



Santareme search for site

Peter Barrett

The Parish of the Good Shepherd has made a number of applications to the Kouga Municipality over the past four years for a church site in St Francis Bay so that the Santareme Chapel, presently meeting in a home, can move.

Attendance at the chapel currently averages 65 per week, with the number of worshippers having reached in excess of 80 on some occasions. If one considers the potential growth of St Francis Bay even in the short term, it becomes very evident that the small chapel will not remain suitable for much longer and a new venue is becoming an urgent necessity.

Unfortunately, the Kouga Municipality has shown masterful procrastination and indecision because telephone calls are not returned and letters are not even acknowledged in writing, although we have been able (after numerous telephone calls) to obtain a verbal confirmation of receipt of our latest application.

God has truly blessed the parish with the donation by one of the parishioners of a beautiful plot in St Francis Bay. The municipal building line applicable to churches is too great for a church to be built on the site but when eventually sold, the proceeds will certainly go some way toward meeting building costs.

The Parish asks members of the diocese to uphold in prayer, on a regular basis, their efforts to obtain a suitable site for a new church.



The room above the double garage where worship services are held.



The small Sanctuary in the chapel with 'vestry' behind the screen.



Photographed on the steps of Santareme Chapel are Peter Barrett and Gwynn Penwell-Smith (sacristan).

Easter 2009



The iindaba editor, committee members, the Bishop, diocesan staff, and their spouses, wish our readers a very blessed Easter.

What a celebration of love

St Valentine's Day was celebrated in style at St Paul's in Parsons Hill on Sunday 15 February with the church decked in 'wedding splendour'.

The rector, Ruthell Johnson said of the service, "It is a celebration of Christ's love for his church and our love for one another."

The music included such beautiful love hymns as 'Love Divine' and 'O Perfect Love' as well as a specially worded version of 'To God be the Glory'.

All the married couples surged into the sanctuary when the invitation was given for them to renew their marriage vows, which was followed by Mary-Ann van Eysen and Arnold Brandt singing a duo for them ... and they also enjoyed the invitation of "You may kiss the bride" at the end.

During tea afterwards the parishioners watched a PowerPoint presentation made up from all the wedding photos handed in by the couples. There were smiles at



Having renewed their marriage vows the couples at St Paul's enjoyed being told, "You may now kiss the bride."

the great changes in wedding attire, with some photos being from the 1940's. Even cup-cakes, decorated with hearts, were served with the tea.

St Paul's 5s to be congratulated for going the extra mile to make the day so very special for all the couples in their congregation.

Fast and pray for the elections -

For peaceful, free, fair and just elections;
Pray that we will be a nation built on truth;
Pray for future leaders to be appointed because they are men and women of Godly character;
Pray that God will deliver our nation from evil.



We're not very 'friendly'!

Much has been written in the local press about buildings being accessible to disabled people, whether on crutches or in a wheelchair.

Nontsikelelo Memese, a self supporting priest in the parish of St Matthew's, KwaMagxaki, has found that few of the diocesan churches she has visited have been easily accessible to her on her crutches.

Perhaps parish councils need to look at their church buildings and make this a year of being able to truly say, "All are welcome, because all can enter through our doorway, unaided."

Nontsikelelo Memese is with Zandsile Nongausa at the welcome for Ruth Brandt at St Francis Xavier, a 'friendly' building.



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Shabbat, the 'Greening of Israel, et al



Above, Bob Clarke of the Prayer Union for Israel is seen with Bobbie Gouws and Ruthell Johnson, rector of St Paul's; and right with Bishop Bethlehem and Mazoe.

The Revd Dr Bob Clarke D Bsc, D Min, Th D and DD of the Prayer Union for Israel paid his bi-annual visit to Port Elizabeth at the end of February.

As always his teachings were appreciated by all who had the privilege of listening to him. He did Shabbat teaching dinners at St Hugh's, All Saints' in Kabega Park and at All Saints' United in Somerset East. He had spent a day of teaching at Somerset East on various subjects which included updates on 'The Greening of Israel' through reference to the Old Testament - a subject he spoke on at St Paul's as well, in line



Sheila Lancaster of All Saints' in Kabega Park kindles the Shabbat Lights to welcome the Sabbath.

with their Lent course on saving the planet. At two cell groups he taught on 'Aspects of the Tabernacle' and 'The Jewish Home'

As always, people are reminded that to know Jesus one must understand his Jewishness and get to know him as he is

portrayed throughout the Old Testament.

iindaba looks forward to Bob's next visit in 2011. By then he will have another two doctorates. His theses include three on various aspects of the Passover and the present one is on the Sabbath.



Lyn Johnson, Josie Glover, Margaret Hindle, Josie's sister visiting from the UK, Brenda Hill and Bob Glover enjoyed the Shabbat teaching at St Hugh's.

Sharing with others



Themabela Madutyana is seen (first from the right) with the volunteers who cook the soup and with Mthetheleli Vena the priest-in-charge of St Matthias Mission District.

Below - Khanyiswa Maqubela the hawker who supplies the vegetables to thicken the soup.



Thami Nyondo reports

Themabela Madutyana's birthday on 10 December 2008 was celebrated in style by sharing with the Motherwell community - specifically the regular attendees of the St

Matthias' soup kitchen.

This was not the first time the soup kitchen has received assistance from Themabela, as throughout the year the recipients enjoyed soup that had been thickened with vegetables which Themabela obtained from Khanyiswa Maqubela who is a hawker near the Motherwell shopping centre.

Themabela bought loaves of bread and fruit for the people, who wore broad smiles because to them this meant an early Christmas. St Matthias is fortunate to have people like Themabela who are prepared to put smiles in other peoples' faces.

St Matthew's Choir on CD

Siyabulela Tshatshu



Choir achievements and to launch their CD.

At the banquet they heard that, before her death, the late Mrs Qunta had made a plea for the choir to make a recording, so her family had contributed R1 000 toward the cost of producing the CD.

At the banquet motivational

A banquet was held on 29 November 2008 to celebrate the St Matthew's

awards were made to some of the choir members.

Copies of the CD are available at R80 each. Contact: Stone Bell - 082 378 7857 or Nzwakie Magxaka - 084 610 3140.

Celebratory braai

On 29 January the choir held a celebratory braai at St George's Strand to open the year, celebrate all the achievements of 2008 and to re-commit themselves to the choir for 2009.

George Sonkwala, an honorary member, and Stone Bell, the chairman, each encouraged the members and reminded them of their motto, 'Ours is to Sing.'

WWB remind us that 'All is Well'



Some of the young crowd who enjoyed the Worship Watch Band (right) when they visited Holy Trinity in Central.

The Worship Watch Band from Belfast in Ireland, led a Celebration of Worship service at Holy Trinity, Central, on Sunday evening 22 February.

During the evening they played a brand new song, "He lowers us to raise us," written by Johnny Parks, reminding Christians that God is still in control in spite of

the credit crunch and the hard times we are facing at present. The refrain has words, 'All is well with my soul, He is God in control, I know not all his plans, But I know I'm in his hands.'

The church was full and there were many visitors from other parishes - especially the youth - who enjoyed the worship songs

which the band play at all-night worship services in Belfast.

WWB visited Holy Trinity a year ago and were so well received that they returned when they were in the area. They are the band that backed Robin Mark, famous for songs like "Days of Elijah", "Take us to the river" and "The Secret Place".



Friend sought

I am trying to locate my old university friend, Megan Judd.

Would you please be so kind to forward her my email address.

Thank you

Jostine Loubser

If any reader is able to help with Megan's contact details, iindaba will pass Jostine's details on to Megan.

'Sharing' fun on Shrove Tuesday

Taught to share - so Brent Harker, Douglas King and Barnardo had fun sharing their pancakes at All Saints' in Kabega Park.



An occasional comment

Hear the Word of the Lord

I travel around to many parishes for services and I thrill at how beautifully some readers proclaim the Word, with conviction. One sits up and listens and feels the life 'The Word of the Lord' brings. One listens and knows that this Word is far more important than the preachers 'take' on it in his/her sermon ... this "is" the "Word of the Lord."

However, the other side of the coin is that I'm shattered at how badly some read. The poor comma, and even the full stops, are often ignored so the meaning of many a sentence is obscure to say the least ... and, oh, the rush to get it over with! Isn't the Word of the Lord worth practicing a good many times to perfect it, before going

up and reading it on the Sunday?

Bishop Paddy Glover of the Diocese of the Free State once wrote on the subject, saying, "People will often say sympathetically after a reader has massacred a passage of Scripture, 'But they did their best.' Well, sometimes our best is not sufficient. I don't play tennis at Wimbledon because my best is simply not good enough. And the same thing applies to readers. Only those who are really good should be entrusted with the reading of Scripture in public worship. Surely only the best is good enough for God."

So readers, let the Word of the Lord ring out from your lips and hearts to the glory of God.

The Bishop writes...

My dear People of God, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us, so let us celebrate the feast, Alleluia!

Time seems to move very fast, now that we are celebrating another Easter. It is a great privilege to keep this great and central feast in our faith and in the church calendar. The Spirit of Easter seeks to portray to us the uniqueness of Christ, the beginning and the end of our faith. It is true, therefore, that it is because of Easter that the joy and presence of the risen Christ become more meaningful and real in our journey through this transitory life. From the Lenten ashes, through to the experience of the Passion of Christ that strengthens us we are sanctified, saved and refreshed by the soul, body and blood of Christ for a new beginning in the joy of Easter. Faced with the mountain of sin, poverty, disease, crime, racism, sexism and family crisis, we recognize the presence of Christ in us and in everything that surrounds us for strength to conquer. When we see him in the breaking of bread we take heart and offer ourselves as his instruments of inner joy and all-embracing love for the poor and oppressed. We are ambassadors of his compassionate love to a broken and needy world. Unless we capture this vision of Christ in deed and truth, and apply it as such at home and in the market place, this land and people can never be saved. This is the duty of the Church. This is the core message of Easter.

The political arena continues to cause us great concern both in this country and beyond. Are we getting credible leaders in this land? The projection brings a bleak and gloomy picture. Corruption is endorsed, anarchy is encouraged, disrespect, particularly of the elders, is let loose and unquestioned, the rule of law is played down, prisoners are hero-worshipped, and intolerance is escalating. The list may go on. What is the matter with South Africa? The risen Christ is



Ralph McGuigan, the rector of St Cuthbert's was seen chatting to Bishop Bethlehem and Ruth Brandt, the diocesan secretary/treasurer at a reception to introduce her to the rectors and churchwardens.

enough. His Spirit lives in those who believe, to be his ambassadors to cry justice and equality for all irrespective. Good governance, democratic rights and responsibilities, good education and social welfare with functioning health services are to be the priorities of a government to be voted for, not empty promises of gaining only more votes for comfortable lives in parliament with corrupted Travel-gate scandals. God has given you ability through the ballot box to bring an effective change in this country. Vote and make a difference in the lives of many. Do not be fooled by empty promises which have existed for the last fifteen years. God seeks to save South Africa. Act responsibly.

Many voices from Zimbabwe continue to call for our help. Like those gone before us let us pray fervently to God. He listens to prayer and will bring change in Zimbabwe. Let us take sides and stand for justice and freedom for all in Africa. May God look with favour on our continent. God bless Africa!

Synod May 2009 is fast approaching. We have invited you to assemble at the Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin for the opening Eucharist on Wednesday 27 May at 18h00. The Synod will hopefully conclude with the Dedication and Commitment service on the Day of Pentecost. This will be an Indaba Synod where people will participate and speak, not just a few individuals. The format will be shared with you in due course based on Indaba experiences of the Bishops at

Lambeth 2008.A.D. The Theme is, 'Mission to the World'. The training day for Synod takes place on Saturday 9 May. Details are to follow. Continue to pray for Synod 2009 of the Diocese of Port Elizabeth.

In the words of Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali "we see then, that Jesus is central to understanding the wellsprings of the fundamental values that are being universally recognized today as essential for a world order in which there is even a chance of justice, peace and compassion. Those who are called by his name and follow him know also that these values are transcended and transformed in him, enabling his followers to live by them so that they become rooted in their lives and help them to challenge and change the world". (The Unique and Universal Christ: Paternoster, 2008).

May the Spirit of the risen Christ fill you with his love for all people in his world to begin to transform it and grow the church. Yours in the love of Christ,

Supporting CANSA



The rector of Holy Trinity, David Stansbury, showed off his shaved and painted head (and green eyebrows) to another shaved head in the diocese, Welile Kani, the rector of Christ the King.

David, whose mother-in-law has just had a mastectomy, was supporting the CANSA 'Shavathon' where people were asked to either shave their heads or have their hair sprayed a bright colour - David chose both.

Don't forget our web page is in colour!

On the move

This is a new column all about clergy moves. Information will be supplied by the Bishop's Executive Officer (BEO), Mark Derry.

- ❖ Joshua Koenig moved to St Philip/St Barnabas on 15 March
 - ❖ Lynn De Doncker moves to St Philip/St Barnabas after Easter.
 - ❖ Garfield Jacobs has been released to the Diocese of Pretoria
- A number of ordinands in training who will be moving after Easter:

- ❖ Willie Brandt - from St Luke to St Mary;
- ❖ Samantha Eagles - from St Luke to St Francis Xavier;
- ❖ Abigail Tukululu - from St Peter to St Philip/St Barnabas;
- ❖ Ruby Xoliswa Zauka - from St Timothy to Zwartkops River Valley;
- ❖ Sandla Koltana - from St Timothy to St Katharine.

The view from pulpit and pew

❖ iindaba is sad to report the death in Cape Town on Ash Wednesday of Ron Taylor, former rector of St John the Baptist in Walmer and former Archdeacon of Port Elizabeth. Ron lived with his wife, Val in Cape Town. Their elder son, Nicholas, came from Oxford in England for the funeral. Nicholas is also a priest.

❖ It is with sadness that iindaba records the deaths of two bishop's wives:

- Bertha Chana, the wife of Bp Albert of our link Diocese of Northern Zambia;
 - and Sarah Breytenbach the wife of Bp Martin of the Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist.
- Our condolences to both of them.

❖ iindaba is happy to report that Nicolette Leonard is home at last. This does not mean that she has completely recovered, as she must still keep clear of germs and other nasties that float in the air. No doubt she is enjoying sleeping in her own bed, and one can be assured Myron is not waking her up at 05h00 to take her temperature. Welcome back, Nicolette, and be assured of the ongoing prayers of your brothers and sisters in Christ.

❖ The diocesan welcome for the new diocesan secretary/treasurer at St Francis Xavier was a colourful event, not just for the food and the bouquet of flowers Ruth received, but also for the head of David Stansbury. David had attended the Shavathon for the Cancer Association, and as he didn't have much to shave, his head was spray-painted with many colours. He certainly helped to brighten up the event!

❖ Some time ago, iindaba reported that Katharine Holmes was going to Canada as a Rotary Exchange student in January. At the time of going to print, iindaba reports that she is still at home waiting for her Canadian visa which she applied for early December. Here's hoping that by the time you read this, she is in a much colder place than Port Elizabeth. Katharine is the daughter of Christopher, rector of St Hugh's, Newton Park, and Susan, who teaches at Alex.

❖ Last month the funeral took place at St Paul's of Ethné Arthur, wife of Harold, a long-time server at St Paul's. Ethné's family has a long association with St Paul's going back to the days the church was at the bottom of Albany Road. Her father, Percy Henegan, was churchwarden for many years. Ethné is survived by Harold and two sons, Peter and Michael.

❖ The 'retired' Diocesan Secretary/Treasurer, Keith Rae, is on a Sabbatical at present. We are so fortunate to have had a man of such high calibre helping to steer the diocese through many years of fiscal discipline. We are most fortunate in the diocese to have had Dennis Burkinshaw, Norman Heath and Keith, and we welcome Ruth Brandt into the hot seat. Keith and his wife Denise are both deacons with permission to officiate at St Hugh's, Newton Park.

Exciting Holy Week for St Margaret's

iindaba has seen a sneak preview of the exciting programme Leon Foster, the rector of St Margaret's, has prepared for his parishioners.

He has challenged them to take 'the less travelled road' and to do as Jesus did using the words from Isaiah 50:4-9 "The Lord God helps me". Onwards with 'caution' and then to commit to 'Phoenix Faith' and to Jesus' 'recipe for the living feast of God's love'.

Diocesan family meet Ruth



Ruth Brandt, the new diocesan secretary/treasurer was formally introduced to the churchwardens and rectors of the diocese on Friday evening 9 March.

The reception was held at St Francis Xavier and Bishop Bethlehem introduced Ruth, giving some background from having worked with her in the Diocese of Grahamstown before his election as our Bishop.

Mark Derry, the BEO, presented Ruth Brandt with a beautiful bouquet at the reception to introduce her to the diocesan family.

Tag lines!



We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

St Katharine's bring joy



Alith Schmitz

During 2007 St Katharine's Church in Uitenhage began a project 'Adopt-a-child' for the children from Amanzi Farm School.

On 20 November 2008 we held a Christmas party in the church where the children from the school were brought to the church and the 'adopted' parents joined them bringing a small plate of eats and a cooldrink for the children. The parents pay R30 a year for each child and that buys a small packet of sweets and chips for the birthday and the balance goes towards a Christmas present.

The children entertained the 'parents' with wonderful items, including a nativity play – all in English. Even the 12 pre-school put on items.

Adopted parents are not only members of St Katharine's congregation but some are from various Eastern Cape churches as well as from Windhoek in Namibia and Paisley in Scotland.

Thanks to all who helped to make possible this special day for the children.

Hope Africa Conference

Pam Brown

Committed social development representatives from parishes of the Diocese came together on Friday 13 and Sat 14 February to meet with Hope Africa, who facilitate the Social development programme in the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

A warm welcome was extended by Bishop Bethlehem to Petrine Pakoe and Nomzamo Landingwe from Hope Africa in Cape Town. Their vision is to facilitate effective development through partnership with the Diocese of Port Elizabeth.

After a scene-set by Mario Hendricks, the portfolio holder for social development on the BCC, the attendees were allocated small discussion groups to enable them to find out exactly what is being done within the sphere of social development in the diocese.

God rewarded us with much positive thought, shared outcomes and an opportunity of networking. We all have the same motivation but different constraints. We achieved our



Bishop Bethlehem with the Hope Africa delegates in the chapel at St Luke's Retreat Centre.

outcomes of a clear understanding of social development work in the diocese and reached consensus on how to go forward to reach a coordinated approach to development, incorporating a strategic planning process to achieve the diocesan vision.

An initial four person team (representing the four archdeaonries) will make contact with the churches in their

Good Shepherd - as busy as ever



Pam Brown reports

The first quilt made by the Mothers' Union Christian Family Life members of All Souls in Bluebelliesbush was proudly displayed for the photographer, together with a second sewing machine presented Tuesday 16 February by Eileen Bambrough. It had been donated by a parishioner in Jeffreys Bay. The ladies are keen to start on cushions next and to start knitting and crocheting. Wool has been donated but needles and suitable material are needed. Their soup kitchen is continuing every Wednesday and a very pleasant day was spent by Pam and Eileen in that very beautiful part of the parish. We hope to make it a regular monthly visit to encourage these industrious ladies.

Seventh year for Babypacks



St Mark's major sponsor, Jane Green from the UK, is photographed with toys she brought for the little ones who attend the ARV clinic in Humansdorp.

We are thankful that Jane also brought her usual two bags of babygrows etc. which she brings from the UK every year.

We also thank God for her recovery from a second successful treatment for abdominal cancer. Her baby clothes collection keeps her spirits up even during treatment and she was often requested to cheer others while she underwent her treatment. Her faithful band of knitters are still supporting her and us and British Airways carried the extra kgs of overweight baggage free of charge. What a wonderful God we serve!

Meeting in Glory

St Matthew's, KwaMagxaki, youth group with their rector, Nelson Nongauza.



Siyabulela Tshatshu

On 28 February St Matthew's, KwaMagxaki, youth had a 'meeting in glory' which was in the form of a retreat conducted by the rector, Nelson Nongauza.

The theme of the retreat was "Building the Kingdom of God on Earth" and began with a Eucharist Service. Nelson introduced the retreat by saying that it was to help turn the young people's thoughts to God; for them to be quiet and meditate for the transformation of their hearts; and to pray for their needs and the needs of others. He reminded them they were not allowed to talk, nor join with others to form groups, but that they were to quietly read their Bibles and reflect.

There were three addresses: 'What is youth?', 'Cleanliness', and 'Building the Kingdom of

God on Earth.'

On youth - They're young with fresh ideas, minds and thoughts; hungry brains with which to build the Kingdom; challenged by a busy world; needing protection and guidance; needing to be challenged out of their comfort zones.

Cleanliness - 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' (Deut 23:12-14); cleanliness of heart, shown by the way you talk and act; need to be truthful, caring and smiling.

Building the Kingdom - This is doing the will of God, by giving, reading and studying the Bible, and by preaching; according to Jesus it is within people - approached through understanding, entered through child-like acceptance and spiritual rebirth. Who belongs in the Kingdom of God? Everyone who has made God the king of his/her life.

Young, but vibrant

Sipambo Ludidi

The Parish of St Simon of Cyrene, Uitenhage, will be celebrating 30 years of existence, to be launched off on Sunday 3 May.

There will be a week of celebrations with revival meetings starting at 19h00 every night and a Parish Dance in the City Hall on Saturday 9 May. The climax of the celebrations will be a wonderful celebratory service on Sunday 10 May.

All the members of the diocese are invited to join us at any of the

celebrations. For tickets to the dance contact the office:

Tel/fax: 041 988 1567

The parish came out of the small church of St Gabriel's which became too small for the growing congregation, who had also mostly moved to Rosedale and areas around there. It was dedicated by the then Bishop of Port Elizabeth, Bruce Evans, as a chapelry of St Katharine's under the rectorship of Peter Bowen with his assistant Cyril Muller.

Welcome from the
Kariega
Archdeaconry
Youth

We wish the new
diocesan secretary/
treasurer,
Ruth Brandt,
every blessing, and years
of happiness, in her work
in the
Diocese of Port Elizabeth.

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