GEODOGHOODER THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN - ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



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YPM Celebration Service 2023 Different Parts Together as One Body



Our annual Young Peoples' Ministry Service took place on Saturday 3rd September 2023 at St George's Silvertown.

The theme for the service was Different Parts Together as One Body. The concept of different parts coming together as one body is a fundamental theme rooted in the scriptures. In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul frequently used the metaphor of the body to describe the unity and diversity within the Church.

This metaphor reminds us that, as Christians, we are called to work together harmoniously, utilising our unique gifts and talents to serve a common purpose: glorifying God and advancing God's kingdom on Earth.

Bishop Joshua Louw, encouraged the young people in his homily that ,though we may belong to different guilds or organisations, we are all called to this common purpose. He also encouraged the young people to get involved in leadership structures and to avail themselves to be elected at vestries to serve as Diocesan Synod Representatives. It was good to gather as young people in our diocese and celebrate our diversity in worship and our unity in the Spirit.

We admitted Lyle Papier as a Young Peoples' Ministry Councillor for the Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary. We thank God for his willingness to serve in this capacity and wish Lyle every blessing.

We also had to opportunity to ask Bishop Joshua questions about his ministry over the years and he shared about how he was involved in Young Peoples' Ministry before being ordained.

Thank you to St George's Silvertown for hosting us and to all the young



people who attended the service!

In a world often divided by differences, our faith stands as a testament to the power of unity in diversity. As believers, we are called to recognize and celebrate the unique gifts and talents that each member brings to the body of Christ.



Together, as different parts of the same body, we find our strength, purpose and identity in Jesus Christ. Let us strive to live out our call of unity, embracing our diversity and working together to fulfil the mission entrusted to us by our Lord and Saviour.

- Jesse Pastor Photographer: K Abrahamse

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CLASSIFIEDS

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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



SAFE SPACE

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

violence

o Increase economic opportunities

All Saints Plumstead Market Saturday 2 December 2023 12 noon-Spm Calling all crafters Want to have a stall (R100) at our market? Contact the office to book your Spot now! 021797 4176 office@allsaintsplumstead.org.za



EDITORIAL

As my family and I remember my mom in her 3rd year's mind this month, I reflect on her favourite bible verse -*Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*"

My mom held on to these words and remained faithful when faced with adversity. She understood what the Apostle Paul meant when he wrote this letter.

This verse does not guarantee that everything will work out for you. The reverse is true. In the middle of your difficulties and challenges, it provides hope. We need that reminder!

Even though we will have difficulties, Christ, who gives us strength, will enable us to overcome them. Even on our darkest days, we can experience joy and contentment.

With spring upon us, may the season of resilience help you to find peace and happiness as a follower of Christ.

Love and Light, Rebecca

Events and Notices

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

StAndrew'sSteenbergMarketDay: willtakeplaceon 30thSeptember2023from09h00-14h00.

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.

St Aidan's Lansdowne Old School Denim Dance: Tickets are available from the parish office 021 6961500 Monday to Friday 08h45-13h00 or the Events Group member at 0824926581.

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



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From the Bishop's Desk

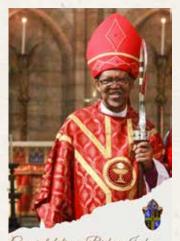
Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over

the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth[b] and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So, God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them male and female; he created them. (Gen.1:26-27)

Dear Friends, Greetings to you!

On 1 September, I celebrated my 3rd anniversary as a bishop in the church of God. Thank you for your prayers and support as we navigated ministry during a very challenging time.



Congrahulations, Bishop Joshua on the 3rd anniversary of your consecration and installation as the Bishop of Table Bay

This month, the church celebrates several saints, including Robert Gray, the first bishop of

our diocese; Cyprian, the bishop in North Africa; and Steve Bantu Biko, a martyr who fought for the liberation of all people in South Africa.

This month, our province celebrates the lives and ministries of all children and young people. It is also the start of our Season of Creation.

We are all made in God's image and need to treat each other with the respect and dignity that we want to receive. We have to protect those whose dignity is being trampled upon.

In one of my previous articles, I mentioned that our ministry with our children and young people was worst affected during the COV-ID-19 pandemic. I then appealed to you to assist in restoring those ministries. It was important that everybody, especially the young, feel a sense of belonging in our congregation. I want to thank you because as I go around the diocese and speak to the clergy and young people, I sense that they are back and actively involved in the life of the church. Congratulations, and may we grow these ministries.

We had a wonderful diocesan YPM service on Sunday, 3 September, at St George's, Silvertown and though it was cold and rainy, it did not keep our young people away from this annual Thanksgiving Service.

Thank you to all who attended, and we see you again next year! Thanks also to Jesse and the rest of the diocesan YPM council for the sterling work that they are doing in the diocese.

God is asking us to care for our creation. We are experiencing extraordinary weather conditions, and we are responsible for caring for our creation. Let us each play our part, as many of our communities have become dumping spaces. We can start with as little as caring for plants in our living areas and churches, helping clean our streets, and using environmentally friendly items.



I am sure that your green team in your parish will be able to assist you in more practical ways.

Please pray for the appointment of **Revd Miseka Mapukata** as she has been appointed rector of the parish of Hout Bay. Her institution is on Sunday, 26 November 2023, at 3 pm.

Pray for **Bishop Geoff and Kate Davies**, who arrived safely on Tristan Da Cunha for the confirmation service of 8 candidates on Sunday, 24 September 2023. We hold the rector,

Reverend Margaret Van der Berg, her husband Manie, the island administrator, churchwardens and the people on the island in our prayers.

Our sincere condolences to the **Revd Anthony and Vanessa** as they mourn the passing of Vanessa's father, William Smith.

To **Revd John and Jilly Freeth** as they mourn the passing of their son, Timo.

As we move forward, may we hold each other in prayer as we face our daily challenges.

God bless! +Joshua, Table Bay



The Revd Joshua Abrahams was licensed and instituted as rector of St Peter's Mowbray on 7th September 2023 by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba.



The Revd Edwin Pockpass was consecrated and installed as the 9th bishop of the Diocese of George on 17th September 2023.

All Saints Lansdowne celebrates 115 years



Far left: The Revd Patrick Peters took the congregation down memory lane. He shared all the wonderful stories and struggles of how All Saints Lansdowne has grown over the years.

Middle photo: Mr Baron, our organist.

Right: One of the older parishioners in our congregation, Mrs McLeod.

All glory to God!

- Fazlin Van Dayar

2023 - THE YEAR OF THE TREE

Season of Trees

We are currently in the season of Trees, and the following article will provide insight on which tree does not belong in Cape Town and which tree would be great for planting. So dive in, grasp the information and do not be afraid of getting your hands dirty.

An example of an invasive plant in Cape Town

Acacia saligna, also known as the Port Jackson willow, is seen as a weed and an alien species in the Cape and many countries too. This species is a member of the Fabaceae family (the legume, pea, and bean family). The name subgenus Acacia applies to the 'Australian group' in which the Acacia saligna is native to Australia.

This species is a woody, perennial plant (a plant that persists for several years) that can be identified by having a single vein in the leaf stalk and yellow flowers that are arranged in globular heads. It is a fast-growing, drought-tolerant large shrub and is tolerant of calcareous, alkaline, and saline soils in temperate climates while it can be used for fuelwood, sand stabilization and as a windbreak— most commonly used as an ornamental in Australia.

The species have received a very high risk score of 17, where any score of 6 or higher indicates that the species poses a high risk of becoming a serious pest and it has also been listed in the Global Compendium of Weeds as a garden thug. Further research is needed to assess the extent of Acacia's invasiveness in introduced places, damage to native biodiversity and methods of control and prevention.



An example of a tree to plant in Cape Town The Dovyalis caffra or more commonly known as the Kei Apple, is a

small native tree perfect for small gardens, only growing to about 3-5 meters tall. These trees are related to Wild Apricots and to Common Sour Berries, which are quite important sources of income for some small communities.

This evergreen plant (a plant that retains its leaves through the year) is able to grow in drought and in frosty conditions, while remaining as colourful as ever with its oval and shiny dark-green leaves. It has a moderate growth rate and needs little hedge maintenance but be cautious as this tree has thorns. It blooms very aesthetic creamy green flowers in November through to December and also produces yellow-orange fruit that are delicious when eaten raw or made into a jam. As stated before, it can be used as a food supply and can also be used as fodder (bulk feed for livestock).



One of the plants more abstract aspects is as a reminder of us as South Africans, beautiful as our land is, we are just as tough as this amazing tree that grows here.

- Ryan Buttress St George's Silvertown

Mother's Union marches to Langa police station to stand up for the protection of children and GBV







On the 26 August 2023, the Mothers' Union Diocese of Cape Town embarked on a march to Langa Police Station to hand over a memorandum to the authorities in the fight for Protection of Children and GBV.

This is in line with the MU Objective 4: "To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children."

The memorandum was handed over by the MU President Mrs Zandile Mcutshenge and supported by the MU Chaplain Revd Christine de Stadler and Revd Siyabulela Tshatshu, the Priest-in-Charge at St Cyprian's Langa.

It was received by Col. S Dulungana who informed us that we have made history as we are the first faith based organization to hand over a petition at Langa Police Station.

- Lindelwa Nomandla

Church Lads and Girls Brigade workshop at Braehead

On 9th September, Bishop Joshua Louw hosted the Church Lads and Girls Brigade (CLGB) workshop at the Diocesan office. The workshop focused on visioning the way forward for the CLGB. Bishop Joshua was assisted by our YPM Coordinator Jesse Pastor. We're excited for what is to come! - **Revd Ronald Dias**



2023 deadline guides

October: 12th October / communicated Friday 20th October November: 9th November / communicated Friday 17th November December: 7th December / communicated Friday 15th December

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Ad Laos to the people of God

Archbishop Thabo's ministry since his last letter to the Diocese has included a Walk of Witness with other church

leaders at the scene of the fire which killed more than 75 people in Johannesburg, preaching at a memorial service for Steve Biko in the Diocese of Grahamstown, preaching at the Requiem Mass for Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi in the Diocese of Zululand, and appealing at the United Nations for stepped-up efforts to combat HIV and Aids among children.

This month we bring you excerpts from his interventions on the relevant public policy issues. – **Editor**

From a sermon at an Anglican schools confirmation service in Cape Town: One of the challenges that I hope you will take up is to help to turn our country around from the path on which we are headed at present. [W]e have achieved much in the last 30 years, in housing, in health and in education. Like Moses and the children of Israel, we have escaped the bondage of Egypt.

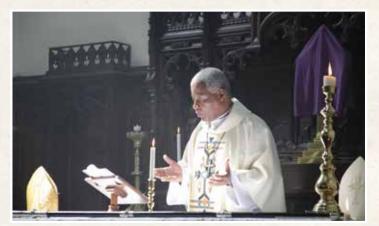
But now, when we look around us and see the quality of governance in too many parts of our country, I have to ask: are we now, like Moses and the children of Israel, condemned to wander in the wilderness for 40 years? Just think of recent events in Johannesburg as an example of the rot that has infested parts of our beloved country...

From the sermon at the Steve Biko memorial service at

St Andrew's, Ginsberg: Shining through [Steve Biko's] philosophy is the objective of inculcating in black people a pride in who they are with a view to fighting their exploitation by their overlords, winning back their dignity and establishing the economic conditions in which, to quote the Johannine Jesus, all "may have life and have it in abundance." (John 10:10) It is in our failure to live up to this challenge that we have failed Bantu Stephen Biko and his legacy most spectacularly.

Implicit in his philosophy is the requirement that the democraticallyelected leaders of a liberated South Africa should rule in the interests of all the people, not a self-selected elite; that they should lead with integrity and with caring for others, especially the poorest of the poor; that they should be good stewards of the people's resources and neither waste nor steal the people's money, gathered and held in trust by the State.

From the homily preached at the funeral of Prince Buthelezi, whose clan name was Shenge: The tomb, despite its reputation for finality, cannot hold captive us or those we love. Life is changed not ended. And so Shenge will not be dead in the greater sense, he will



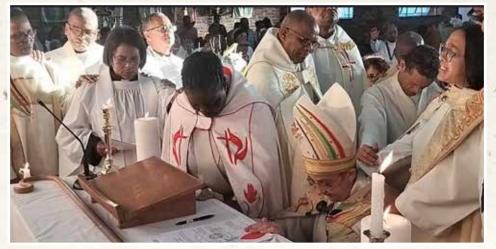
continue to live every time we confront tombs that diminish peace or possibilities or potential, every time we stand up against hunger and corruption and theft from the poor...

Every time we stand resolutely against the scourge of violence against women and children and the reign of gangsterism in so many townships, we will have rolled the stone away and allowed hope to fill the air, allowed dreams to be realised and the dead to be honoured. We will remember Shenge best, we will honour him most sincerely if we roll stones away, if we give time to reflecting on how his life challenges us to be more humane.

From a keynote address to a UNAIDS event at the opening of the General Assembly in New York: We still have to address desperate needs, especially of the children who are infected or at risk. Right now, the main focus in relations between the world's most powerful nations on the one hand, and the countries of Africa on the other, is on that which is negative: on military interventions or on the economic exploitation of our raw materials. But you in the Global North can turn this around.

Let me put the challenge this way: if the economic powers of the world wish to improve their image in Africa, they could do no better than boosting their aid in the health arena. Specifically, the United States should reauthorize PEPFAR [the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief] and their European and Asian counterparts in the G20 group should follow their example.

God bless you ++Thabo Cape Town



Bishop Margaret Vertue retires

The Diocese of False Bay held a Thanksgiving service on 26th August 2023 in celebration of Bishop Margaret's Episcopal ministry. The Very Revd Ronald Phillips was licensed as the Vicar General of the diocese until the Elective Assembly for a new bishop of False Bay takes place.

Joint schools confirmation with Herschel, St Cyprians and **Bishops**

On 3rd of September 2023, three Anglican schools had a joint confirmation service. The Celebrant and Preacher was

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba. It was a moving service indeed as we celebrated the candidates commitment to Christ and received inner strength from his Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands. Please pray for the candidates as they begin this new part of their journey and life in Christ.

"It is in times like this in the lives of our community and our country that our destiny is shaped. Destiny is a matter of choice, not of chance. And so I appeal to you as you embrace Jesus' call to his disciples, to allow Jesus to shape you and form you in accordance to his will for your lives" - Archbishop Makgoba. Thank you to the staff at Herschel and our grade 11 helpers for making this ceremony a solemn and spiritually uplifting morning.

- the Revd Lorna Lavarello Smith





The Power of Compassion in Education It's often said that Jesus Christ displayed compassion and was a model teacher in his teachings and interactions with others. This

reflects a widely held belief about Jesus' character and teachings as described in the New Testament of the Bible. This concept is central to Christian theology and understanding of Jesus' mission on Earth.

Education is more than the mere production of knowledge; it is the cultivation of the human spirit and the development of well-rounded individuals. In this pursuit, compassion emerges as a powerful force that can transform the educational landscape and foster a generation of empathetic, responsible and resilient young people. The integration of compassion into education not only enhances academic learning but also shapes character, relationships and societal contributions.

Compassion, often defined as the ability to understand and alleviate the suffering of others, holds a special place in the educational environment. It goes beyond empathy, encouraging individuals to take action to alleviate suffering and promote the well-being of others. In the context of education, compassion is not just an abstract concept, it is a tool that teachers can use to create a nurturing and inclusive atmosphere in the classroom that supports both personal and academic growth.

At its very core, compassion in education starts with the teachers themselves. Teachers who approach their work with compassion create a safe and supportive space where learners feel valued and understood. When learners are seen as unique individuals with their own challenges and strengths, the learning experience becomes more personalized and meaningful.

The benefits of integrating compassion into education extend beyond the classroom. When learners are taught the value of compassion, they learn to appreciate diverse perspectives, acknowledge the struggles of others and develop a sense of responsibility toward their communities. Compassionate individuals are more likely to engage in acts of service and demonstrate kindness, ultimately contributing to a more harmonious and involved society.

Moreover, compassion in education nurtures emotional intelligence, a crucial skill in today's world. Emotional intelligence, encompassing selfawareness, self-regulation, empathy and interpersonal skills, enables individuals to navigate complex social interactions and manage their emotions effectively. By promoting compassion, teachers empower learners to develop emotional intelligence, which not only enhances their academic performance but also equips them with vital life skills. In Conclusion:

In the grand tapestry of education, compassion should never be underestimated. While maintaining academic standards is crucial, there is immense value in recognizing the human element of the learning and teaching process.

The power of compassion in education is undeniable. It elevates education from a transactional exchange of information to a transformative journey that shapes not only the minds but also the hearts of learners. By embracing compassion, education becomes a force that not only imparts knowledge but also cultivates empathy, understanding and the capacity to create a more compassionate society.

Throughout the New Testament, there are numerous instances where Jesus is depicted as showing compassion and empathy towards various individuals and groups. He frequently healed the sick, comforted the suffering and extended kindness to those who were marginalized or cast out. His willingness to associate with and care for those who were considered societal outcasts, such as tax collectors, prostitutes, and the poor, is often cited as evidence of His compassionate nature.

- Walter J Mercuur Anglican Board of Education (WC) Page 7

Puppetry Workshop for Sunday School Teachers



St Michael & All Angels – Observatory, hosted a puppetry workshop for Sunday School teachers of the Diocese of Cape Town on the 19 August 2023.

This was the third teacher training workshophosted by this parish, who collectively pulled together to make this workshop an overwhelming success.

Building up to the workshop, this parish was abuzz with an," I want to get involved," in this puppet workshop vibe.

Some parishioners donated buttons, scraps of material, old pieces of lace, left over wool, glitter, old fur collars and whatever else they thought was needed to bring a puppet character to life. Others contributed their sound equipment and bottled water while still others made monetary contributions, which went towards the social responsibility component of this workshop.

Children's church leaders from sixteen parishes registered for this workshop, eight of these were selected by the diocese of Cape Town.

But why the hype around puppets, and why use puppetry in children's ministry?

Puppets with their non-threatening and funloving demeanor, can get away with saying things that we can't. They can be simple and funny and still deliver a message that speaks directly to the heart. Puppet ministry is an incredible way to connect with people of all ages and share the good news in a creative, engaging and memorable way.

On the day of the workshop, the training venue was transformed into a puppet paradise.

Puppets popped out from everywhere. The

program for the day was fun filled, interactive, very creative and hands on.

Children's church leaders faced the morning challenge of naming and creating a unique character for their puppet.

There was so much laughter as some very funny voices and personalities came out of this session.

The afternoon challenge was even more challenging where the puppets had to put on their first performance. Teachers faced the challenge of bringing their puppets to life and both Sunday School teachers and puppets were all amazing.

For many of the Sunday School teachers present, this was their very first time at making, practicing and performing with a puppet.

There will be many happy Sunday School children in parishes across the diocese, when they get to meet their new mentor, confidant, teacher and friend. -Jacqueline Zils





Winter Woolies donations

Church of the Holy Nativity Hazendal wishes to thank their parishioners for their generous donations of wool. The knitted items on the left were sent to Tygerberg Hospital, Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital and Christine Revell Children's Home. "I would like to acknowledge everyone for opening their hearts and using their God-given talent and skills in creating these beautiful wool garments."- **Bertha Osman**

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

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