



Teaching Catholic values – see page 9
Masolenyana visitors in their eye-catching uniform.



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OCTOBER 2015

‘A church is a place where we receive blessings, peace and our dignity as Christians’ – Archbishop Buti

WARNING

It has come to the attention of the Chancery that a bogus letter of collection is being circulated amongst Catholics.

The letter claims to be from Frs Peter, B, Steven Ron and Sis Sandra Mils. It gives cell phone numbers and banking details.

The letters says they are trying to help victims of xenophobia by raising funds to “help relocate these families from Malawi, Congolese (SIC), Mozambique and Somalia to return to their home country.

The letterhead states “Catholic Church Saratoga, Johannesburg, Saratoga Cathedral.”

Fr Duncan Tsoke, Vicar General of the Archdiocese said that under no circumstances should money be paid into this account as it does not belong to the Catholic Church.

He further said that the listed priests and sister do not exist.



It took 15 years to realise this dream New church in Evaton West ext 11.



Archbishop Buti Tlhagale prepares to bless the foundation stone before entering the church. Next to him is Fr Mbulelo.



The interior view of the new St Anthony of Padua, Evaton Ext 11

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale begins proceedings with a prayer in the church yard with Fr Mbulelo Sikotoyi in attendance.

body and blood of Christ at the altar.

Blessings were also bestowed on the confessionals, the baptismal font and the ambo. After the Litany of Saints was beautifully presented by the parish's combined choir, the Archbishop anointed the altar and the inside walls before incensing them. The candles of the altar were lit, a white cloth placed on the altar and the decorations were positioned before it. Instead of a crucifix on the inside front wall behind the altar, a portrait of a risen Jesus completes the immaculate interior design. The main contributors to the establishment include the parishes from the Archdiocese of Santiago in Chile where Fr Lorenzini comes from and the Archdiocese of Johannesburg.

Apart from funds raised by the parish, other financial contributions came from parishes of Eldorado Park, Bryanston, Victory Park, the Maronite Community, North Riding, Malvern, Nigel and Evaton Small Farms.

The overwhelmed Fr Lorenzini thanked Archbishop Buti, Fr Duncan and all other priests who graced the ceremony. He also thanked all who donated and contributed to the building of the church.

PPC chairperson Issac Molefe, thanking all sodalities of the church and parishes that contributed, said the 15 years it took to realise their dream was worth waiting for. Lunch was served after mass amidst a torrential downpour.

Abel Dlamini

A new Catholic church in Evaton West Extension 11 was officially opened on Saturday, 5 September.

The new church, St Anthony of Padua, which has a capacity of about 500 people, is a far cry from the smaller building which was situated in Phase Four, Evaton that could accommodate only 100 congregants, according to parish priest, Fr Sergio Lorenzini. The parish is named after St Anthony, the patron of travellers, the poor and pregnant women.

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale officiated at the opening. After the unveiling of the plaque, His Grace blessed and sprinkled holy water on it, after which the inscription was read, the ribbon was cut and the three-time, knock-on-the-door ritual was performed, marking the official opening of the church.

The Vicar General, Fr Duncan Tsoke was also present together with Frs Lucas Bambezela, Simphiwe Kheswa, Keith Gordon-Davis, Mbulelo Sikotoyi, Ibercio Rojas and Deacon Mokoena.



Having anointed the altar with Chrism oil, Archbishop Buti Tlhagale administers the incense. Looking on from right is Fr. Mbulelo, Deacon Mokoena and parish priest Fr Lorenzini.

Delivering the sermon, the Archbishop said the holy water that he sprinkled inside and outside the church was the same water that parishioners are baptised with, which is a sign that they die with our Lord Jesus Christ and arise with Him. He said that, as a church, we are brought together by the blood of Jesus, adding that the church is where we receive blessings, peace and our dignity as Christians.

He said that the blessing of the foundation stone outside is an indication that the church is built on Jesus Christ Himself and the apostles. The Archbishop encouraged the congregants to go to confession to renew their faith and thereafter enjoy their share of the



A dream come true

Eight ladies from the parish of Our Lady of Loreto, Kempton Park were admitted to the Sodality of St Anne in a very moving ceremony at the Cathedral on 2 August by Archbishop Buti Tlhagale.

The inauguration of the new members took place during the Sunday celebratory Mass for Women's Day in their home parish.

The Archdiocesan President of the Sodality and representatives

from the Eastern deanery graced this occasion, making it very special for the parish and the Sodality of St Anne.

A beautiful banner was unveiled before the new members were presented with their medals.

The formation of this sodality is a dream-come-true for founder member Ma Mashaba and her assistant Imelda Tsosane.

Berniece Eales

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Pope's Intentions: October

General. That human trafficking, the modern form of slavery, may be eradicated.

Missionary. That with a missionary spirit the Christian communities of Asia may announce the Gospel to those who are still awaiting it.

CONFIRMATIONS

His Grace, Archbishop Buti Tlhagale will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to young people of the following parishes in October. Pray for them.

Fri 2	18:00	Blessed Sacrament	Malvern
Sat 3	17:00	St Martin de Porres	Orlando West
Sun 4	09:00	Holy Rosary	Phiri
Fri 9	18:30	St Paul of the Apostle	Eden Park
Sat 10	14:00	St Patrick	La Rochelle
Sun 11	08:30	St Paul's	Tsakane
Fri 16	18:00	St Margaret	Diepkloof
Sat 17	17:30	St Patrick's	Benoni
Sun 18	10:00	St Lamberts	Daveyton
Fri 23	18:30	St John the Apostle	Florida
Sat 24	17:00	St Joseph	Primrose
Sun 25	09:00	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Vereeniging
Fri 30	19:00	Ch. of the Resurrections	Bryanston
Sat 31	10:00	St Andrew's	Korean Church
Sat 31	17:30	Our Lady of Lourdes	Rivonia

Patronal Feasts in October

1 st	St Thérèse, Alberton (1948); Edenvale (1938); Zondi Holy Angels, Bez Valley(1914)
2 nd	St Francis of Assisi, Reiger Park (1965); Rust Ter Vaal (1968); Vanderbijlpark (1960); Yeoville (1913).
4 th	Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Krugersdorp (1891); The Holy Rosary, Phiri (1969)
7 th	St Margaret, Diepkloof (1964)



Zondi

Zinhle Nkosi being confirmed by Archbishop Buti Tlhagale at St Theresa, Zondi.

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to candidates from Zakariyya Park, St Michael's, Meadowlands and St Joseph's, Meadowlands on the feast of the Assumption at Zakariyya Park. Thapelo Molise

CONFIRMATIONS



Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary High's grade 11 Catholic pupils received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, 12 September at St Theresé Church in Edenvale. Seen here are (back): Kelsey Maskell, Kalaba Kambafwile, Ivana Siciliano, Cassidy Bessa, Karin Lee, Phetheho Manzi, Mrs Sharon Meyer (HOD: Religion), Keegan Hunt, Kaitlin Hunt,

Giulia Lencioni, Ashleigh McCurrach, Michela Giuricich. Front: Sabrina Teixeira, Nolene Chetty, Alexia Pascolo, Monique de Bastos, Téa Leoni, Michelle Antonio, Bianca da Silva, Caitlyn Boake, Nadia Salgado, Jaime De Carvalho, Katia de Freitas, Tannith Joubert, and Marcella Amatucci.



Zakariyya Park

Chancery
011 402-6400

For all departments

October is Mission Month

Saturday 3 October 09:00-16:30
BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY
Unit 3 of Gospel of Mark
Cathedral Place
Please bring own lunch
Teresa Wilsnagh 011 435 7488
CATHOLIC BIBLE FOUNDATION of SA

Saturday 3 October 09:00-15:00
Justice & Peace Mass and Reflection
Fr Raymond McQuarrie, M.Afr, Vicar at Cathedral Functions Hall

4 October Marriage Sunday
SACBC Family Life Marriage Campaign
COMMITTED TO MARRIAGE
Contact Fr Sakhi Mofokeng
smofokeng@sacbc.org.za
Tel: 012 323-6458

Saturday 10 October 11:00-15:00
Christian Morality Respecting Life – Paul Faller
Cathedral Place
Book with catechetics department.

Tuesday 6 October 09:00 - 15:00
Altar Servers Workshop
Cathedral Place
Liturgy Department

Saturday 10 October 09:00-13:00
Open Day
at San Salvador home for intellectually disabled women
19 Melville Rd Hyde Park
Handmade woven knitted toys; Christmas puddings; homemade jams, plants, bric a brac and more.
Have a fun day with us

Altar Missal in Southern Sotho
WANTED TO BUY
Fr Benen Fahy ofm,
St Joseph the Worker, Boipatong,
call 082-548-7295.

Engaged? Congratulations!
Now is the time to talk to your parish priest about marriage preparation
Catholic Engaged Encounter
info@engagedencounter.co.za
Contact Bev 082-556-3880

Free Notices

Send event notices by 10 October to
adnews@catholicjhb.org.za
Next ADNews is due on
Sunday 1 November

Community Notice Board

Saturday 10 October 09:30
Year of Consecrated Life Thanksgiving Mass
by invitation of

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale OMI to all religious, members of societies of apostolic life, secular institutes, priests and laity.

Cathedral of Christ the King
Mass followed by refreshment.
Enquiries department of Liturgy, Anastacia Mphuti
www.catholicjhb.org.za



Saturday 10 October 11:30
Pray the rosary for peace in South Africa
59 Beryl Street, Bruma. All welcome.
Join over 200 groups registered throughout South Africa

Saturday 17 October 14:00-17:00
Contemplative Outreach
St Charles, Victory Park.
Enquiries: Heather 011 782-8094 or 082-450-1912

Saturday 17 October 12:00-16:00
THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS
Other Laws of Holiness; Proclaiming & Protecting Liberty throughout the Land
Scripture in its Jewish context.
Bring Bibles and packed lunch.
Holy Family College, Parktown
Bernadette Chellew, 082-760-0809 or e-mail btrchellew@gmail.com

Pray outside the abortion facilities



Randburg
18 Peter Place near Sandton Clinic
1st Saturday of each month from 10:30-12:00

Marie Nichol 011 618-2489

Donate
Help the Culture of Life Apostolate help pregnant women in crisis.
Contact Raphael Lallu
079 779-5596 / 071 832-1386
fundraising@cultureoflife.co.za
www.cultureoflife.co.za

St Anne's Home for Aged Women,
Edenvale, has accommodation available. A CWL project.
Call Sister Jean: (011) 453-4667

Mission Sunday 18 October

Saturday 17 October 10:30 - 15:00
Christian Morality
Toni Rowland, *Honouring God, Honouring Family.*
St Francis Parish Vanderbijlpark
Book with catechetics department

Wednesday 21 October 10:00
Morning of recollection for diocesan clergy at Mazenod Centre
Pray for our priests and deacons

PRH WORKSHOPS

23-27 October, Observatory
Being Fully Authentic
13-17 November, Observatory
Overcoming obstacles to my growth
Verena Kennerknecht
011 648-3456 / 072-375-9053

Saturday 24 October 10:00 - 15:30
Christian Morality
Toni Rowland, *Honouring God, Honouring Family.*
Our Lady of Mercy, Emdeni
Book with catechetics department

Family Life Theme

Committed to marriage and mission
For more www.marfam.org.za/blog

23-25 October
'Love Conquers All'
– a spiritual conference for men in Kokstad hosted by CfC, Couples for Christ
Trevor Vetter 082-568-6843;
vetter@oaksauto.co.za
for more info.

Adoption, the loving option.

CWL Adoption Society
Tel 011 618-1533
or adoptions@mweb.co.za
www.adoptions.org.za

Being a Carmelite is not a privilege. It is a responsibility.

Join our meetings every fourth Saturday of each month from 1pm to 4pm.
Saint Charles, Catholic Church,
35 Road No.3 Victory Park, Johannesburg.



Contact Jos Boles 082 330 3547

Are you called to be a diocesan priest?

Join the discernment group on Sunday 25 October

Contact Vicar for Vocations,
Father Thabo 082 824 6394
Facebook Thabo Motshegwa
Vocations secretary Susan

Take on the road of life with confidence. Take a Pit-Stop.

St. John the Apostle Florida Park
Saturdays 2pm – 4pm
until 28 November

A programme offering young people a safe place to reflect on the journey of life.

12pitstops@gmail.com

[Facebook.com/12pitstops](https://www.facebook.com/12pitstops)

Saturday 7 November 13h00
APC General Meeting
Cathedral Small Hall
All PPCs, PFCs and interested parishioners are invited

Healing Day

Saturday 7 November 09:00-16:00
Marian College Linmeyer
South St, Linmeyer
Speaker: Fr Joseph Wilson
Enquiries: Glenda 010 206 0219 or 082 857 1059

ADVENT CANDLES

From Catholic Womens League Order from Margaret House,
Elsie – 011-618 1533-5;
Fax: 011-618 1538
elsieshai@gmail.com



Society for the Care of Persons with Mental Handicap

Edenvale – 011 609 7246
First Friday Mass 10:30; Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 1 hour before at Our Lady of the Angels Chapel.
First Saturday Devotions 15:00-16:00
10 St Anne Road, Hurlyvale, Edenvale.

SCHOENSTATT FAMILY MOVEMENT

Saturdays 08:00 Mass in the Shrine
Thursdays 17:30 Exposition & Holy Hour
Sundays 12:00 Exposition
1st Saturday of the month 07:00
Covenant Hour, Rosary and Meditation
CNR FLORENCE & VAN BUUREN RD
BEDFORDVIEW 011 455-5446

Join the Archdiocesan News group and get up-to-date notices.
Use the group to publicise your parish events

Community Masses



Deaf Community
2nd Sunday of each month

St Martin de Porres, Orlando West
Contact Deborah Mthopeng
082 454-4732

Francophone Community at 11:15
on 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month
Our Lady of Lourdes, Rivonia
Every Sunday 10:00 at
Our Lady of Lourdes, City Deep
Catholic Francophone Community
Chaplain Fr Blaise Mambu
076-211-5232

Nigerian Community at 11:30
on 2nd Sunday of each month
at Cathedral of Christ the King
Chief Sylvester 083-727-6401

Ethiopian & Eritrean Community in Amharic at 12:30
on 3rd Sunday of each month at
St Francis of Assisi, Yeoville
followed by Bible Study.
Hailu Adalo – 072-357-7185
hailuadalo@yahoo.com

Zambian Community at 11:30
on 3rd Sunday of each month
Cathedral of Christ the King.
Nicholas Phiri 072-804-6194
or Charity Phiri 074-968-2831
charityphiri@hotmail.com

Malawian Community at 11:30
on 4th Sunday of each month
Cathedral of Christ the King
Felix 074 516-7705 / 071 828-9967

Zimbabwean Community
at 14:00 on last Sunday of each month
St Francis of Assisi, Yeoville
011 339-5954

Charismatic Community

All-night vigil
from 20:00 on last Saturday of each month to Sunday at 05:00
Cathedral of Christ the King



Could you not spend an hour with me?

Holy Hour 15:00 - 16:00 Every Saturday

Sung Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

Assumption Convent Chapel
Pandora Rd, Malvern.
Enquiries 074-193-0449

Abortion warning

'The pill' can abort (chemical abortion), Catholics must be told, for their eternal welfare, and survival of their unborn infants. See www.epm.org/static/uploads/downloads/bcpill.pdf ColA 082 609 6919

User-friendly Eucharistic Adoration

Father Thomas Plastow S.J. Answers Liturgy Questions



This month's question asks for details about the rules around adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass.

At Rivonia Parish we are fortunate to have the facility of a Chapel of Adoration. Periodically discussions are raised regarding liturgical rules governing the reverent safe keeping of the Blessed Sacrament, but we have not found references regarding who is permitted to unlock the tabernacle. Is it liturgically correct for parishioners who arrive for worship in the Chapel to take the key, open the tabernacle and lock it again when they leave?

Consecrated Hosts were first reserved so that they might be available for the sick and dying. Once this practice had become common, the reserved Sacrament became a focus for devotional prayer outside of Mass time. It wasn't until the 16th century that tabernacles were routinely placed on the main altar of the parish church. We have now reverted to the more ancient practice reserving the Sacrament away from the altar. Continuous adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament has become popular in the past decade. Several parishes have special chapels designed for this purpose and have fixed times in which members of the faithful are able to pray before the exposed Host.

The Roman directives: "Eucharistic Worship Outside Mass" were published in 1973. These make provision for the reception of Holy Communion outside Mass and for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament either with or without benediction. A lay minister may expose the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance or in the ciborium. This means that he or she removes the vessel from the tabernacle and places it on the altar. After a fixed period of adoration, the lay minister replaces the host in the tabernacle without any blessing over the people. During the exposition it is advisable to have at least a short scripture reading, even when most of the time will be spent in silent contemplation.

All these directives seem to presuppose that these devotions will be done by a group of the faithful gathering together. There is no mention of parishioners accessing the tabernacle individually, so I suspect that now we are seeing the emergence of something new which has developed as follows:

A parish wished to have daily Eucharistic adoration;

It was not possible to ensure that someone would be present at all times;

Since it is not permitted to expose the Blessed Sacrament in an empty church, another provision had to be made;

Those who had signed up for regular adoration began opening and closing the tabernacle in which

a small monstrance or lunette had been placed for this purpose.

Our parish tabernacle is partitioned and has doors on two sides. The ciborium is retrieved from the side facing the altar, while the door facing the adoration chapel exposes the lunette without allowing access to the ciborium.

Tabernacles of this type are especially designed for the use you describe. In some enclosed convents, a double-sided tabernacle is set into the wall between the public sanctuary and the nuns' chapel so that it may be used in two different ways. This is often a better option than having two tabernacles in the same building. Tabernacles have even been made with a built-in lunette. On one side the door opens to reveal a screen with a little window into which the Host is mounted. This window can only be opened from the rear door which has a separate lock, so the Blessed Sacrament remains quite secure.

Security is obviously a major concern, but another must be reverence. Is it fitting for the tabernacle to be opened and closed several times a day? When we lived in a time of greater security, churches remained unlocked during the day and Catholics were encouraged to spend quarter of an hour before the (closed) tabernacle. Whether the tabernacle door is open or closed, we are entering into the same Real Presence of Christ.

Is it permitted to sanction parishioners to reverently open and close the tabernacle for adoration as and when they elect to pray?

There may be some danger in allowing, for want of a better expression, "exposition on demand." We don't want to privatise adoration, but this could happen if a person chose only to go to the chapel at times when he or she would be alone. In a small community, in which all could be trusted, one might allow members to open the door of a specially designed tabernacle, but how would you control this in a large parish? Perhaps, for the security of the Blessed Sacrament and for the people who come to adore, it would be better to have fixed times for exposition during which several people come together. Then a commissioned minister would expose the Blessed Sacrament as he or she has been trained to do.

Do you have a question about the Liturgy?

You are welcome to send questions directly to Fr Plastow:
 • PO Box 46876, Glosderry, 7702
 • e-mail adnews@catholicjhb.org.za
 • fax 011 402-6406

Report back

During the month of August the Department of Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees was very busy.

Below: Gathering information at the workshop at the Cathedral



Between 4 and 5 August, in Musina, Limpopo, we joined the Southern Africa Network against Trafficking and Abuse of Children for a workshop for the validation of a "Children on the Move" study. The event was organised with the support of the Destination Unknown project from Terre de Hommes – International Federation, OAK Foundation and Terre des Hommes Hilfe fur Kinder in Not.

The participants were from different organisations from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Two days of study and reflection helped us to better understand the situation of unaccompanied children on the move. For the most part these children remain invisible and ignored.

On 20 August, we hosted more than 600 refugees and asylum



The group that visited the miners in Marikana.

seekers at the Cathedral, from different communities for a workshop entitled: "Information/Integration Workshop with Refugees and Asylum Seekers". The event was organised in partnership with the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa, the Jesuit Refugee Service, the UN Refugee Agency in South Africa, the Coordinating Body of Refugee & Migrant Communities, the ProBono.Org and ourselves. Various topics were covered by the workshop's speakers including: "The Refugee Convention and its Protocols and what is required as a claim for Protection in South Africa," the Department of Home Affairs spoke about asylum processes at the refugee reception offices and another presentation covered legal services for refugees. Social assistance was offered.

Corruption Watch spoke on an anti-corruption Campaign – 'Project Lokisa'. The network organisers called the event a "huge success" saying the information provided was rich and engaging.

From 21 to 30 August, Bishop Adriano Langa and Sr Marines Biasibetti from Comissao Episcopal para Migrantes, Refugiados e Deslocados from Mozambique, as well as our department met the migrant miners in Marikana to celebrate their faith in their own language and to share their histories and challenges. Their faith and experiences of life impressed us all. Their challenge is living far from their families, not seeing their own children grow, yet recognising the need to be here to find economic support for themselves. Migrants are the missionary church that trusts in Jesus Christ and which gives them hope to work every day facing dangers. They were all happy to receive our Pastoral Care committee from both countries.

Sr Maria De Lourdes Lodi Rissini – Head of the Department of Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees

Catechetics' Formation and Creativity Day



Book exhibition and sales

Over 320 catechists attended the annual Formation and Creativity Day organised by the Catechetics department on 22 August at the Cathedral. The programme began with Mass celebrated by Fr Peter Doherty who was assisted by Deacon Errol Scott. Reverend Scott was the main guest speaker. The theme was, "Church our Home, Home our Church. The Christian family as a domestic church."

With over 13 speakers in the line-up, catechists were spoilt for choice.

West Deanery Catechetics coordinator, Sandra Petronio presented "Interesting lessons using effective planning and sharing our Catholic faith." Being a catechist is a commitment to leading people to

have a personal relationship with God. It is important that catechists develop their spiritual lives and learn more about the faith they teach. An array of material on faith was on sale.

"One of the key elements of a successful catechist is organising and planning exciting lessons for both kids and adults," she said.

Catechists should help their students recognise that faith is meant to be lived out on a daily basis," said Sandra. She suggested that young candidates get used to making a difference by physically doing something, like helping to clean the church, visit an old age homes, the poor and the lonely.

"Catechesis and liturgy are interlinked because, through catechesis, candidates learn and through liturgy, they practise and celebrate what they have learned," said Annastacia Mphuthi from the Liturgy department who co-presented "The RCIA within the

Christian family and the Church," with Sr Kathleen Mitchell.

"Luke 24: 13-25 (The Journey to Emmaus), John 4: 1-42 (The Samaritan Woman) and Mark 10: 13-16 (The Little Children and Jesus) – these three scriptural passages give us a beautiful image of what the RCIA process is about," said Sr Kathleen. "Because of their encounter with Jesus, their lives are changed and they enter into discipleship."

Annastacia stressed that all processes of RCIA be observed and celebrated, and that the parish community journey with candidates and not just see it as the sponsors' responsibility. Collection taken up during Mass was donated to Radio Veritas.

Catechetics' head of department, Sr Tarsycja Groblica ZSJM lead everybody in song, as well as in Pope Francis' prayer to the holy family.

Lerato Mohone



Join us as a sister and bring healing and joy to our world

The Missionary Sisters of the Assumption

Sr Carmel
 082 543 9778
srcarmel@wizz.co.za

MSA1101b

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Email: info@catholicshop.co.za



Letters to the Editor

Radio Veritas must be rescued

The heartfelt appeals from Father Emil of Radio Veritas warrants serious consideration. The financial plight of Radio Veritas, the only Catholic radio station in our country is, and merits, serious country-wide funding to rescue it from what could potentially become a sinking ship. The outreach to Catholics of diverse cultures and languages is an enormous undertaking requiring the assistance of committed professionals such as advertising, electronics and programme compilers staff. Finally, the continued existence of our own radio station depends on the committed financial support of all who enjoy and appreciate this invaluable Catholic service.

Lois Lotter

Thanks for ADNews

Greetings and blessings today. Thank you for the ADNews sent to me by post. As always, it is full of good and informative news ... and much to share with some of our communities.

Fr Gerald Gostling, Newcastle, Dundee Diocese



Marriage Retreat in October

Theme: Marriage; Unique for a Reason

The Holy Father points us to St Paul who shows us that prayer is “full of people” in its concerns. Paul tells the Philippians, “I constantly pray with you in every one of my prayers for all of you...because I hold you in my heart” (Phil 1:4, 7).

Authentic intercessory prayer is marked by an attitude of attentiveness and gratitude that recognises God’s work in the lives of others.

While intercession can often be misunderstood as “suspicious, negative and despairing,” Pope Francis teaches instead that “when evangelisers rise from prayer, their hearts are more open; freed from self-absorption, desirous of doing good and sharing their lives with others.” Because Jesus Christ is the true intercessor, our union with Him in prayer is a special way to gain access to the heart of the Father.

And yet our prayer must always be offered in humility. When we intercede for others, “God’s heart is touched” – our prayer has true power – and “yet in reality he is always there first.” Intercessory prayer is not about what we want or what others want; instead it brings to light the love and work of God that is always already present there.

Our homes should be fruitful places where this prayerful openness, gratitude, and concern

for others abide. As a family, foster awareness of the needs of those around you – at work, at school, in the neighbourhood – and around the world. Come together to pray for them, holding them in your heart, as St Paul did. Then be sure to discuss the ways in which you notice God working. This is a wonderful way to unite as a family for Christ, to turn towards others, and to become ever more aware of God’s constant, loving presence.

The Archdiocese of Johannesburg’s Family Life Apostolate Department invites all married couples to a marriage retreat on 24 October at 10am at the parish of The Resurrection in Bryanston.

For more information, contact Mahadi Buthezezi on 083 992 0387.

Nazareth House Charity Shop

Nazareth House appeals for second-hand clothes and goods to sell in their shop in Yeoville. The Charity Shop benefits the local community and raises funds for the Sisters’ work with the elderly and HIV+ children and adults.

They will collect. Call Naz House on 011 648-1002



WAYS INTO PRAYER

My favourite favourite

Frances Correia of the Jesuit Institute-South Africa, explores Ignatian Spirituality.

When I am battling to sense God in my life I often find myself returning to Lectio Divina. This ancient way of praying using the scriptures has been practiced in the church for almost two millennia. It is in some ways an incredibly simple way to pray and yet one that can have profound consequences. Lectio Divina is founded firstly on the deep truth that the scriptures are a privileged place to encounter God, meaning we are more open to encountering God there than in for instance watching televisions. Secondly this way of praying pre-supposes that the Holy Spirit is alive and active right now. In praying Lectio Divina I am allowing myself to hear God speaking to me about my life through the scriptures.

Margaret Silf uses a lovely image for getting into this way of prayer, she says it is as if God is spreading out a whole array of chocolates in front of us and inviting me to choose which ever one I want the most. The tag line of Quality Street chocolates really appeals to me in

this regard; I am invited to choose my ‘favourite favourite’. I sit with a text and read it reflectively, listening out for the word, phrase or image that grabs me.

Then I ponder my choice. Today God says to me ‘I have called you by name’ (Isaiah 43) as much as he may have done to Isaiah hundreds of years ago. The prayers of the psalms remain as young and as fresh as if they had been written right now. I too can pray in my own distress, ‘I cry aloud to the God, that he may hear me’ (Psalm 77) with as much fervour as did the psalmist. In this style of prayer it is not knowledge that satisfies, but to sit and savour the word of God. I may be drawn to sitting with a particular word ‘Speak’ (Numbers 15:2) or an image, for example, ‘The Lord is my rock’ (Psalm 18:2) or a phrase, ‘Love one another as I have loved you’ (John 15:12). Just as when I am eating chocolate, I want to take time to savour God’s word letting it speak deeply to my heart.

I ponder what God is saying to me today through the Holy Scripture. I meditate, that is think

on the meaning of the word, image or phrase in my own life. Why did God draw my attention to this image? What is it in my life that resonates with needing ‘to shelter in Lord.’ (Psalm 96). I talk heart to heart with the Lord about how I feel. It is important to remember that this style of prayer is intimate. This is not bible study, I am not thinking in general about what God is saying to other people, I am having a moment of intimacy noticing what the Lord is saying directly to me through the scripture.

Finally with God I remember the experience, I talk as if to a close friend about how it felt, just as I may describe to my friend the delight of eating the chocolate, and in the re-telling know it even more. I remember my thoughts and feelings with God and notice where I feel called to ponder even deeper. I may find myself being drawn at this point into an interior silence, just sitting with the Lord, basking in God’s presence.

This month I invite you to try out praying with Lectio Divina, or returning to praying with it. It may help to begin with one of the psalms (perhaps taken from the Sunday reading). Read it with an open heart and then pray on what God is saying to you today?



Marriage is not a 50/50 venture

To be or not to be committed in your marriage – that is the question. We are seeing an increasing number of marriages and families falling apart, and we must ask the question why? We are involved in preparation of couples for marriage in our parish, the Church of the Resurrection in Bryanston. In our engagement and discussion with couples, we find that the question of leadership in the family is blurred – couples believe that marriage is a 50/50 joint venture. Now, in life there is no organisation families included that does not have leadership. Our modern families refuse to acknowledge the man as the head of the home, just like Christ is the head of the church and there is no 50/50 joint venture. The question of leadership does not in any way imply that the one party must dominate the other, but to lead the family takes love and selflessness sacrifice to put the needs of others before your own. Families who survive and stay together do not

doubt the leadership in their family, the channels of communication are clear from day one.

Love and respect these are the two pillars of a good and lasting marriage. We are often asked by couples whose responsibility is to love and whose is it to respect? The answer to that question is that both the man and the woman must love and respect each other. The difference is that it is more the duty and responsibility of the man to love his wife like Christ loves his church, and that is more the responsibility of the wife to respect her husband and to accept his leadership in the same manner that the church is led by Christ without resentment.

In marriage, the two shall become one flesh, they shall be united in diversity. This unity is crucial to staying committed to your marriage. Good or bad marriages depend largely on how we communicate. To stay committed to your marriage and mission is not possible without

God, therefore all married couples must invite God in their lives to become their leader and guide especially in trying times.

We often ask couples preparing to get married the question, “When there is a storm in your relationship, who do you call or talk to for advice?” The answers we get vary from friends and family members and seldom do they call on God. We then remind them of the apostles in the boat with Jesus. Suddenly there was a terrible storm and they woke Him up and He rebuked the storm. The point of the story was to remind them to call upon Him, who has authority over the storm in their lives, and that is Jesus Christ.

Rob Buthezezi

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BIBLE SUNDAY

Parishioners of St Michael, Meadowlands on Bible Sunday as they read the word.



Bible Sunday celebrates the joy of encountering Jesus Christ through the scriptures and through the sharing of the word and experience. It is somehow troubling that Catholicism is seen as a religion that doesn't have an encounter with Christ through scripture. Most of us have no time to read the Bible – this much is evident in our communities.

The value of the Bible lies in its use. Let's keep the message of

the Bible alive for future generations. Let's pass it on and ensure that our children fall in love with the scripture from a very young age. It is, after all, the parents' responsibility to be first-hand catechists.

Get your church to join other parishes throughout the Archdiocese in celebrating the Bible and having the freedom to pass on its message. For more info contact the Bible Foundation on jhb@catholicbible.org.za



Lebo WA Majahe

Fr Philip Miller used Bible Sunday as the day for installation of proclaimers of the word at Our Lady of Peace, Roodepoort.

Photo: Gracian Sibanda

The Catholic Good Newsletter

Spreading the good news from the Far East Rand to beyond ...

Inspired by the gospel message to go to the ends of the world to proclaim the good news (Mark 16:15), the Catholic Good News (a monthly publication) aims to do just that. The newsletter was established in November 2013 with the name Daveyton Catholic News, and now reaches more than 500 readers. The biggest milestone is that the newsletter has, since June this year, expanded its distribution to other parishes within the Far East Rand.

The publication's founding editor, Kati Dijane, has managed to get a slot on the Soft Options

afternoon show at Radio Veritas every first Monday of the month to report on the happenings of the Far East Rand and on the content of the publication.

Mostly we aim to unify all parishes in all the deaneries by publishing stories and events we partake in at deanery levels. We also cover social and career issues, especially related to the Pope's intentions during a particular month.

For more information on how to get hold of the newsletter, contact Kati Dijane on kati.dijane@yahoo.com or ecatholicgoodnews@yahoo.com

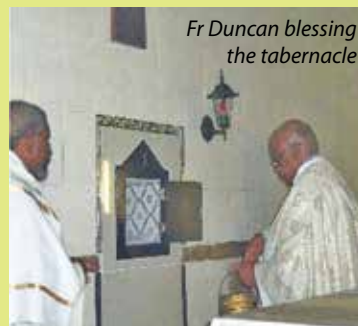
Kati Dijane

Blessing of the new tabernacle

A special mass was held on 3 September to bless the tabernacle at Holy Cross, Zola after it was desecrated in July. The main celebrant and representing Archbishop Buti Tlhagale was the Vicar General, Fr Duncan Tsoke. Parish priest, Fr Malesela Dikgale and Fr Ibercio Rojas MCCJ concelebrated, assisted by Reverend Ernest Madondo.

"Today's readings, especially the Gospel (Luke 5: 1 - 11), say we should not be afraid. Thus, we should not be afraid in our journey of faith. However, it pains me that our churches are under attack. We are easy targets," said Fr Tsoke. "We call ourselves Christians, but what we normally do is lip service. We come to church with agendas contrary to God's will. Sometimes we should look within. The person who vandalised the church is probably someone who came with their own agenda," he continued.

"What breaks my heart is that we have lost our faith. We do not know how to conduct ourselves in church. Our dress code, when we



Fr Duncan blessing the tabernacle

come to mass, shows lack of respect. If your aim is to be the centre of attention, you are taking people's focus away from God to yourself. If your spirit is unsettled, ask for help.

"How do you contribute in the church? Do I take care of my parish? When I see a broken chair, do I say it's none of my business? What happened here should teach us to be responsible. This is your church. You need to own, love and protect it because priests are not stationed in one parish forever.

"Unfortunately, people who vandalise churches end up being mentally unstable. Whatever we do in the dark, will catch up with us one day.

"This space is sacred. Bring problems you are unable to solve

to this place. Even when feeling down, come and spend time in the presence of Christ in the blessed sacrament. It heals. We need to give thanks for we have a new tabernacle," he said.

Fr Duncan closed his homily with a prayer to Jesus in the tabernacle, which was blessed after Holy Communion by Fr Duncan. The choir sang the Tartum Ergo and everybody knelt in reverence. The tabernacle lamp, symbolising Christ's presence in the tabernacle, was lit.

Fr Malesela said "Thank you, Fr Tsoke for saying mass. On the morning we realised that the tabernacle was desecrated, we were deeply hurt. We questioned what was going on with our lives, our faith. They haven't won the fight with us. We are going to arm ourselves with our spiritual weapons. St Theresa, who was going through their own pain of losing the statue of the blessed virgin Mary prayed with us. I would also like to thank everybody for your prayers, support and words of encouragement. Jesus Christ is with us. Let us draw nearer to him, through mass, adoration and praying without ceasing" he said.

Lerato Mohone

"The body, mind and spirit are connected. The health of any one of these elements seems to affect the health of the others".

Promoting good health amongst men

OLP Men's Forum at their health awareness day listening to speeches



Oupa Mpye (left) introducing Musa Moagi from the Society for Families Health.

Our Lady of Peace, Kagiso II, recently hosted a Men's Health Awareness Day on Saturday, 15 August, targeting males from around the West Rand Deanery to highlight an essential component of our Spiritual Life as Christians.

On this wellness seminar, medical experts shared up-to-date knowledge and in-depth practical tips about healthy living. The idea of the seminar was conceived to create awareness about health and how to practically approach health and prevent illnesses.

Specific areas of attention during this seminar were:

Early Ejaculation and Erectile dysfunction by Dr Solly Motlanthe; Medical Male Circumcision and Prostate Cancer by Dr Mike Maanwane;

High Blood Pressure and Cholesterol by the executive director of the South African Men's Action Group, Setjhaba Ranthanko and Sugar Diabetes and HIV/AIDS by a medical practitioner from Society for Families Health, Musa Moagi

The presenters, who are eminent

doctors from in and around Kagiso and elsewhere in Gauteng, emphasised that good eating habits include a balanced diet, drinking water, fruit in every meal and glass of milk every day, as well as cutting down on intake of salt which has a bad effect on health. They also spoke about the importance of exercising and cutting down on smoking and alcohol.

Mothusi Mogari (Executive Committee Member of BoNtate at OLP)



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New undergraduate degrees at St Augustine



Celebrating St Augustine. A cocktail party was held to mark the feast of St Augustine. Seen sharing a wise-crack were, from left, Prof Sr Edith Raidt, Founder President; Prof Nicholas Rowe, Academic Dean and Prof Garth Abraham, President and CEO. Prof Abraham took on the leadership role at St Augustine College on 1 August.

Garth was an associate professor of law at the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand where he also obtained an LLM, following an LLB at the University of Cape Town. He attained an MA in history at Natal University.

He is a qualified attorney of the High Court of South Africa and practiced law in Johannesburg.

Garth's areas of particular academic interest and expertise are in public international law and jurisprudence. As an employee of the International Committee of the Red Cross, he travelled widely in Africa and networked with African universities and other institutions including the Southern African Development Community, the Pan African Parliament and NEPAD.

Garth is a student himself, currently completing his PhD through the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium. Garth and his wife Caroline de Pelet Abraham have three children. He is parishioner of St Charles, Victory Park.

St Augustine College, the Catholic university of South Africa, will offer two undergraduate degrees in 2016, a BA and BTh.

The BA is a Liberal Arts degree with English, History, Philosophy, Politics and Psychology; and a strong numeracy component with an emphasis on academic development and research skills. Students will be prepared for the 'world-of-work' particularly for careers in education, politics and government, media and communication.

With a solid philosophical foundation, the BTh degree addresses all of the principle concerns of Theology: Scripture, Church History, Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Christian Ethics, and Pastoral Studies and aims to incorporate the contributions of faith, reason and human experience.

Professor Raphael de Kadt, an experienced academic and political scientist, will administer both degrees with expert input from permanent academics of St Augustine's and sessional lecturers.

The President of St Augustine College, Professor Garth Abraham, is delighted with the programme of undergraduate study.

St Augustine prides itself on the personal attention devoted to its students. Relatively small classes and high impact teaching allows opportunity for interaction and debate, as well as personal growth and the development of self-confidence.

St Augustine is well-equipped with all necessary IT facilities.

Committed to the values of the Catholic intellectual tradition, the mission of St Augustine College is to produce graduates who have learnt 'to think rigorously, so as to act rightly and to serve humanity better.'

St Augustine College also offers a range of postgraduate degrees, from honours to doctorates in the fields of Theology, Philosophy, Education, Applied Ethics, and Peace Studies.

"Human dignity and the common good are at the heart of St Augustine's teaching and the work of the College," Prof Abraham reminded guests at the feast day party.

For more information about St Augustine and its degree offerings, visit www.staugustine.co.za

Judy Stockill



New appointments at Holy Rosary

The Holy Rosary School's Board of Governors has announced the permanent appointment of Jacinta Lucas as Head of School, Belinda Damhuis as Principal of the High School, and Mrs Hilary Gray as Principal of the Primary School.

Seen here are Julia Morgan – Chairperson of the Board of Governors, Sr Lorna - Regional Leader and member of the board, Jacinta Lucas (Head of School), Hilary Gray – Principal of the Primary School, and Belinda Damhuis – Principal of the High School.



A visit to Ngome

Some Holy Rosary School girls ventured to Vryheid, KwaZulu-Natal during their August school holidays for a time of prayer and spiritual reflection on the Ngome Pilgrimage – 'the place of miracles.'

Seen here are some of the group: Kalaba Kambafwile, Kayla Erasmus, Kathryn Bennett, Monique de Bastos, Erin Meyer, Sinéad Meyer, Cailyn Boake, Thologelo Mohlala, with Anastacia Meyer in front.

Dealing with anxiety in children

There was a pleasing turnout at the Catholic School's PrePrimary School meeting. Sacred Heart College's experienced social worker, Marie Grobler spoke on the topic of anxiety in children. This is something that seems to be a common concern at many of the schools. Marie discussed ways of identifying different types of anxiety and gave participants tools to help these children cope in a world where they are faced with hearing about the realities of the world without a filter. It was a most informative afternoon.



fyng different types of anxiety and gave participants tools to help these children cope in a world where they are faced with hearing about the realities of the world without a filter. It was a most informative afternoon.



Teaching leaders

Four parishes attended a successful retreat hosted by the Central Deanery Forum Youth in August at Holy Trinity, Braamfontein.

Sr Juliana was the guest speaker for the retreat. Leadership from high school to community was discussed.

Sr Juliana gave us a difficult game which challenged the leaders to be creative and think ahead. We

learned that we should not make promises that we cannot keep.

Leaders should learn to sacrifice, have patience, love and the ability to analyse a problem before implementing a decision. We were taught a leader can't lead without the Lord in his path.

Leaders should not give up, no matter what the numbers are at your parish. You are preaching to unite young people with God. You should also finish the term of appointment in the position undertaken to serve.

Central Deanery Forum Youth Executive

Ellen Howell

Parents teach the children at Sacred Heart College - Mindworks 2015

Since the mid-1980s, parents at Sacred Heart College have taken over the primary school for the last week of the second term every other year. For four fun-filled days, the children have had the wonderful experience of learning from their own parents. Mindworks is focused on drawing on the wide variety of skills and talents in the parent body. Parents take leave of their normal jobs for a week and come into the classroom to teach. For many of us (parents that is), this is a real eye opener in terms of how intense keeping 30 small children engaged, quiet and learning can be!

This year, we chose the theme 'Renew' for our Mindworks programme. This was part of our response, as a Catholic school, to the Pope's new encyclical, 'Laudato Si: Caring for our Common Home'. From transforming trash into toys, to making sun ovens, the children explored a variety of ways of living more sustainably.

Parents with a more scientific and philosophical outlook on life offered kitchen science experiments and games of logic to the children. Other parents, who were more artistic, ran workshops in drama, dance, drumming and singing the blues! A highlight for all was learning Dr Seuss's 'Fox in Sox,' a tongue-twisting poem, which the whole school mimed.

We could not have thought about the environment without animals and had amazing presentations from Lori Park Sanctuary, Croc City and a simple workshop on 'How to talk to dogs.'

Each Mindworks also does something of lasting value for the school. At the beginning of the year, a number of old trees in our orchard were cut down. The trunks were cut into table and chair sizes and left to dry out. Then they were treated and, as one of the activities of Mindworks, the children painted all of them in bright colours. Now our playground and orchard has dozens of fairy-ring decorated chairs and tables for all to use.

By the end of the week, the children were excited and tired, and the parents had a new depth of respect for the teachers, who do this every day!

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Lay Leaders Conference a success!

Pictured above are speakers at the conference.

The sixth annual lay leader's conference was hosted in the North Deanery, at the Church of Resurrection, Bryanston on Saturday, 29 August. The event was organised by the Evangelisation Department, through the leadership of Odilon Molapo and Fr Gabriel Afagbegee, their Episcopal Vicar. Bishop de Groef of the Bethlehem Diocese, who is the bishop responsible for the department at the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC) was present, with Fr Tony Nunes, the Dean of the North also present. The theme for the day was: "Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations." The conference was well attended with just over 320 leaders present, including youth. There were various speakers from the SACBC, from the Department of Formation Life and Apostolate of

the laity, which comprises of Justice and Peace, Liturgy and Evangelisation.

Speakers included Fr Sakhi Mofokeng, Sr Phuthunywa Siyali, Kabelo Selema, amongst others.

Duncan Hyam of Renew Africa also gave a presentation on the new season of Renew Africa. It was an informative platform where leaders shared their challenges and were advised accordingly about what the church requires. According to Odilon, the aim of the conference was for leaders to learn about outcomes of inter-diocesan consultation and to learn the missionary aspects of the church. Theo Kgapola, the vice chairperson of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, who is also the Archdiocesan representative at the Council of the Laity at the SACBC, was introduced.

Lebo WA Majahe

Assumption procession Spruitview



Members of the Holy Family Parish, Spruitview, during the procession

Marian hymns and Rosary prayers were the order of the day as Fr Teboho Matseke led the Holy Family congregation in procession through the streets of Spruitview on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

A statue of our beloved Mother was carried shoulder-high by members of the various parish sodalities and group formations which included, among others, the Catholic Women's League, St Anne, Daughters of St Anne, the Sacred Heart, Legion of Mary and the Women Without Portfolio (WWP).

The Men's and Youth Forums were prominent in assisting with the marshalling along the route.

The procession's final destination was the grotto of Our Lady which Fr Teboho blessed and where he also prominently displayed a replica of the miraculous picture of the Madonna and Child - Our Lady of Perpetual Help. His homily centred primarily on this picture and how a great number of pilgrims have, over the years, travelled from afar worldwide to seek aid and found it in this miraculous icon. We are also open to receive the graces found in forwarding our spiritual needs to

our merciful Mother who never rejects us and always intercedes on our behalf to her Son, he said.

It was a wonderful day indeed.

"e Maria! ndikwenzele ntoni na? Theth' into ndikwenzele. ..."

Dominic Tshabalala, PPC Vice Chairperson

Renewing their vows



Members of Catholic Women's League of St Martin de Porres, Orlando West renewed their vows on 16 August.

Pic by Pamela Tsagae

Compulsory Pilgrims' Encounters 2015:
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 15 Nov

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www.catholicjohannesburg.com/wyd-poland-2016.html

The faithful at St Pius X, Mofolo celebrated the memorial of their patron saint on 23 August. Efforts were made for the elderly to be ferried to and from Mass, not only because it is the tradition of the parish community, especially on important feast days of the church, but because they have played a major role in developing the parish to what it is today.

"In today's Gospel (John 6: 60-69), we learn that Jesus is no politician that he should require followers or fans. He wants people who are willing to commit themselves to the service of God.

"Serving Him leads us to eternal life. By virtue of baptism, we have professed our faith in the one and only God. Our profession of faith in the one true God must be continuous, even when challenges confront us," said parish priest, Fr Louis Ajinge CMF.



Anointing the elderly with oil of the sick

Celebrating St Pius

"The common thread in the Gospel the past Sundays was the Eucharist. There is no greater worship than the adoration and celebration of the Eucharist.

"Our parish patron, St Pius X was an ardent lover and promoter of devotion to the Eucharist.

"Before his papacy, only adults received the Holy Eucharist. Through baptism, our children are

initiated into a life with Christ and must commune with Him. Pope Pius X was a humble, pious man who was firm in the teachings of Catholicism.

"Even as Pope, he taught catechism to children because he believed a good foundation in children will bring about a firm and solid faith in adults.

"He promoted lay apostolates and, as a result, we have a lot of ministries for the laity. A priest performs his own duties according to his calling, however, he is also helped by lay people. If the community of St Pius X fails, it is our collective responsibility," he said.

Fr Louis then anointed the elderly with oils of the sick on their foreheads, chests and palms to heal areas in which they may be feeling aches.

After Mass everybody was treated to a special meal.

Lerato Mohone

Daughters of St Anne's welcomed



Frs Malesela Dikgale and Victor Ngwenya blessing the capes

Our Lady of Fatima, Dube was the host parish as new members of Daughters of St Anne's, South West Deanery, were enrolled on 29 August.

Fr Dikgale Malesela celebrated Mass for the last time as their spiritual director. Frs Victor Ngwenya, Louis Ajinge CMF and Soweto Dean, Fr Patrick Maselwane OMI concelebrated with Deacon TJ Shomang assisting them.

Fr Victor, in his homily said, "To follow Christ is to partake in the Stations of the Cross. Thus, we are committed, not interested. To be committed means to remain faithful to Christ and his teachings and imitating his lifestyle. Interest has no value as

it makes us pompous and proud. Sodalties are about self-giving to the continuous work of Christ. One only dances to the tune of Christ. We are, therefore, invited to dance to that tune, the tune of

faith and purpose. If you don't have faith, you will dance to the tune of the world. But with faith, the world will dance to your tune. Therefore, we embrace the Stations of the Cross as the direction of our lives," her said.

The Catholic Women's League's South Western Deanery chairperson, Thoko Mlungwana, encouraged them to be active members of the sodality because they are alive, not because of who the chairperson is. She advised them not to be jawbones who talk and do nothing, but to rather be backbones of the sodality, church and community.

The Archdiocesan Daughters of St Anne's spiritual director, Fr Nkosinathi Nkabinde CSSp said he is pleased that the sodality is growing and sincerely hopes it will not only grow in numbers, but bear bountiful fruits through its works.

Lerato Mohone

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Daswa – a step closer to canonisation

Report and photos by Lebo WA Majahe

A beatification ceremony that captured the attention of all South Africans and the world

Tshitanini, Limpopo was crowded with people from far and wide on the weekend of 12 and 13 September.

They had come to witness the beatification of Tshimangadzo Benedict Daswa, who was bludgeoned to death for resisting witchcraft on 2 February 1990. The program started on Saturday night with praise and worship, a moving homily given by Fr Karabo Baloyi on martyrdom, adoration and benediction led by Fr Nhlahlhla Xingange. Bishop Victor Phalana of the Klerksdorp Diocese also led the attendants with prayers for healing.

The beatification means that Daswa is the first South African martyr, our own local saint! Inquiries still have to be made and miracles will have to be proven as "mysterious works of the Lord" before he is canonized as a universal saint. His martyrdom means that we can ask him to intercede for us, that new churches can be named after him and that his name will be included on the litanies. Mass on the actual beatification day was beautiful, with various choirs from the Tzaneen Diocese leading the liturgy. About 35 000 people and more than 2 000 priests attended the auspicious event, including most of the bishops working under the SACBC. Cardinal Angelo Amato, a representative of Pope Francis from the Vatican was the principal celebrant. The rite of the beatification began when Bishop Joao Rodrigues and Bishop Emeritus Hugh Slattery, together with the Postulator and Vice- Postulator, came before His Eminence Angelo Amato and asked him to proceed in beatifying the Venerable Servant of God, Tshimangadzo Benedict Daswa. After the biography of Daswa was read, the Cardinal Prefect introduced the Apostolic Letter, which he read inscribing the Venerable Servant of God among the number of the Blessed. The Apostolic Letter was read in Latin and English. "With our apostolic authority, we grant that the venerable servant of God, Tshimangadzo Samuel Benedict Daswa, layman and family man, martyr, zealous catechist, all-round

educator who gave heroic witness to the Gospel, even to the shedding of blood, from now on will be called 'Blessed,' said Amato, reading from what Pope Francis had written. Among the dignitaries who attended the beatification were Deputy President, Cyril Ramaphosa and the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Nomvula Mokonyane, Mosioa Lekota, together with Venda King, Toni Mphephu Ramabulana, and local chiefs, amongst others.

Ramaphosa reminded South Africans to commit themselves to a better life for all; which means that we should not be attacking those who we do not agree with, he said.

Daswa's 91 year old mother, Thidziambi Ida Daswa, siblings and children were all present.

In her remarks when we visited her home, Ida prayed for us and stated that she thanks the Catholic Church for giving her son such an honour. She said that the beatifications meant that Benedict has risen from the dead. Mackson Daswa, brother to BI Daswa, at a media briefing before the event, explained that his brother was a very reliable man whom his family and most relatives were entirely dependent on. During the offertory procession, Daswa's children brought forward the gifts, accompanied by Acolytes, and Rev Deacon John-Paul Mathebula of the Pretoria Archdiocese holding the reliquary. A horn was blown at intervals during the mass by a member of the Lemba tribe, commonly known as the 'black Jews' – a tribe which Benedict belonged.

This beatification will affirm the Catholic faith, especially in Limpopo, where just a small number of the population are Catholic. Lufuno Daswa, the eldest son, who is no longer Catholic, but is a minister at the Church of Christ, said he thinks that his father's beatification will contribute to the revitalisation of the people's faith and will encourage them to hold firm in the face of the difficulties that they must face in their daily lives.

"For me, it gives me a challenge to stay firm and true to the values I believe in," he added.

The Blessed Benedict Daswa feast day will be celebrated every year on the first day of February.



Where Benedict Daswa's remains are lying in a vault, at the Assumption of Mary parish, Nweli. The memorial stone was covered awaiting the family to come and unveil it in a private ceremony. After the Benedict Daswa Shrine has being built, the remains will be moved permanently there.



Above: Cardinal Amato walks into the venue of the beatification in Tshitanini and everybody welcomes him with cheers.



Right: Cardinal Amato, a representative of Pope Francis at the beatification mass.



The delighted crowd during the "Gloria".



Above: Minister of Water Affairs and Sanitation, Nomvula Mokonyane standing behind Ida, mother of BI Benedict Daswa.



Above: Some of our Johannesburg Archdiocese priests who were present.



A view of the altar...



The reliquary...

Above right: Archbishop Buti snapped taking pictures during the beatification mass.

Pic Mlungisi Mabe

Right: Fr Smilo Mngadi, spokesperson of the SACBC, presenting gifts to Cardinal Amato for him and Pope Francis.



Pictures: Lebo WA Majahe

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12 Pit-stops launched

On 5 September, Debbie Widdows and Nick Kok launched 12Pit-stops at St John the Apostle, Florida Park. They gave a presentation to parents on what the programme is about and what children who attend their sessions will be doing.

Much like racing pit-stops, the programme creates a safe space where young people can have conversations about their journey on the road of life. It aims to create an environment to explore ideas and share stories while learning about God's ultimate roadmap and how to follow the road's strategies, as well as how to get advice from the Great Team Manager who made them and everything around them.

The programme which is between 2pm and 4pm at St John the Apostle, will run every Saturday until 28 November and has the support of the parish priest, Fr Donald McLoughlin.

"I ran Divorce Care at St John the Apostle. Although there is Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K), teenagers are left out. The seed was sown when I realised that my own teenage daughter was battling more than my younger son after going through my own divorce. I prayed about it and I was then invited to talk about Divorce Care at Alpha. This is where I met Nick Kok who is involved in The Paul Network – a website posting articles pertaining to how men express their spirituality in the modern world", said Debbie.

"Nick is a Christian but not Catholic. I told him my idea and he liked it so we put our ideas together and planned each session. The Holy Spirit led us to Bible verses pertinent to topics we will be covering," she continued.

Teenagers are welcome to join anytime and do not need to have started from the beginning. However, parents have to fill in a consent form which explains everything and includes rules, codes of conduct and liability. A registration fee of R120 for all sessions is payable on registration. Each session starts with social networking where food is shared, much like Jesus did with his disciples at the last supper. A video relevant to the topic of the day is screened. Topics include: 'Where to?' and 'Who do you follow?'

After viewing the video, participants engage and share their thoughts. While this is still a pilot project, organisers are hoping it will be successful and are looking at having sessions twice yearly. Although 12Pit-stops was started with the intention of helping teenagers from broken homes, every Christian teenager is welcome to attend. The website is still under construction.

For more information, visit the facebook page <http://pit-stops.wix.com/12pitstops> or email Debbie or Nick at 12pitstops@gmail.com

Lerato Mohone



Cathca regional meeting

Regional representatives of Catholic Health Care Association (Cathca) from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Botswana and Zambia met at the Kononia Centre in Johannesburg for a regional network workshop which was facilitated by the regional secretariat manager.

Some issues which were included in the lively discussions revolved around staff retention in rural areas, the need to renew infrastructure and partnerships with the local government and sustainability.

South Africa is different to the other countries in that it has been involved in community work, hospices, home-based care and orphanages and has moved away from the wider network of hospitals and clinics which the other countries are strong in.

The regional network was formed in 2013 and has grown in the two years it has been running. The objective of the network is to share information and resources and for support.

Catholic Health Care, in most Southern African countries is supported by the government.

Cathca, in South Africa, has goals to:

- To continue to strengthen and develop home-and-community-based care aligned to government health care objectives in SA, Botswana, and Swaziland;
- To deepen the partnership with government – and other key stakeholders in regard to our members' work, and, through this partnership to act as a voice for the community; and
- To help support and improve the effectiveness of Catholic health providers.



A group who attended the conference

Three members of the Children of Mary sodality, Humphrey Mutazile (president), Kati Dijane, (secretary) and Ntombifuthi Zulu, went to a conference hosted by the diocese of Manzini in Swaziland from 2 to 6 September.

Masolenyana, in the Orange Farm parish, visited its branches in a recruitment move on 23 August at the Blessed Gerard branch in Vaal deanery.

Clarinah Makiba is the leader of those from St Louis, a parish branch of the Orange Farm cluster. It is a sodality like any other, but is for children, girls and boys between the ages of six and 15.

"It's very important for kids to work for God from an early age. We teach them Catholic prayers and songs and we give them a platform showing them Catholic values," she said.

She gave an example of baby Jesus who was lost and found in a temple listening and questioning the teachers of the law in the temple.

"It is very important for kids to know and respect the process of the Mass. Instead of them moving

Teaching Catholic values

in and out during Mass, we teach them how important to remain focused, listening and following the process from the beginning to the end.

This was echoed by Maria Gorrete Nzvimbo from Blessed Gerard.

Parents of Blessed Gerard should encourage their children to join since there are no members from this branch. Blessed Gerard used to have a strong and committed Masolenyana, but they advanced to another stage as they grew older.

Some of them are now the cornerstones of the church choir. Others are being trained to be proclaimers, said Nzvimbo. She asked local parents to support her in every activity.

After the talk, many children registered and parents promised their help.

Nash Kumuria

Children of Mary attend conference at diocese of Manzini

presence. Sister Alexia said the way one dresses, especially in church, reflects peoples' values and how they want people to perceive them. On vocational calling, Fr Stanley said that everyone is called to serve a purpose on earth. He referenced the story of Jonah from the Old Testament, saying that following our own desires always backfires, but doing God's will brings happiness.

Fikile Motsa, warned members against human trafficking saying people should watch out for job opportunities that appear too good to be true.

A new executive committee was elected to work hand-in-hand with the committee of the Archdiocese of Johannesburg to try form an inter-diocese committee that will unify all members of the Children of Mary within Southern Africa.

Kati Dijane



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Food and Fun at St John's

A Food & Fun Festival was recently held at St John's Catholic Church.



The Zimbabwe stall



The Italian stall



The Portuguese stall



The Farm stall

Photos by Brenda Brough



A breakfast treat

The men at Our Lady of Fatima, Dube, surprised the women of the parish on 9 August. Tables were laid in style, and they treated us with breakfast. As seen in the pictures, some of them had aprons on to give us a good treat. We were served fruit salad, oats and cereals, as well as scones with cheese or jam. We are really proud of *BoNtate ba Fatima ko Dube*.

Ouma Sebolao

"SHINE BONTATE BA FATIMA –DUBE SHINE. MODIMO KEO"

Teamwork within the parish of Our Lady of Victory, Doornkop is exciting to see. Young parishioners got involved helping and looking after the needy on 29 August at our parish.

The young adults of Our lady of Victory gave tea and biscuits, and later soup and bread, to the community of Doornkop who are not members of the church.

A second event happened on 30 August. Men presented the parish with a new, bigger crucifix which was brought in during the procession. This gift showed that the men loved and cared for their church. The prayers of the faithful were done by parish fathers to show their involvement in the liturgy of the church.

Fikile Ndimba, Evangelisation Parish Representative

Right: Shadrack Tau, coordinator for the Men's Forum presenting the new Crucifix

Our Lady of Victory, Doornkop



Above: Young people at work with chairperson of the group, Thabo Sello Madonsela (back, with white cap) and some members of the youth choir; altar servers and Catholic Women's League.



Women's Day Fundraising Lunch

The presentation of blankets



Below: A group of participants enjoying the day



WOW, WHAT A DAY! This day was celebrated on 8 August at St Joseph Parish hall in Meadowlands, Soweto. Some 160 people attended. Guests and members received five-star treatment and a three-course meal, coupled with a programme that was packed with entertainment. The DJ serenaded us with both old and latest *kuzo Kuzo* music. The guest speaker, Ulrike Schottler from Kolping, spoke about the programme they have initiated focusing on unemployment – Work Opportunity Programme, aimed at persons under age 30 at the Kolping Training Centre in Kalksteentfontein.

As part of the celebrations, the

South West Rand Regional Council, based at St Joseph in Zone 4, Meadowlands, presented the knit-a-square blankets to the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund. The blankets, which were hand-knitted by women of the Catholic Women's League (South West Rand Region) were later donated to projects that deal with the well-being of children, namely; Door of Hope which rescues and receives abandoned, aborted, abused and orphaned babies and children; and to the Diepsloot Youth Project which empowers the youth to be responsible citizens in disadvantaged townships.



Women in traditional costumes

Celebrating Women's Day

Our Lady of Mercy, Emdeni celebrated Women's Day on Sunday, 23 August with more than 300 women participating with enthusiasm as they dressed in their traditional wear. The day started with Mass by the parish priest, Fr Bernard Tente Sompane SCJ. During Mass, about five women came forward and testified what the Lord has done for them and how powerful He is. Amazing stories of healing miracles were heard, as well as inspirational stories of God doing the impossible.

Meisy Maredi



Enjoying the festivities



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"The whole assembly cried aloud, blessing God who saves those that hope in Him" (Dan.13:60)

"For in hope we were saved" (Rom.8:24)

Tuesday evenings,
1st SEPT – 20th OCT 2015
7.30pm – 9.30pm

St Charles' Parish Hall, Road No 3, Victory Park

- 6 Oct Healing through Hope in Sacrament of Anointing of Sick – Fr. Joseph Wilson
- 13 Oct Healing through Hope in the Sacrament of the Eucharist II – Mike Mahony
- 20 Oct Healing through Hope in the Gift of Community & 43rd Birthday Mass – Fr. Joseph Wilson

Contact: Marieke 082 399 1419/011 402 6400 (w)
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SECURE PARKING – ALL WELCOME

Catholic Institute of Education Annual Bishop Hans Brenninkmeijer Memorial Lecture and the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the Catholic Institute of Education

The lecture will be delivered by international speaker and advocate for human rights Bishop Kevin Dowling CSsR



Social Justice – A Hope Slipping Away?

Date: Wednesday, 7 October 2015
Venue: Holy Family College, 40 Oxford Road, Johannesburg

Lecture at 15:30
Followed by cocktails and snacks at 17:30
RSVP to Hilda Chinyowa hilda@cie.org.za or 011 433 1888 on or before 30 September

Bishop Dowling will provide a concise analysis of the reality in South Africa, with a clear perspective on what that reality is for the truly poor. He will look at facets of society and government delivery programmes, e.g. education and health, from the actual experience of disadvantaged communities. The Church network with its various social action programmes, like education and healthcare, are predicated on a different range of principles, those of Catholic Social Teaching. What have we as Church to offer to the dialogue about the future so that social justice does not end up as a hope slipping away?

Kevin Dowling has been Bishop of Rustenburg in the North West Province, South Africa since December 1990. He has played an historic role in responding to the impact of HIV in the region. Bishop Dowling was instrumental in negotiating the peace process in Sudan. In 2005 he was heralded by Time Magazine as one of 37 Heroes changing the world for the better. He is currently Co-president of Pax Christi International.

Discipleship



34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? 37 Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mk 8: 34 – 37)

All of us are a mixture of the superficial self and our true self. We have our wonderful talents which we can use in a selfish, self-centred manner or we can live our lives being true to our deepest being. We use our greatness and uniqueness to become the best for ourselves and the best for the world.

If any want to become my followers let them deny their false selves, taking up their cross, utilising their talents to make this a better world for all. In this way we will truly be following in the footsteps of Jesus.

By seeking to save ourselves, caring only for ourselves and our selfish interests we will never reach our true potential. We are too gifted and talented to be satisfied with just serving ourselves. Only by living out of concern for others, opening our eyes to the needs of those around us, will we live life to the fullest; we will have eternal life.

Our false self tries to satisfy our longing for God with material things, our true self is nourished when our focus is on the virtues of love, concern, thoughtfulness and sharing our lives with and for others. We find our true self in relationship with God and others. The greatest commandment is, love self, love neighbour and then Love God.

Shortly after the Transfiguration (9: 2 – 8) and the second Passion Prediction (9: 30 – 32) a bitter argument broke out amongst the twelve. "What were you arguing about on the way," asked Jesus? *34* But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and gave them a lesson in discipleship. Listen carefully, these words are addressed to us. *"If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."* *36* He took a little

Br Mike Chalmers cfc of the Bible Foundation writes about the Word of God in response to the Synod call for spiritual growth and on-going formation.

child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." (9: 33 – 37)

All of us are called to serve. Jesus has entrusted us to bring Good News to the "children," that is, the least significant, those in most need: materially, emotionally and spiritually. As disciples we are encouraged see ourselves as sent by God to the least in society.

As Jesus journeys to Jerusalem he is approached by James and John. They asked him, *"Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."* (10: 37) Can you believe this? Having heard Jesus stressing service as a key quality for true disciples these two are again looking for the top jobs. Worse still, *"41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John."* Jesus must have shaken his head as once again he repeated, *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."*

45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (10: 43 – 45) Disciples are people of Prayer. *"35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed."* (1: 35)

Let us pray a Disciple's Prayer
 1 Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. 2 Great are the works of the Lord, his righteousness endures forever. The Lord is gracious and merciful. 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. Holy and awesome is his name. 10 Admiration of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever. (Psalm 110)

Statement on the Blessed Oil

(Oil of Gladness)

In January 2015, the Bishops of the SACBC released a Statement on the Blessed Oil.

After consultation with the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Bishops of the SACBC have decided as follows regarding the blessed oil commonly referred to as 'oil of gladness' by others:

The only name to be used is 'blessed oil.' This is out of reverence for the Oil of Chrism specially blessed by the bishop on Holy Thursday, which the liturgy calls the 'oil of gladness' in the rite of the Chrism Mass. The term 'oil of gladness' should be restricted to chrism in our Catholic understanding.

Currently there is confusion with essential oils that people purchase, such as the 'oil of gladness.' This is an essential oil and has nothing to do with blessed oil.

As a sacramental, the blessed oil indicates strengthening, protection and healing – similar to holy water.

When blessing the oil, the prayer of blessing recommended by the Conference is found below. The oil thus blessed will be brought to the level of other sacramentals such as medals, Crucifixes and Holy Water which have their own blessing formulas.

It will be necessary and important to instruct people that the oil thus blessed by the priest or bishop is for them to use on themselves or within their families.

In the case of Healing Liturgies, when the Oil of the Sick is not used by the priest, oil can be blessed using the same formula as below. The priest using it has the responsibility of catechising the people in terms of the reasons why, on that particular occasion, blessed oil and not the Oil of the Sick is being used.

Mainly the reason is that the oil for the Sacrament of the Sick is used to confer the sacrament on those who are physically ill, whereas healing liturgies invite people will all kinds of ailments, physical, mental, emotional to come to be prayed over and anointed with the blessed oil. Holy Water, blessed salt, blessed candles and incense could also be used as alternatives in such prayer rituals.

This blessed oil is also used in circumstances of deliverance as holy water would be used.

The blessed oil, when being used in groups, such as Youth Encounter

in Spirit (YES), Education for Life and others coming from a charismatic background, are asked to understand that the bishops are from now on limiting the blessing and use of this blessed oil to priests alone.

The promotion and use of Holy Water is an alternative to blessed oil, and equivalent to it.

There is a special prayer provided for the blessing of ordinary oil and it is to be used by a priest when blessing oil at someone's request. The priest, after blessing the oil, will anoint the person with a simple sign of the cross on the forehead, in silence, and entrust the oil to the person for his/her own use, or for use in the family. He reminds the person that this oil is only a sacramental which points to the much more important encounter with Christ the healer in the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion.

The bishops also desire that 'blessed oil' be used by the priest or a number of priests at pilgrimage sites, where large numbers of the faithful are gathered whose needs for healing are much wider than physical illness which is the reason for the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

At healing services presided over by a priest, the oil can be used and is blessed with the prayer provided.

Prayer

Priest: *Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

People: *Who made heaven and earth.*

Priest: *O Lord, hear my prayer*

People: *And let my cry come unto you.*

Priest: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And with your spirit.*

Let us pray:

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise and thank you for this oil which brings healing and gladness to your people who come to you in faith.

By the gift of your Holy Spirit bless this oil which we set aside for use in His name.

Grant we pray that those who use this oil may be delivered from all suffering, all infirmity, and all the wiles of the enemy.

We ask this in hope through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.

Amen

Bishop Edward Risi Omi, Chairperson of the Department for Christian Formation, Liturgy and Culture and CIE

For any queries please contact Bishop Risi: omikeimo@global.co.za

We Celebrate with our Clergy

The following Priests and Deacons celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries of their ordination.

Remember them in your prayers!

Ordinations

Eduardo Guarin	23-10-82
Emmanuel Wafula	22-10-89
Ibercio Rojas Zevallos	12-10-91
Christophe Boyer	08-10-94
Lizwelinjani Mlotshwa	09-10-04

Birthdays in October

2 nd Emmanuel Luamina Luamina
3 rd Ronald Cairns
4 th Daniel Schlapelo
6 th Michael Austin
14 th Rev Philip Teulon
Samuel Anjah
18 th Rev Michael Sadie
19 th Rev Douglas Boake
Philip Miller
22 nd Mariano Perez-Gonzalez
24 th Raphael Ntlou
25 th Rev Ernest Madondo
Joachim Malunga
28 th Ben Mahlangu
Jeremias Dos Santos Martins
Bennon Fahy
29 th Martin Morrissey
30 th Rev Michael Pinnock
Chaka Motanyane

... and in early November

1 st Miguel De Lemos
3 rd Rev Abednigo Thokoane

Join us in our celebrations

The Sacred Heart Sodality hereby invites all its members and all Catholics to join them in the night vigil celebration of the feast of their patron saint, **Margaret Mary Alacoque** on **16 October** at the **Cathedral of Christ the King** from 8pm to 5am

AD news

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Reviving the Sodality of St Anne's in Kagiso

"The newly-weds" – Ikgomotseng Masuge, Fahlazane Malekutu and Kgatliso Pitso.

For just about two decades, the Daughters of St Anne sodality had 'died' in the parish of St Peter's, Kagiso, as it has done in several other parishes in the West Deanery. After expressing their interest, two young people from the Youth Parish Forum at St Peter's Parish, Kagiso, developed some love and enthusiasm about the devotion to St Anne. One other woman joined in along the way and they were able to make their dream of re-establishing the sodality in the parish, a reality. The parish of Our Lady of Peace, Kagiso was instrumental in equipping the young women, and grooming them, in the process of undergoing their initiation.

After about a year, they were deemed ready to be full members of the Sodality of St Anne, where

they were vested at a jovial and warm Mass led by Fr Emmanuel Wafula on 30 August.

As usual, the choir was in full swing, with everybody actively participating in the liturgy.

Mass was longer than usual, but that didn't get people agitated.

After Mass there was another service in the parish hall where all sodalities gathered to give words of encouragement to the new members on the journey they are about to undertake. The Youth Office staff were also present and they addressed parents and young people about the expectations of the Archdiocese from youth.

They explained the structures falling under the youth umbrella.

Lebo WA Majahe

A case for the Church in Africa

The full title of Dr Nontando Hadebe's talk was: "The Catholic Church in Africa as guardian, protector and sustainer of life." It was an abstract of the keynote address she will deliver to Council 50, a worldwide conference of reform groups timed to coincide with the celebration of the close of Vatican II, 50 years ago. Hadebe appealed for a 'Vatican III' to respond to the suffering in Africa. Her desire, shared by the community of sisters and brothers, is for a truly liberating Church in Africa.

She spoke on two issues – the conflict between human rights and the teachings of the church; and on "Missing men in the church."

Hadebe cited the case of pregnancy deaths in Africa which are the result of abortions. But no one says, so the result is that health programmes and policies for maternal health care in African countries are skewed. A proponent of participatory theology – a natural extension of contextual theology – she urged the church to



Dr Nontando Hadebe, a theologian of St Augustine College and Prof Douglas Irvine on the occasion of an address by Hadebe to WAACSA of which Douglas is co-chairperson. Both will be attending Council 50 in Rome in November. Nontando will be one of two keynote speakers at the conference. The talk was held on 29 August at Rosebank in the Harry Wilkinson Community Centre.

speak the truth. "Let it enter our theology. Do not be afraid."

Another example of how the church's teachings result in it remaining silent, and which is a grave injustice, is the corrective rape of lesbians and the criminalising by some African states of same-sex relations.

Life is at the centre of Jesus' teaching; protecting human life and dignity should be at the centre of the church's work.

Women abused in the home are 'inculturated into silence,' she said and the church fears guarding and protecting them. Life is a can of worms, and together we should unpack it, worm by worm.

Hadebe pointed out that 70% of people attending church are women; 100% of the leadership are

men. There is a 'disconnect' between teaching and living the faith if only one of each couple is faithful to the teachings of the church. There are many reasons for men being missing, and the church should respond pastorally, reaching out to heal brokenness in men, in women and in humankind.

With an audience of more than 60, a lively question-and-answer session followed the talk.

Hadebe is a lay woman theologian with a doctorate in theology from St Augustine College. Recently, she was a visiting fellow at the Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara University and a Fulbright scholar in residence at Emmanuel College, Boston, USA.

Visit www.council50.org for more information on 'Council 50: A Church – inspired by the Gospel – for the world'

Judy Stockill



Altar servers preparing to enter the church

First Altar Server Investiture

The parish of St Theresa, Tshepiso, which has been an out-station of Our Lady of Peace, Kagiso 2 had its first altar server's investiture on Sunday, 6 October. The out-station was established over 10 years ago under Fr Lefaufau who then passed it on to Fr Enoch Shomang and now Fr Theophilus Malotsa. This was a clear sign that the parish is growing. All who attended were delighted seeing young people having the desire to serve God in the ministry, and in showing interest in assisting their parish priest, Fr "Bisto" at the altar.

The choir was on fire during the liturgy which was mostly led by them, but with altar servers leading a few songs. In his

homily, Fr Bisto incorporated the daily readings into his message to the newly-vested altar servers. He told them that their role, through their actions and conduct, is to bring the assembly to a fuller understanding of the liturgy and a greater love of Christ. Fr

Bisto also let them know that they have a place of honour at Mass because they are assisting in many ways in the close presence of the Eucharist and it is necessary for them to perform all assigned duties with attention, dignity, and reverence.

He further explained that they are not yet ready to have girls joining the altar servers in the parish as the boys are not yet established. He encouraged young girls who are interested in being active in groups of the Youth Parish Forum (YPF) to come forward and join associations such as the Children of Mary Sodality. After Mass, the choir and some groups within the YPF kept the congregants entertained with singing and dancing.

Lebo WA Majahe



Investitures at Our Lady of Dolours in Carletonville

Catholic men from various parishes in the West Rand Deanery gathered at Our Lady of Dolours in Carletonville on Sunday, 30 August, to honour the installation of a newly-formed Catholic Men's Organisation and the unveiling of their flag.

Honours were conferred on about 15 men from the parish. The parish priest, Fr Raymond Anyanwu, bestowed the honours and blessed the flag. This will have a positive influence on other male parishioners to be involved in the life of the church in the Archdiocese. The CMO has chosen St Peter and St Paul as their patron saints. The president of the CMO, Mothusi Moses Mogari, congratulated these men and wished them well in their journey, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to serve the church.

Celebrating the elderly



Fr Francis Kariuki addressing the elderly.

On 26 July, during the Month of the Elderly, the Men's Forum and Young Adults from St Angela's, Dobsonville treated their senior citizens to lunch and a spa treatment.

During the month, the men also arranged transport to fetch all the sick elderly who were unable to attend Mass due to their illness, on a weekly basis. After Mass, each Sunday, soup and a slice of bread were served.

On the last Sunday of the month, after Mass, they prepared lunch for the senior citizens and distributed goodie bags to them as a sign of appreciation. They were also treated to a body and foot spa.

Parish priest, Fr Francis Kariuki, gave a talk on how the elderly contribute to society, and to the parish as a whole.

Elders are an important part in our lives, he said, not only to their families but to the church as a whole. The contribution to where the church stands today, through their hard work is evident, he said.

Albert Tsholo Setsetse, Parish Media and Communication Coordinator



Enjoying a foot spa at St Angela's, Dobsonville

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Good advice, Knights Honour.