

THE Good Hope

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



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Youth Dialogue reflects on the legacy of 16 June 1976

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Soweto Uprising of 16 June 1976, a dialogue was held with young people from our diocese at the parish of St George the Martyr, Silvertown, to identify key challenges facing young people today.

The aim was to listen, understand and discern how the church can respond with hope and practical support.

Key challenges identified by youth and discussed were unemployment and economic hardship – noting that many young people, some with tertiary qualifications, remain unemployed. Youth expressed their desire for skills training and support for small business initiatives.

The groups discussed how mental health and emotional wellbeing affects young people and what practical ways we can arrive at to support each other.

Youth cited pressure to succeed, social media comparison, together

family expectations as primary contributors to mental health and emotional wellbeing. They noted that there remains stigma around seeking help and that there is still limited access to affordable counselling.

We also engaged with the scourge of gender-based violence as a key contributor to tearing down communities and homes.

In the end, our time together may have not solved all the issues that we engaged with but we take home the conversation and request that more space is created for us to continue engaging with all that we face.

The 1976 youth stood for dignity and a future they could shape. Today's youth carry the same desire.

As a church, we have opportunity to walk with them - listening first, then serving with practical love and Christ-centred hope.

- Siphe Nyhaba



Events and Notices

Trinity Vestments: full range of custom made clerical wear and church paraments: Chasubles and stole set (over 700 decorative designs to choose from). Locally and beautifully made, reasonably priced. Contact Kathy Oakley | at Trinity Vestments | 082 785 4851 | Kathy kathyas-oakley@gmail.com



★★★★★

HOLIDAY CLUB

6-10 JULY 8AM-12PM GR R-7 AGES 6-13

CASTS IN THE KINGDOM

Emmanuel Anglican Church 60 Ottery Road, Wynberg



st Andrew's Church Presents

A Night in Paris

Rector's Dinner

Friday, July 24th
6:30 PM

Zwaanswyk Academy Hall

Dress Code: Elegant, with a touch of red

Cost: R400



R120pp 31 July 2026

St Faiths Presents

Old School Party

with DJ Mark Grainger

Portia Primary School
1 Holmes Rd, Lansdowne

Bring your own Refreshments and Platters
TABLES ARE NOT RESERVED

1800 - 23130

Ticket Sales Contact: Rene Henry 082 823 3968 or Rene's Pastor: 083 873 4725

EDITORIAL

As I prepared this edition of *Good Hope*, I was struck by a common thread running through many of the stories we share this month: the enduring power of faithfulness.

We celebrate the remarkable 68-year marriage of Mr and Mrs Lategan, whose lives remind us that love is a lifelong commitment lived out through joy and hardship, faith and perseverance. We also remember with gratitude the life of John Ramsdale, whose decades of service to the Church and whose kindness to generations of people left an indelible mark on our Diocese.

We reflect too on the ministry and witness of those who continue to serve God's people in countless ways, often quietly and without recognition. Whether through long marriages, faithful ministry, community outreach, or acts of simple kindness, these stories remind us that it is the steady, faithful presence of ordinary people that strengthens the life of the Church.

Love and Light
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Vacancy For Verger

Christ Church Constantia is looking for a dedicated and reliable Verger to join our team. The Verger plays a vital part in the life of our church, ensuring that worship is conducted with dignity and order. This position could be for a Verger or a Verger/Maintenance (Handyman) person and would be dependent on the quality of applications received.

Key responsibilities are preparing the church for services, acting as Verger during worship and the opening, closing and general security of the church building and grounds. The applicant should also be a person who can extend a warm and professional welcome to any visitors. You should also be physically fit and able to lift furniture, climb stairs, be in possession of excellent organisational skills and be a team player, who can relate well to clergy, staff and volunteers.

The job entails long hours – early mornings and weekend work. Salary structure/on the premises lodging will be discussed at the interview.

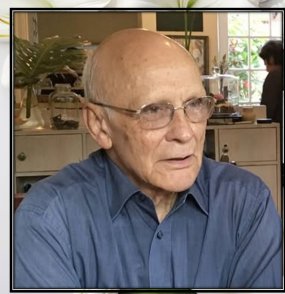
To find out more, please email parish@cchconst.org.za to request a job description.

Funeral Notice

Gerald Hendricks, osc
24 July 1937 - 05 June 2026

Friday 26 June 2026
Service at 10h00

St Mark's Anglican Church
Athlone
Cnr of Bamford Ave & Church Street,
Athlone





Dear Friends,

"Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown

hospitality to angels without knowing it. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." Hebrews 13:1-3

The month of June is filled with occasions of both celebration and remembrance. Among them are:

- **29 May – 5 June:** National Child Protection Week – Protecting and valuing children.
- **5 June:** World Environment Day – Caring for God's creation.
- **15 June:** World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – Honouring and protecting the elderly.
- **16 June:** National Youth Day – Encouraging and empowering our young people.
- **20 June:** World Refugee Day – Welcoming and caring for strangers.
- **21 June:** Father's Day.
- **26 June:** International Day Against Drug Abuse – Choosing life, health and wholeness.

Often it is only when we are asked to commemorate or celebrate a particular cause that we pause to recognise its significance and the impact it has on our communities.

As winter sets in with its cold and wet weather, the struggles of those who are homeless, elderly or ill become even more evident. I give thanks to all our churches that faithfully operate soup kitchens and food banks, offering practical care to those in need. This is also an opportunity to observe Jolly Jersey and Elder Awareness Sunday, reminding us to stay connected with our elderly neighbours and parishioners so that none experience loneliness or neglect. We must also continue to raise our voices in support of affordable housing for those who are homeless or living in overcrowded conditions.

The wellbeing of our children must remain a priority. We should do everything within our power to ensure that they are safe, protected from harm, and know that they are loved, valued and included.

On 16 June, South Africa marked the 50th an-

From the Bishop's Desk



niversary of the Soweto Uprising, when students courageously protested against Bantu Education. Their actions spread across the country, inspiring widespread resistance that ultimately paved the way for our first democratic elections in 1994. I would like to thank the Diocesan Young People's Ministry for holding a dialogue on Youth Day. They reflected not only on the struggles of the past but also on the challenges facing young people today, while seeking meaningful responses to those challenges. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Someone wisely observed that while adults often want young people to understand the journey that led to our freedom in 1994, it is equally important that we listen to the realities and struggles they face today. I encourage every congregation to foster intergenerational conversations so that we may truly live as one family, supporting one another and recognising that no one is more important than another. *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."* (Hebrews 13:2). These words are especially relevant as we witness increasing xenophobic actions across our country. It is deeply troubling to see South Africans turning against fellow Africans, accusing them of being in the country illegally, engaging in crime, or taking away opportunities. While there are legitimate concerns about immigration, we know that sweeping accusations are often untrue and that vulnerable people are frequently used as scapegoats.

Our frustration should be directed towards those responsible for addressing these challenges, while we continue to extend Christian hospitality and compassion. I urge us all to welcome and support our African brothers and sisters, many of whom worship alongside us in our own parishes. Around 30 June, when protests are anticipated, I encourage churches to be places of refuge and protection where possible. Please support affected parishioners or connect with organisations assisting those who are displaced or in need.

As we celebrated Father's Day, we gave thanks for fathers and all those who faithfully fulfil fathering roles in our families and communities. The men's ministries within our parishes have an important role to play in nurturing faith and supporting families. I invite representatives of all men's fellowships to meet with me on **Saturday, 4 July 2026, at 09h30**. For further information, please contact Brigitte.

Please also keep the **Revds Ryan Baatjies and Sithembiso Mbuqe** in your prayers as they are ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, **27 June, at 10h30 at St George's Cathedral, Cape Town**. Parking will be available at Cape Town High School, with a shuttle service provided for those who require assistance.

Our first IEC voter registration weekend has now passed, and I trust that many of you have already registered for the upcoming local government elections in November. If not, you may still register online. Let us value the democracy that so many sacrificed to achieve by exercising our responsibility to vote. Together we can help shape a better future by electing leaders who will serve our communities faithfully and ensure that citizens receive the services they deserve.

Finally, I ask that you keep our upcoming Diocesan Synod in your prayers—especially our Archbishop, who will preside, those working tirelessly behind the scenes, and all parish and organisational representatives who will attend. May the Holy Spirit guide every conversation and decision as we seek God's will for our Diocese. As we continue our journey together, let us remember that in God's household there are no strangers. May we love one another as Christ has loved us.

God bless. +Joshua Table Bay



7th June 2026: The Right Revd Joshua Louw presided over the institution of the Revd Canon Shaun Cozett, as Rector-in-Plurality during the Service of Twinning of the Church of St Paul and the Church of the Ascension, celebrating a new chapter of shared ministry.



The Journey to Synod 2026 Begins

As we move steadily towards the opening of the Diocesan Synod, a sense of expectation is growing across our Diocese. In every parish, archdeaconry, ministry, and organisation, delegates and observers alike are preparing to gather for what promises to be an important and significant meeting of the Church.

Synod is far more than a formal assembly. It is where prayer, discernment, vision, and governance meet. It is where the Diocese pauses to listen carefully for God's direction, reflects honestly on its present realities, and seeks faithfully to shape its future witness and ministry.

This year's agenda reflects both the opportunities and challenges before us. Members can expect thoughtful debate, careful consideration of proposed Measures and motions, reports on the life and mission of the Diocese, and opportunities to engage with matters that will influence our common life for years to come.

Behind the scenes, considerable preparation has been taking place. Committees have met, reports have been compiled, draft Measures have been scrutinised, and countless hours have been devoted to ensuring that Synod is equipped to undertake its work effectively and prayerfully.

Yet perhaps the most exciting aspect of any Synod is that its most significant moments cannot be scripted in advance. What questions will emerge? Which conversations will capture the imagination of the house? What new insights will arise through debate and discernment? Where might the Holy Spirit lead us beyond our expectations?

In the coming days, delegates will receive final documentation and logistical information. We encourage every member to engage carefully with the material, pray for wisdom and guidance, and arrive ready to participate fully in the life and work of Synod.

For those who may not be attending in person, we invite you to journey with us in prayer. The work of Synod belongs to the whole Diocese, and its outcomes will shape our shared mission, ministry, and witness.

As anticipation builds, we look forward to gathering as one Diocese, united in faith and purpose, committed to discerning God's will for the future.

The conversations have not yet begun, the debates have not yet been held, and the decisions have not yet been made—but the journey towards Synod is already revealing the vitality, commitment, and hope that characterise our diocesan family.

We look forward to welcoming you to Synod 2026.

- Wayne Jones Synod Manager

Exploring a Call to Serve: Distinctive Diaconate Open Day

St Aidan's Hall was quietly alive with curiosity as people gathered for the Open Day on the Distinctive Diaconate Ministry on Saturday, 13 June 2026. Some came exploring a call they could not yet name, while others simply wished to learn more about a ministry that is often hidden in plain sight.

What unfolded was more than an information session; it became an invitation to see the Church, and one's place within it, differently.

Rooted in the life of the early Church, the permanent diaconate calls men and women into a ministry of service at the intersection of worship and daily life. Deacons are not simply assistants to priests; they are ministers of the Gospel in the world, bridging the altar and the streets, the sacred and the ordinary.

Through testimonies shared by Revd Neil Murray and Revd Glynis Rhodes, an opening address by Bishop Joshua Louw and a presentation outlining the discernment and formation process by Revd Chesnay Frantz, participants gained a deeper understanding of the Distinctive Diaconate and the work of the Guild of St Monica.

Honest conversations throughout the day revealed both the depth and beauty of the Distinctive Diaconate Ministry within the Diocese of Cape Town.

Participants heard how deacons proclaim



the Gospel, serve the poor, accompany those who are struggling, and continually remind the Church of its outward mission. There was a striking humility in the stories shared—no grand claims, only a quiet conviction that God continues to call ordinary people into extraordinary service.

Perhaps the most powerful moment came with the realisation that vocation is not about status, position, or recognition, but about response. A simple yet profound question lingered in the room: Where is God calling me to live out my baptismal vows through service?

As the day drew to a close, it was clear that

something had shifted. Seeds of discernment, courage, and hope had been planted. The Distinctive Diaconate emerged not only as a ministry to be understood, but as a calling to be prayerfully considered.

We look forward to sharing more about the work and witness of the Guild of St Monica in the months ahead.

- Revd Kevin David

Reflections from a few attendees:

"I was struck by three things at the Fellowship of St Monica Open Day. Firstly, the warm hospitality of St Aidan's church. Those serving, welcomed us with a generous supply of hot drinks, soup and snacks. This was so appreciated on a winter's day.

Secondly, I appreciated the pastoral style of each of the presenters. They put God and His call on each of our lives at the centre of their talks. Their servant hearts shone through. Lastly, the decision to apply should not be taken lightly!

We will be stretched in every way, but with the assurance of a well-considered, organised and supportive programme."

- Yvonne Kane, Christ Church Kenilworth

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Guild of St Monica Open Day from page 4: "What an honour it was to be invited to the Open Day arranged help us to understand what the Fellowship of St Monica really is all about. To be able to be an extension of the Bishop and Priest respectfully, by assisting with the works and doing of the church and community. The fellowship is all about service to the church: House visits, attending meetings and caring for those that are in need. This is also a calling, to assert oneself to serve... Discernment "Proclaiming, teaching and preaching of the Gospel is the order of the day."

- Denver Paiyo, Church of the Reconciliation Manenberg

"The session was very informative and educational, particularly regarding the process of discernment for both the Distinctive Diaconate and the Transitional Diaconate. It helped many of us to understand that discernment is not about passing or failing, but rather about discovering God's calling for our lives, which may differ from what we initially believe it to be. We were reminded that the Church values the many gifts and skills that its members possess and is eager to make use of them in service of God's mission. We were encouraged not to focus on personal aspirations within the Church, but instead to cultivate a spirit of service and prayer, asking God to open our spiritual eyes and ears so that we may discern how He is calling us to serve.

We also learnt that anyone may enrol with TEEC, whether or not they are members of the Fellowship of St Monica. Another important lesson was that ordination is not guaranteed. The process of discernment continues throughout the two years of study, helping individuals to discover more clearly where God may be leading them."

- Karabo Moletsane, St Cyprian Langa



"From the Altar into the world"

A recent formation morning for Layministers explored the theme *"From the Altar into the World,"* inviting Layministers to reflect on Layministry not merely as a set of tasks within the Church, but as a way of being in the world yet rooted in the presence of Christ.

The morning was structured around three interconnected movements: Listening, Discerning, and Service. The first session, Listening: Becoming Attentive to God, Self and Others, explored the importance of cultivating a listening heart. In a world often marked by noise, busyness, and distraction, Layministers are called to develop an attentiveness to God's presence, to the movements within their own lives and to the experiences and needs of others. Deep listening was presented not simply as a skill, but as a spiritual practice that creates space for encounter, healing and compassion.

The second session, Discerning: Recognising the Movement of God, focused on the art of noticing where God is already at work. Discernment was described as more than decision-making but rather as a prayerful attentiveness to what brings life, hope, reconciliation and growth. Layministers reflected on how God is often encountered in ordinary moments, unexpected places and even in times of uncertainty and vulnerability.

The final session, Service: Ministry as Presence in the World, emphasised that authentic ministry flows from listening and discernment. Service is not primarily about performing tasks, but about embodying Christ's presence in everyday relationships and contexts. Layministers are uniquely placed to carry the Gospel beyond Church walls into homes, workplaces, communities and places of human need.

Throughout the morning, personal reflection encouraged participants to connect these themes with their own experiences of faith and ministry. The overarching message was that Layministry begins not with what we do, but with who we are becoming: attentive listeners, discerning disciples and faithful witnesses to Christ's presence in the world.

A reflection of the Diocesan Layministers Forum of the Diocese of Cape Town, held at St Saviour's Anglican Church, Claremont on Saturday, 30th May 2026.

- Revd Selwyn Engelbrecht
- Photographer: Jonathon Carelse



John Ramsdale: Keeper of Memories



My connection with John Ramsdale began long before I met him.

In the 1970s, my late mother was a student at Zonnebloem College, training to become a teacher. During one of the annual college productions, *Dick Whittington*, she played the lead role of Dick, while John played his faithful cat. It was one of many cherished memories from her years at Zonnebloem.

Many years later, when I joined the Diocesan staff, I met John.

During a conversation, I mentioned that my mother had once lived in the very room that had become my office, back when it served as a dormitory for Zonnebloem students. Without hesitation, John knew exactly who I was talking about. "Lorraine Donough," he said, recalling my mother's maiden name. Suddenly, memories from decades earlier came flooding back. I was delighted to share this encounter with my mother, who was fascinated that I had met Mr Ramsdale. She was, however, quite appalled that I addressed him as "John" while she still regarded him as "Mr Ramsdale" after all those years.

In time, they were able to meet again and reminisce about the good old days at Zonnebloem. Those conversations brought much joy to both of them. When my mother passed away, John was among the first people to phone me. It was a gesture that spoke volumes about his kindness and thoughtfulness.

Thereafter, we maintained a simple but meaningful tradition: every year on my birthday, John would call me, and I would call him on his. This year, however, I was unable to reach him on his birthday. Looking

back, I wish I had tried again.

On Sunday, 14 June 2026, John Ramsdale passed away peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of faithful service and countless treasured memories.

John's association with the Church stretched back to the 1950s. He served the Diocese of Cape Town with dedication for many decades, beginning in the mid-1960s during the episcopate of Archbishop Robert Selby Taylor. He later joined the staff at Church House in 1995 and retired from the Church in 2002. Yet retirement did not diminish his commitment to service, and he continued for a time as Estate Manager of Zonnebloem before eventually retiring once more.

John's contribution to the life of the Church was recognised through the conferral of the Simon of Cyrene Award, the highest Provincial honour bestowed upon members of the laity. It was a fitting tribute to a man whose dedication, wisdom and unwavering commitment enriched the Church and the communities he served.

Having celebrated his 89th birthday on 23 May this year, John remained a giant of knowledge and a treasured source of insti-

tutional memory. His stories connected generations, his wisdom guided many and his warmth and generosity made people feel valued and remembered.

As we mourn his passing, we also give thanks for a life well lived and a servant whose faithfulness left an indelible mark on the Diocese of Cape Town and the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, together with his many friends, colleagues and fellow parishioners across the Diocese and beyond.

John Ramsdale belonged to a generation that helped shape the Church we know today. Though his voice is now silent, the memories he leaves behind remain vivid in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. His kindness, friendship, wisdom and genuine care for others touched countless lives. Those of us who had the privilege of knowing him will carry his memory with gratitude, cherishing the moments we shared and the lasting impact he had on our lives.

A Requiem Mass will be held on 27th June 2026, 3pm at St Michael and All Angels, Observatory.
- Rebecca Malambo

ACSA wishes to extend our sincere condolences to Abdullah Ibrahim



The Anglican Church of Southern Africa wishes to extend our sincere condolences to Abdullah Ibrahim's family, to the die-hard jazz-loving fraternity and to all in our nation who mourn his loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

His family and all who loved him have lost a loved one, who has now been called to a higher service to join his late wife and mother of his children, Sathima. We thank God for his life, we thank his family for sharing him with us, and especially for sharing the influence he has had on our lives through his gift of imparting stories using his musical talent.

May God grant him eternal peace; and may he continue to live with us through his music. You may be gone but you will never be forgotten. - **The Right Revd Stephen Diseko / Dean Of the Province & Provincial Vicar-General**

Photo: Photo: Tore Sætre/Wikimedia (<https://setre.net/>)

Diocese of Mpumalanga elects new bishop



12 June 2026: The **Revd Canon Wayne Saldanha** was elected as the next Bishop of Mpumalanga at an Elective Assembly. Bishop-Elect Saldanha was elected on the 3rd ballot. The assembly was chaired by Bishop Stephen Diseko, Dean and Vicar General of the Province. Please keep him, his family and the Diocese in your prayers as they prepare for his consecration.

The Revd Canon Horace Arenz / Interim Provincial Executive Officer



Bishop Raphael Hess retires

31st May 2026: The Rt Revd Raphael Hess, Bishop of Saldanha Bay laid down his pastoral staff on the Feast of The Trinity at Church of the Transfiguration, Bellville.

Photograph: Bishop Raphael prepares to receive his final salute from the Brigade.

Troubled Times: Can We Be Surprised by Hope Again?

Summary of Archbishop Thabo Makgoba's
Address at the Launch of **Voices of Hope**



Archbishop Thabo Makgoba delivered the keynote address at the launch of *Voices of Hope* in Amsterdam on 3 June 2026. Speaking at the English Reformed Church, he reflected on the crises facing humanity today and explored whether hope remains possible in a world marked by conflict, inequality, displacement, and environmental degradation. His central question was both simple and challenging: Can we still be surprised by hope?

The Archbishop began by thanking the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, its faculty and leadership, the local church community, and the editors and contributors of the book. He noted that his recent three-month sabbatical in Amsterdam had allowed him to engage with a wide range of communities and institutions, experiences that enriched the reflections he shared that evening.

He emphasized that the key word in the title is “surprised.” The issue is not merely whether hope exists, but whether it can still emerge unexpectedly and transform lives despite overwhelming evidence of suffering and despair. Any meaningful discussion of hope, he argued, must begin with an honest assessment of the realities confronting the world.

Archbishop Makgoba described the present moment as a *kairos* moment—a decisive time of both crisis and opportunity. Around the globe, economic inequality continues to widen, forced displacement has reached levels not seen since the Second World War, violent conflicts are increasing, and climate change disproportionately affects those least responsible for causing it. At the same time, political leaders often respond by deepening divisions and blaming vulnerable groups rather than addressing the root causes of these crises.

A particular concern is the rise of what he calls the “left-behinds”—people who feel excluded from economic progress and who see others prospering while their own circumstances deteriorate. Their frustrations have fuelled populism, xenophobia, racism, and authoritarian

politics. Meanwhile, public anger is frequently directed toward the poor and marginalized rather than toward the systems that perpetuate inequality. Archbishop Makgoba warned that inequality functions like a cancer, gradually eroding the social bonds that hold societies together.

Drawing on his own experiences, he spoke of praying with grieving families in Ukraine, meeting peace mediators from South Sudan, attending memorial services for South African soldiers killed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and witnessing poverty and indifference in both wealthy and struggling societies. These encounters convinced him that while many people understand the scale of global problems, they often lack the moral imagination and language needed to respond effectively.

Even in Amsterdam, a city known for its prosperity, he observed evidence that some lives are valued more highly than others. Such realities demonstrate that inequality is not confined to one region but is a global challenge. Against this backdrop, he argued that hope must be understood as something deeper than optimism or wishful thinking.

To explain this understanding, Archbishop Makgoba drew on the work of theologian Jürgen Moltmann and his *Theology of Hope*, as interpreted by South African scholar Jacobus Vorster. Hope, he said, is not confidence based on past successes but trust in God’s continuing work in history. It is found wherever goodness overcomes evil, peace triumphs over conflict, and love defeats hatred.

One image particularly resonated with him: God “grinding” signs of goodness out of the hard rocks of evil. This image portrays hope as active and costly rather than passive and emotional. Hope is not dependent on favourable circumstances; it is a deliberate commitment to pursue justice and goodness even when the future remains uncertain.

The Archbishop then reflected on South Africa’s democratic transition, often celebrated internationally as a triumph of hope. He acknowledged the leadership of Nelson Mandela and F. W. de Klerk in helping the country avoid civil war and transition peacefully to democracy. He also highlighted the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission under Archbishop Desmond Tutu, which sought healing through truth-telling rather than revenge.

However, he cautioned against romanticising South Africa’s story. While political freedom was achieved, many of the deeper goals of justice remain unrealised. Recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission were not fully implemented, many victims have not received adequate redress, and eco-

nomie inequality remains among the highest in the world. South Africa has overcome apartheid but has yet to fulfil the promise of a truly just society.

For this reason, Archbishop Makgoba has long advocated what he calls the “New Struggle.” Unlike the struggle against apartheid, this struggle focuses on combating corruption, restoring moral integrity, promoting economic justice, and ensuring that development benefits all people. Genuine transformation, he argued, cannot simply replace one privileged elite with another. Society must instead be rebuilt on principles of fairness, accountability, and shared prosperity.

Central to this vision is a Theology of Generosity, rooted in the Christian doctrine of the Incarnation. Since God entered the world through poverty and vulnerability, the Church must orient itself toward those living on society’s margins. This involves more than charitable giving; it requires addressing structural injustice and inequality. Makgoba also stressed the importance of confronting spiritual poverty—the moral blindness that allows people to ignore suffering in places such as Gaza, Sudan, and Ukraine. The climate crisis, he added, must likewise be understood as a justice issue because those least responsible for environmental damage often suffer its greatest consequences.

To respond to this *kairos* moment, Archbishop Makgoba proposed three key practices.

The first is *Indaba*, a Southern African tradition of communal dialogue and discernment. Unlike decision-making based solely on majority rule, *Indaba* seeks wisdom through listening to every voice, especially those on the margins. Practising *Indaba* is itself an act of hope because it affirms the dignity and contribution of all people.

The second is *Courageous Conversations*. Throughout his ministry, Makgoba has encouraged honest engagement with difficult issues such as inequality, injustice, and institutional failure. Such conversations are not expressions of condemnation but acts of love, rooted in a belief that people and societies can change. He pointed to biblical prophets and Archbishop Tutu as examples of leaders who combined truth-telling with faith in human redemption.

The third practice is the continued development of a Theology of Generosity. Churches and institutions must align their resources, priorities, and policies with the needs of the marginalized. Rather than merely alleviating suffering, they must challenge the structures that create it. The Church, he argued, must move beyond commentary and become an active participant in dismantling injustice.

continues on page 8

Archbishop Thabo Troubled Times from page 7:

Turning to *Voices of Hope* itself, Archbishop Makgoba celebrated the diversity of its thirty contributors. Representing different countries, disciplines, generations, and faith traditions, they embody an important truth: hope is not the preserve of the powerful or privileged.

It emerges in unexpected places and among unexpected people. Together, their voices demonstrate that hope transcends boundaries and flourishes wherever people commit themselves to justice, peace, and human dignity.

In conclusion, the Archbishop returned to his central question. His answer was yes—not because present circumstances justify optimism, but because he has witnessed signs of hope amid suffering. He recalled survivors who refused to surrender to despair, peacebuilders who persevered despite setbacks, leaders who acknowledged past wrongs, and young people determined to transform their communities.

For Archbishop Makgoba, hope is neither naïve nor abstract. It is the force that motivates people to confront challenges, seek solutions, and work for societies grounded in justice, democracy, and human rights. Small acts of hope can become “islands of hope,” and when these islands connect, they create “landscapes of hope.” He described *Voices of Hope* as one such landscape—a collection of voices inviting readers to rediscover hope in troubled times and to be surprised by its presence once again.

This is an edited copy, to read the full version: <https://archbishop.anglicanchurchsa.org/2026/06/troubled-times-can-we-be-surprised-by.html>

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Lategan on their 68th Wedding Anniversary

We give thanks to God and warmly congratulate Mr and Mrs Lategan as they celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary.

They exchanged their marriage vows on 25 May 1958 here at St Saviour's Church, Claremont, in a service conducted by the late Revd John Aubrey. For 68 years they have journeyed together in love, faith, commitment and devotion.

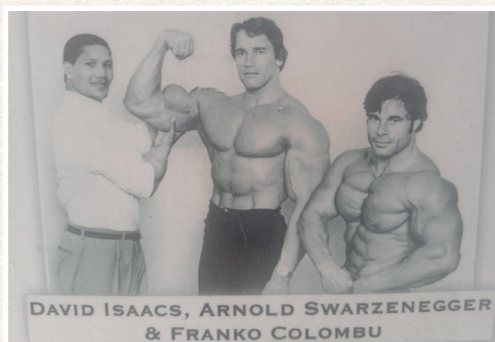
Their marriage reminds us that a lasting relationship is not only about roses and sunshine. It is also about standing together through life's challenges, supporting one another during difficult times, and remaining faithful to the promises made before God. Through the years, they have demonstrated the values of trust, perseverance, forgiveness and love, setting a wonderful example for their family, friends and the wider parish community.

We thank God for their faithfulness to one another and for the inspiration they continue to be to all who know them.



May God continue to bless them with good health, joy, peace and many happy memories in the years ahead. - **Revd Mark Andrews**

A Silent Legend's Message to the Next Generation



After a lifetime devoted to bodybuilding, 88-year-old David Isaacs, a parishioner of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Heideveld, believes the sport's greatest rewards are not the trophies or titles he has won, but the values of discipline, perseverance and character it has instilled throughout his life.

A champion bodybuilder who represented South Africa on international stages and dominated local competitions for more than a decade, David learned that success comes through discipline, perseverance, dedication, and patience. These are the

lessons he wants to pass on to young people today. His advice is simple: embrace fitness and healthy living as a way of life. Exercise is not only about building a strong body; it is about building a strong mind and strong character. The habits developed through sport can help young people succeed in every area of life.

David believes that perseverance is often more important than talent. Many people start with enthusiasm, but lasting success belongs to those who remain committed when challenges arise. His own journey is proof that hard work and determination can overcome obstacles and open doors to opportunity.

He also encourages young people to avoid shortcuts, respect their bodies, and believe in themselves. True strength, he says, is measured not by physical appearance but by integrity, humility, and the way we treat others.

Looking back on more than seventy years in the sport, David remains grateful for the lessons bodybuilding has taught him. His message to the next generation is clear: with discipline, perseverance, dedication, and faith in your abilities, you can achieve far more than you ever imagined.

- **Rupaire Koopman**

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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