding the current situation of Christians in the Holy Land;
- have an Anglican priest (or one approved by ACSA) as chaplain to accompany the group of pilgrims (which may be comprised of both Anglicans and Christians of various denominations);
- include meetings with Palestinian Christians if possible, including visits to their homes;
- includes meetings with The Bishop of Jerusalem or senior clergy in Palestine and Israel whenever possible; and
- visits all the sites of the most important parts of the life of Jesus (his birth at Bethlehem, his baptism in the River Jordan, his first sermon at Capernaum, the last Supper, his crucifixion, resurrection and ascension sites).

4. Resolves to:

Adopt the principle of ACSA-approved Pilgrimages to the Holy Land;

- respectfully request the Archbishop to inform the Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East about this resolution
- encourage that the first ACSA-approved pilgrimage takes place around Pentecost 2024 and to advertise the same on the ACSA website.

**Distinctive and Permanent Diaconate:** <https://anglicanchurchsa.org/report-on-the-distinctive-and-permanent-diaconate-2023/>

**The Synod of Bishops Communique:** <https://anglicanchurchsa.org/communique-from-the-synod-of-bishops-september-2023/>

### **A Christian Prayer for Palestine and Israel** Issued by the Anglican Church of Southern Africa



O God of love,  
As hatred once again reveals itself amongst people in your Holy Land,  
And as great evil gives rise to even more evil;  
We have seen how warnings from those who love Palestine and Israel  
have been ignored and how impunity has grown;  
We have seen peoples' humanity denied; and  
We have seen children, women and men living in fear.

We now turn to you.

You alone can turn this tide,  
Turn us all from wicked ways, hatred and revenge.

God of the possible,  
Grant the people of Palestine and Israel that which seems impossible:  
Wise leadership,  
Gentle hearts, and  
A new beloved community, embodying  
love, truth, justice, peace, forgiveness and reconciliation.

After the many crucifixions in our time,  
Hold your hope before our eyes, O Lord.

Wipe away every tear, and  
Give us all a new and brighter vision of your kingdom, your new  
Jerusalem,  
Where the lion and the lamb lie down together, and  
Where you live and reign  
One God, forever and ever.

Amen

## Solidarity Vigil at St George's Cathedral



A silent vigil was held on 11th October 2023.

In a statement, Bishop Joshua Louw encouraged parishes to do the following:

\* dedicate the noonday Angelus prayers and to pray for a justice-based peace for the people of Israel and Palestine.

\* Ring the angelus bells from 11th October and for the next four to five Wednesdays.



## AYF Spring breakfast



On Saturday, 30 of September 2023 the Anglican Youth Fellowship from St Cyprian's Langa hosted a Spring Breakfast at Ekasi Eatery. It was a great event organised by young people.

This was to live out our objectives



of building a holistic life & empowering young people on various aspects of life such as building careers in the modern day, managing finances as adult, mental health awareness, navigating relationships and using Christian lessons to build a holistic life.

The Anglican Youth Fellowship saw the need to host this event because they saw a gap and they wanted to give the new generation knowledge on how to live a healthy balanced lifestyle.

The theme was The Adulting Toolkit, because life on its own has challenges. "The Adulting Toolkit" was just a summary of all the different topics the breakfast touched on. The topics such as

Mental Health, Financial Wellbeing, Relationships, Career Portfolio and Unlocking Faith.

The Spring breakfast was more than just a breakfast, it was educational. It was a fruitful event especially for the knowledge seekers. At the beginning of the event, we were graced with a poem by Lutho Ngedle setting the tone to our beautiful event.

Miss Bangani said "I have learned a lot, I can not believe the fact that I have been wasting money and misusing it, where as I could have saved it." This shows that the breakfast has opened some people's lives on what to do and what not to.

Mrs Lubelwana also touched on how it is important to take care of yourself and how to pour from a full cup. "It is important for teens to do job shadowing, so that when they get to University they know what they want to study", said Miss Kay Monqo.

The breakfast was graced by the presence of Mr Lubelwana (AYF mentor), Kay Monqo (Career Portfolio), Buhle Lindwa (Unlocking Faith), Mrs Lubelwana (Mental Health), Mr Dylan Dean ( Financial Wellbeing) and Mrs Shasha ( Relationships).



It was such a lovely experience to receive the guests (friends and families). The youth that took part in the Spring breakfast was inspired to make better choices, to fill the gap between and to have a relationship with the Lord.

**# Bright Light, Bright Future**  
- Cinga Ntsume

## St Michael and All Angels Obervatory ministry to the community

There is a weekly / biweekly ministry to the community in various forms: **Youth Solutions Africa:** this is run by JP (a reformed alcoholic) and includes a pre-school "ministry" to school children, who would otherwise go to school without food.

**The Pasta Kitchen:** a weekly ministry to the homeless of Observatory. The church hall is the venue for this outreach. **Loaves and Fishes:** a charitable organization which receives regular food parcels. **Pat's Place:** named after the late Pat Ellis who had brought together a superb collection of antique clothes, books and memorabilia in a Vintage Weekend. A small shop in the hall was built to sell Pat's and other donations. The shop opens between Masses on Sundays 9-12 to the public.



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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