

Archdiocesan News

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South Africans morally justified in opposing the Protection of State Information Bill

In a statement issued by Archbishop Stephen Brislin, Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town, he said that South Africans are morally justified in opposing the Protection of State Information (Secrecy) Bill because it does not serve the Common Good. The statement was read during a blessing ceremony for a 30 metre tall banner, erected on the front wall of St Mary's Cathedral, Cape Town. The banner is a protest to the Secrecy Bill, and is emblazoned with the words: "The Truth will set you free (Jn 8:32)" and "Say NO to the Secrecy Bill".

The full text of Archbishop Brislin's statement reads as follows:

We, the Catholic Church in Cape Town, strongly appeal to the National Council of Provinces to amend the Protection of State Information Bill (PSIB) in such a way as to bring it in line with our constitutional right to freedom of information.

As it stands the Bill undermines our right to information, which right is vital for the full exercise of our numerous other human rights, and the Bill violates the Constitution's commitment to open and transparent government.

The Bill comprehensively protects the

State Security Agency from public scrutiny because it allows the Agency itself to decide what it wishes to be kept secret. Any illegal activity by the Agency could therefore easily be hidden from scrutiny and from the legal process. Furthermore, the Bill gives the Minister of State Security too much power and allows the Minister to extend the right to classify information to virtually any State body, thereby increasing the chance that illegal activities will be hidden in the name of State Security.

Although various changes have been made to the Bill since it was first proposed, a major weakness is that no provisions are made for a public interest defence and for the disclosure of supposedly secret information about which the public has a right to know.

Moreover, severe punitive action can be taken against whistleblowers and journalists if they are in possession of, or publish material, that is deemed classified information, even if it is within the public's interest to know about it. Existing legislation which protects whistleblowers is not nearly sufficiently strong to withstand the PSIB.

Many religious leaders and NGOs,



ABOVE: Archbishop Stephen Brislin delivers a statement in opposition to the Secrecy Bill on the steps of St Mary's Cathedral, Cape Town on 19 January 2012 before a gathering of clergy, Chancery staff and supporters. **RIGHT:** A 30m tall banner was erected on the front walls of St Mary's Cathedral facing Parliament. The full text of the banner reads: "The Truth will set you free (Jn 8:32) – Say NO to the Secrecy Bill". **LEFT:** Archbishop Stephen Brislin takes part in the public protest action against the Secrecy Bill in front of Parliament on 22 November 2011. **Photos:** S Docherty.

such as the Right2Know campaign, have protested against the Protection of State Information Bill. As the Catholic Church in Cape Town we have the duty to continue opposing this Bill, not only as members of civil society, but also because there is a moral imperative to serve the common good. This Bill does not serve the interests of the nation and can be used to damage our democracy and lead us on the road, once again, to a Security State.

For queries contact Adv. Michael Pothier on 083 309 3512 or 021 461 1417.



Praying for a change of heart to legalized abortion

On 1st February 1997 the Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act was passed by Parliament. Since then, many thousands of unborn children have been killed, their dignity and humanity seemingly counting for nothing.

To mark this anniversary, and to pray for a change of heart on the part of all who disregard the rights of unborn children, Holy Mass was celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral on Tuesday, 31 January 2012 by Fr Peter-John Pearson, Vicar-general of the Archdiocese of Cape Town and Director of the Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office.

In his homily, Fr Peter-John drew inspiration from the readings of the day to lament the destructive impact of abortion in South Africa – 68 767 abortions carried out in facilities across the country in 2010.

He recalled the words of David, his cry of despair, his heart-rendering lamentation "Absalom, Absalom my

son", as an echo down the centuries of the cry of the man who has realised the burden of loss, the waste of life, a life which he should have nurtured for his posterity, but has instead connived to destroy because it was troublesome, inconvenient.

He said: "And that is at the heart of our prayer today. We lament, we repent, we acknowledge that we have wasted life, destroyed innocent life because it is troublesome, inconvenient. It is deepened even more by the prayer of the psalmist: preserve my life... preserve life, as some translations put it.

"The psalmist understands that the first petition, the fundamental data for the decent life he desires, for moving beyond the ambiguities, to a place of anointing and a time of glory, is built on the preservation of life. We gather because we share that conviction.

"We are together today because much like David, much like the psalmist,

we have been bidden to stand in awe of life."

Fr Pearson spoke of St Augustine and his saying that hope had two daughters, anger at the way things are and the courage to change them.

"He is right of course," Fr Pearson continued. "This day must be marked with a burning anger about this holocaust, but it must also be an hour of courage in which we say, thus far and no further; in which we take to our lips the heroic cries of those interred in the concentration camps of the last war, who rallied around the motto, never again. That is the surest way, as the psalmist noted, to secure the good of all.

"May we be bold in our commitments!"

At the request of Archbishop Stephen Brislin, a letter about this anniversary from Archbishop Buti Tlhagale was read out at the Mass by Fr Wim Lindeque.

Sydney Duval



Fr Peter-John Pearson, Vicar-general of the Archdiocese of Cape Town and Director of the Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office, gives his pro-life homily during Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on 31 January to mark Parliament's passing of legislation legalising abortion on demand. The Catholic Church and its leadership have called for the repeal of the Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act, passed on 1 February 1997, at the same time urging prayer for a change of heart among all who disregard the rights of unborn children. Fr Pearson introduced the Mass by saying it was appropriate that it coincided with the Feast of St Don Bosco, who was revered for his concern for the rights of young people and children and the most vulnerable in society. Photo: Sydney Duval

Visit the Archdiocese of Cape Town's website on www.adct.org.za

VOCATIONS: Work, Love, Courage

Viktor Frankl, in his book 'Man's Search for Meaning' says that life is not primarily about pleasure or power, but rather that life is a quest for meaning.

Frankl goes on to say that there are three sources to meaning in our lives. He mentions work, love and courage in difficult times.

I believe when thinking about the priesthood, these three sources of meaning that Frankl speaks about could help us discern where God is leading us.

The ethic of work is important and it gives us a sense that we belong somewhere and that we can make some meaningful contribution to our society. Work allows us to use our senses, to use our bodies to glorify God. It gives us an opportunity to provide for our families and we also have the opportunity to plan for the things that we may desire. Work in the priestly context is much the same, except that work is part of our priesthood, it is part of who we are. For example, when someone calls in the early hours of the morning to say that someone needs to be anointed, the priest needs to be open to respond to that situation. Every morning or evening when the priest celebrates Holy Mass, he is working, working in the sense that he is glorifying God, offering his body as a living sacrifice. When the priest does administration in the parish or has to manage conflict in the parish, he is working. So while he may not have a 9-5 job, the vocation of a priest is to work and he is working to build the kingdom

of God. The commitment to wake up, to pray the office, to answer the doorbell, to speak words of hope and peace and kindness is all part of the "working" vocation as a priest.

Frankl also says that we find meaning in love, and what he means by that is that we care for someone other than ourselves. Love for the priest is primary – love of God and neighbour. Celibacy, which is a gift from God, calls us to embrace all people, to care for others other than ourselves. This does not mean that we do not look after ourselves, but it has the sentiment of the prayer of Francis of Assisi: *It is in giving that we shall receive, in pardoning that we shall be pardoned, in forgetting about ourselves that we shall find unending peace with others.*

The world in which we live can be very self-centred. Someone once said that people often look at their navel and so cannot see anything else. We have become so obsessed with our own personal lives that we forget and often don't consider others. Technology among teens these days is unbelievable. They are perpetually on Mixit, Facebook and Twitter, (which are not bad in themselves), not so much that they can be connected to the world, but rather that they can tell the world who they are. It once again focuses on "me" rather than on the other.

Part of discerning our call to become a priest or a religious brother or sister is whether we in fact are open to others, open to loving others, considering others and their feelings, and being prepared to make self-sacrifices for

the good of others.

Most people have their families to consider. Diocesan priests are called to make the parish their family, or religious are called to make religious communities their home.

Thirdly, Frankl says we find meaning in courage in difficult times. These are difficult times. The temptation to be great, to achieve, to be the centre of attraction, to be relevant, to be popular and to control is very present today. The media, and the cynicism that goes along with that, creates a false perception of who we truly are and who we are called to be. Discerning a vocation to the priesthood is not going to be easy, but let the words of Frankl echo in our hearts today: *Courage in difficult times.*

Jesus often said: "Courage, do not be afraid". Jesus invites us today to follow him, to love and to serve him. Let the words of Jesus never cease to leave our hearts and let us remember that Jesus promises that He will be with us to the end of time. He commands us to love. "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. You did not choose me. No I chose you and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit".

In addition to work and love and courage, PRAY. Ask God to guide you and help you to find your true vocation in life.

Fr Emmanuel Siljeur
Episcopal Vicar: Vocations and Seminary Formation

From the HEART



I wish you and your families many blessings and graces for the New Year. May it bring you success in all good things that you undertake, good health and strong faith especially in difficult times.

Faith is indeed a gift, a gift that needs to be cared for and nurtured. Faith is not static – we can become weaker or stronger in faith. A lot depends on how much responsibility we take for our own faith and what means we use to keep the flame of faith alive within ourselves. While this is a personal responsibility, we also remember the words of John Donne "no man is an island entire of itself". Others can either help us or hinder us to grow in faith. To meet together with others who are also striving to live faith-filled lives can be a source of inspiration and support as we face the many challenges of daily life and endeavour to remain faithful to Christ and to the Church.

The launch of Ecclesia throughout the Archdiocese in February of this year is meant to be such an opportunity for us. The concept is far from new and has been practiced in most parts of the world, not just in recent times, but – in one way or another – throughout history. We already have the experience of the fundamentals underlying Ecclesia. Renew, which was very popular some years ago, was based on the same principle – prayer and devotional groups are other examples. The foundation of Ecclesia is small faith-sharing groups. It is an opportunity for like-minded people to come together to share and reflect

on their faith, using the reflections developed by the Centre for Pastoral Development. This is what makes Ecclesia different: the reflections are "home-grown" developed within the Archdiocese itself. This means that the reflections attempt to respond to the particular needs of people within the Archdiocese. While three Seasons of Ecclesia have been planned, many possibilities exist for more Seasons.

The aims and benefits of sharing our faith in small groups are many. Firstly, there will be a more intimate experience of "being" church. Secondly, that our faith will be strengthened and we will have the opportunity to grow in faith. Thirdly, the experience of Ecclesia should make us into more committed Christians, expressing our faith in action according to our own particular circumstances. Fourthly, as we journey this pilgrimage together throughout the Archdiocese it is my fervent hope that it will enable us to break down many barriers which still separate us as South African society.

We have learnt a lot from the pilot groups in different parishes. Especially heartening have been the youth groups that have developed. My sincere thanks to all who are so enthusiastic and so positive in your response to Ecclesia. May it bring you and our Archdiocese many benefits and a renewal of our faith and Christian witness.

Stephen Brislin

+ Stephen Brislin
Archbishop of Cape Town

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BECOME A DIOCESAN PRIEST?

YES, I am interested in finding out more about Diocesan Priesthood

EXPRESSIONS OF LIFE WEEKEND

7-9 May 2012 at Holy Cross, Modderdam Road

Name

Address

Tel/Cell Number

Email

Date of Birth

Occupation

Name of parish and parish priest

Have you been on a weekend before?

If you are passionate about serving Christ, love the Church and are energized by people, then we would like to hear from you!

If you believe in the power of what God can do in the lives and hearts of people, then we would like to hear from you!

If you love working in the parish, are involved in the community and believe God is calling you, then we would like to hear from you!

"EXPRESSIONS OF LIFE" is a group of young people who would like to know more about the diocesan priesthood and possibly hope to enter the seminary. Two weekends have been planned in June and September. If you would like to be part of any one of these weekends, then fill out the application form on the end of this article. Any young man

between the ages of 18 and 30 who may be considering a possible vocation, is welcome to attend. Please book early, since there is limited space.

Requirements for the week-end:

You are asked to be totally present to the week-end.

You need to present or declare yourself to your parish priest.

The weekend focuses specifically on your life and your personal vocation and so it is geared towards anyone who is serious about their vocation. For further information please contact:

Fr Emmanuel Siljeur
Vocations Director
PO Box 21
Howard Place 7450.
Tel: 021 934 8293
Email: emmanuelziljeur@yahoo.com

Watch your thoughts;
they become words.

Watch your words;
they become actions.

Watch your actions;
they become habits.

Watch your habits;
they become character.

Watch your character;
it becomes your destiny.

Anonymous

Abortion Warning

'The Pill' can abort, undetected, soon after conception.

A medical fact.

See www.humanlife.org/abortion_does_the_pill.php



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



Letters to The Editor

Archdiocesan News is a channel of communication and dialogue for the people of the Archdiocese of Cape Town. The views expressed in it do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors. It hopes to communicate various events, discuss topical issues, provide theological and spiritual input, and reflect all aspects of the life of our Church.

Archdiocesan News is produced by the Archdiocese of Cape Town and appears quarterly. Thank you to those who submitted articles for this edition. What would you like to see in future editions? Please submit reports about events and workshops that take place in your parish, or suggest topics and issues you feel would be beneficial to our Church.

Archdiocesan News is distributed free of charge in all parishes of the Archdiocese of Cape Town. Donations will be gladly appreciated.

Articles, letters and advertisements should reach us by **7 April 2012 for the April-June 2012 edition.**

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Layout, Production & Advertising: Stephen Docherty

AWESTRUCK

STUDIOS

Are YOU Awestruck?

So you are probably wondering what 'Awestruck' is? The answer is rather simple, it is what you will make it to be. Now, I know that sounds oblique, but it is what it is! Let me explain; Awestruck is a project to connect the Catholics of Southern Africa in a way that has never been attempted before.

We all know how few Catholics actually go to church. There are many reasons for this but some of the bigger ones include; anger over Church scandals, apathy, little youth interest, better appeal at alternative churches, and people who are Catholic but feel Mass adds no value. If you are reading this article, you may be scratching your head thinking, this then obviously does not apply to me. Stick with me, all will be revealed in a paragraph or two.

The decline in Mass attendance is a concern we all should share. If the decline continues, we may sit back and watch as our faith crumbles and dies. I don't believe God would let that happen, and he has certainly proven his support over the last 2 000 plus years. Yet, I do think we as Catholics, called to do God's will, need to play our role in supporting the Church too. As you no doubt have recently read, Vatican II was clear in its call to the laity to get involved. Awestruck is a most convenient way to do just that.

The word Awestruck, conjures up an image of the Apostle Paul being struck from his horse as he is blinded by God's glory. Well, certainly in my imagination! Perhaps for you other pictures come to mind; a beautiful sunset, a towering mountain, or any spectacle that leaves you speechless in the presence of something incredible. Our Awestruck is conversely very simple; an online space for Catholics which has been carved out of the internet. Instead I hope your interaction with Awestruck will leave you continually inspired to live a life filled with more love and joy than you ever thought possible. Something a little like St Paul...

If you are feeling a twinge of excitement, now is the time to visit www.awestruck.co.za and register yourself as a free member. The registration process is simple and will give you access to all sorts of wonderful things. Let me list them:

A **social media hub** which is effectively a 'Facebook' for Catholics. You can connect with your Catholic family and friends on a global basis, upload photographs and

even videos. More than that you can create any group you like and manage it within Awestruck. So if you are a group co-ordinator or a parish administrator, we have something for you and everything in between.

A team of local and international bloggers who are writing relevant **articles** that will at times cause you to ponder an issue and others, be inspired.

Interesting **news** from the Catholic world, shared as it happens.

Access to a **video library**, in other words 3 to 5 minute videos which vary in content from humorous inserts to Vatican news to beautiful explanations of elements of our faith. There is something in here all of us can use to deepen our Catechism, and it grows by the day.

Ever wanted access to some wholesome television? Well you can now watch EWTN, the biggest Catholic television station in the world, live on Awestruck.

There is also a **parish directory** where you can find parishes around the country as well as Mass times for those Sundays you find yourself away from home.

A **business directory** is being created and enables us to support Catholic businesses. Something we should be proud to do! If you are a Catholic business owner why not consider listing your business?

An innovative **mapping function** allows you to map your events, churches, initiatives, congregations or even businesses.

And the list does not end there, as we continue to improve the site on a daily basis. We will soon offer a Catholic video library, a shop, and a mobile optimised solution, to list but a few.

We would like to see Awestruck become a vehicle that helps each of us deepen our faith, instil new pride in our Catholicism, connect Catholics everywhere (whether they go to Church or not), keep us abreast of important Catholic news, and inspire us to live lives filled with God's love.

Awestruck lacks one thing; you! In order for it to work, it needs you to go to www.awestruck.co.za and register. Once you are registered, soak up all of the wonderful stuff on offer, and enjoy a profoundly Christian slant to your day! I look forward to the day when your contribution makes other Catholics sit up and listen, or marvel at your insights, or even rush off in Godly inspiration to change the world!



CATHOLIC SOCIAL NETWORK

- Connect with friends
- Keep your finger on the pulse
- A safe and secure space to interact
- Facebook integration



VIDEO GALLERY

- Gallery of free movies
- Awesome premium content videos
- Clips that will inspire and inform



RELEVANT NEWS

- Catholic news of the day from around the world
- Perspectives from a network of bloggers



IT'S FREE AND EASY TO BE AWESTRUCK

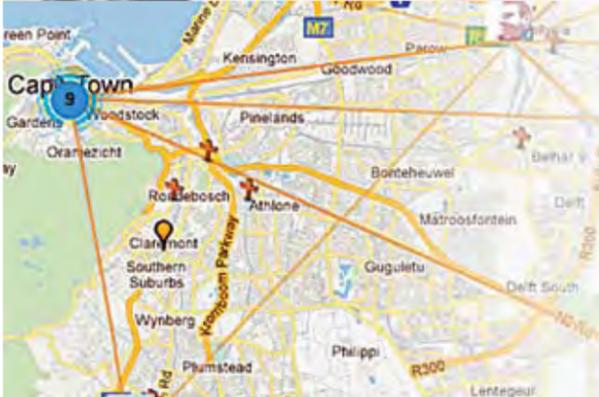
- Log in with your Facebook account
- Or register on Awestruck
- Then, Stay in the loop!

Watch this Video



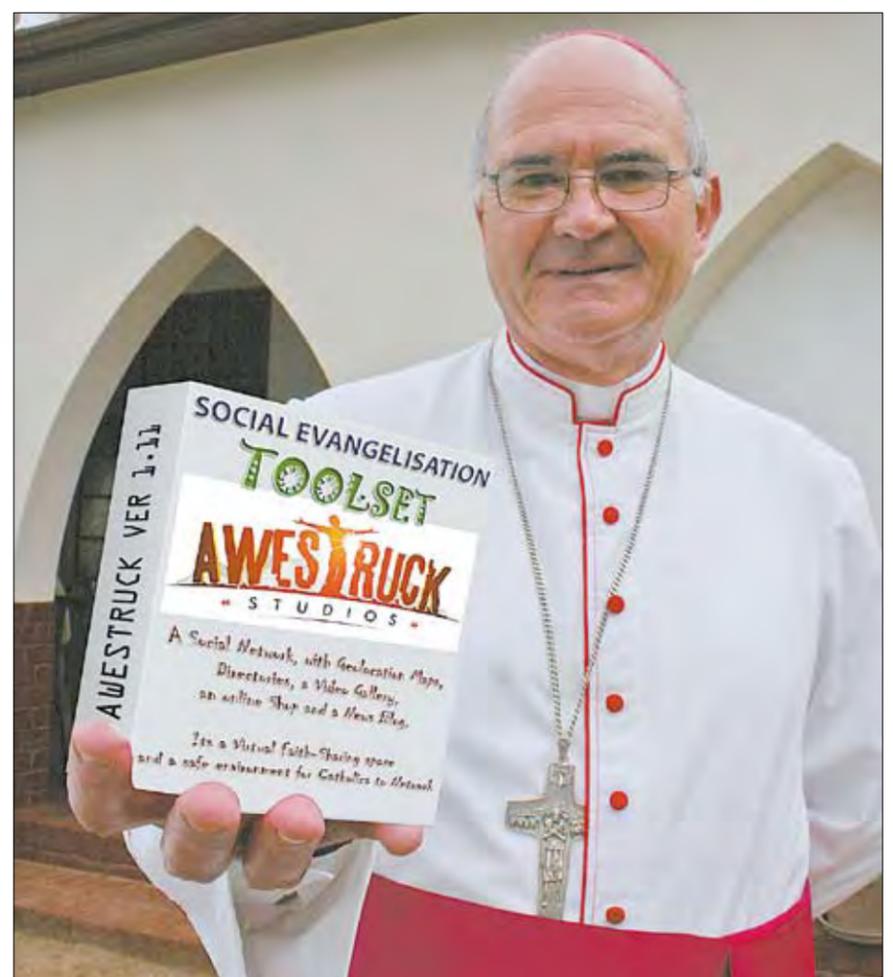
CATHOLIC DIRECTORY

- Find a Catholic parish or community and get directions from your location
- If you're a Catholic and have a business, list it and see it on the map



GLOBAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

- See your network of friends or connections on our global community map



Archbishop Stephen Brislin endorses Awestruck

Theology leads us into an encounter with God

Theology comes from two Greek words, *Theos* (God) and *Logos* (Word). It is the study of God.

Theology is *faith, using reason, seeking understanding* – which leads us into an encounter with God. It is a tool through which we can discover who and what God is and what God desires for us (1 Corinthians 1:9).

The ultimate goal of Christian theology is to learn about God's nature and God's will, and how they apply to us. It helps us understand our own religious tradition.

Theology is digging into God's Word to discover what God has revealed about Himself. When we do this, we come to know God as Creator of all things, Sustainer of all things, and Judge of all things. God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end of all things.

The study of Theology is to get to know God in order that we may glorify Him through our love and obedience.

All Christians should be consumed with theology – the intense, personal study of God – in order to know, love, and obey the One with whom we will joyfully spend eternity.

This opportunity is available for every Catholic Christian in the Archdiocese of Cape Town on a Wednesday evening at the Chancery, from 19.00-21.00.

Block 1: Dogma – Ecclesiology

For the next six weeks we will hear about the relationship of Jesus and the Church.

- Did the early Church understand itself as Church?
- The Church in history.
- Issues facing the Church.

To find out more, come and join us on a Wednesday evening, or contact Treasure at 021 462 2417 for more information.



ABOVE: Some of the attendees at the Wednesday evening Theology class, given by Mgr Andrew Borello. RIGHT: Mgr Borello in full flight. Photos: Joan Armstrong



Ecclesia off to a flying start in Wynberg

Our preparations for Ecclesia at Corpus Christi Parish in Wynberg are going extremely well.

We hosted 'sign-up Sunday' a few weeks ago at all our holy Masses. This 'sign-up Sunday' was advertised in our parish newsletter over the previous few weeks and has been announced from the altar as well.

This past weekend Fr Kannu generously hosted a braai in the parish hall for all Ecclesia facilitators and their families. It was a great success and the more we speak about it, the more comfortable the facilitators feel about Ecclesia.

Certain groups have already been identified, viz. a Single Mother's group, Catechism Parents group, CWL group, Day Leisure group & the Youth & Confirmation group.

With the wonderful help of Baranese Thompson, we have designed our 'Sign-up forms' on an A5 form, indicating the various residential areas and the facilitators in each area.

She has also been extremely instrumental in compiling an Excel spreadsheet detailing all the facilitator's details, viz. names, all contact numbers, email addresses, residential addresses and groups/areas.

Fr Kannu has also commissioned Keith & Beryl Stober to take photographs of each facilitator, the co-ordinators, the deacons & the priests.

These photographs will be displayed in our parish foyer this weekend and will indicate the name and area below each facilitator. The parishioners will thus identify with one or the other – gravitating towards the one with whom they feel the most comfortable.

Our next meeting will be hosted in our parish hall on Thursday 9 February after Benediction.

On this evening all facilitators, priests, deacons & the co-ordinators will be partaking in the first Ecclesia faith-sharing meeting in the series.

The reason for this is that some of the facilitators are naturally nervous or anxious and we wish to re-assure them that it is as simple as Renew, but with the help of a DVD which makes it so much easier.

Melvin & Shirley Hendricks
Co-ordinators
Corpus Christi, Wynberg.



PLEASE HELP

Sister Rosemary of the Holy Cross Sisters in Cape Town, who works among the elderly and the adult patients of a psychiatric ward, is seeking useful and unbroken musical toys/instruments to help make a "holy noise to the Lord" e.g. bells, rattlers, triangles, drums, whatever!

You may contact Sr Rosemary at Holy Cross Convent, Modderdam Rd (evening tel: 021 934 6006). PO Box 1405, Parow 7499; or leave your gift with Reception at Nazareth House, Upper Mill Street Cape Town

Thank you for your love and caring.

Sacrosanctum Concilium

Sacrosanctum Concilium was one of the most significant documents from the Second Vatican Council. It deals with:

- The nature of the Sacred Liturgy and its importance in the Church's life.
- The promotion of liturgical instruction and active participation.
- The reform of the Sacred Liturgy.
- Promotion of liturgical life in the diocese and the parish.
- The promotion of pastoral-liturgical action
- The most sacred mystery of the

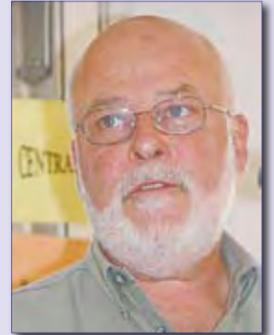
Eucharist
The Church earnestly desires that all the faithful be led to active participation in liturgical celebrations, which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy.

At 09.30 on 17 March 2012 at St Joseph's Home in Montana, Mgr Andrew Borello will share with the people of the Archdiocese of Cape Town what all this is about.

Do come and find out so that each one of us can say that we are informed Catholic Christians.

Theology Today

Mgr Andrew Borello



The word "Salvation" is a word that we frequently use, but often with very differing meanings, which results in us talking at cross purposes. From a Catholic perspective, salvation is an objective reality which has been achieved by Jesus through his passion, death and resurrection. This means that salvation has been perfectly achieved – it is a done deal and is available to all peoples. In turn it is for every person to personalize that salvation or, simply putting it, to make it their own. This becomes subjective salvation which involves the person in an ongoing faith conversion into a radically new way of life that is determined by a growing relationship with the person of Jesus, a becoming who Jesus is. This means that, while we are objectively saved, we are in a process of being saved over our lifetime – becoming like Jesus in everything and being one with him.

Taking this further, being saved involves a dying into Jesus and a rising into his resurrection. This is what Jesus speaks to us about so often – "Take up your cross daily", "It is in losing your life for my sake that you will find your true life". All too often we make our Christianity about ourselves, when salvation is all about Jesus. As St Paul says "I have been crucified with Christ and yet I am alive; yet it is no longer I, but Christ living in me" (Galatians 2:20) and "Life to me, of course, is Christ" (Philippians 1:21). This requires of us a radical rethinking about how we look at Christianity and our salvation.

When the Reformers looked at salvation, they developed the idea of "blanket salvation". When a person professes faith in Jesus (makes a life

commitment to Jesus), that person is blanketed with salvation so that God no longer sees the person but sees the blanket of Jesus' salvation over that person. From that moment onwards that person is saved. This is why Reform believers are so certain of salvation as a completed reality. This is very different from a Catholic understanding of salvation as an ongoing process in the life of a believer. In prosperity Christianity, the presence of salvation is evidenced in health, wealth, success, prosperity and happiness and this places them even further away from a Catholic understanding of salvation. Clearly Jesus never promised his followers all these benefits, but rather puts before his followers (and ourselves) the Cross.

Many Catholics are influenced by the prevailing Reform theologies and thinking, so that we land up with confused notions about our Catholic faith. It is as if we have developed a hybrid Catholicism that borrows heavily from the Reform tradition. All that we do by this is to confuse ourselves and others. Once again, we need to clarify just what our Catholic faith is actually all about and then to be able to live it and to speak of it to others. The issue of Salvation is one of the important areas where we need to gain clarity.

One of the goals of Ecclesia is to state again just what our Catholic faith is actually all about in a whole range of issues. I would urge as many of our Catholics as possible to avail themselves of the opportunities that Ecclesia offers us to deepen our Catholic faith and our commitment to the Church.

THE CATHOLIC BOOKSHOP

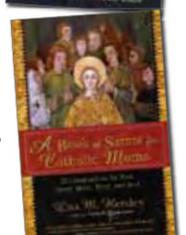
P O Box 379
8000 Cape Town
Tel: 021 465 5904
Fax: 021 461 0785
E-mail: custserv.cbs@mweb.co.za

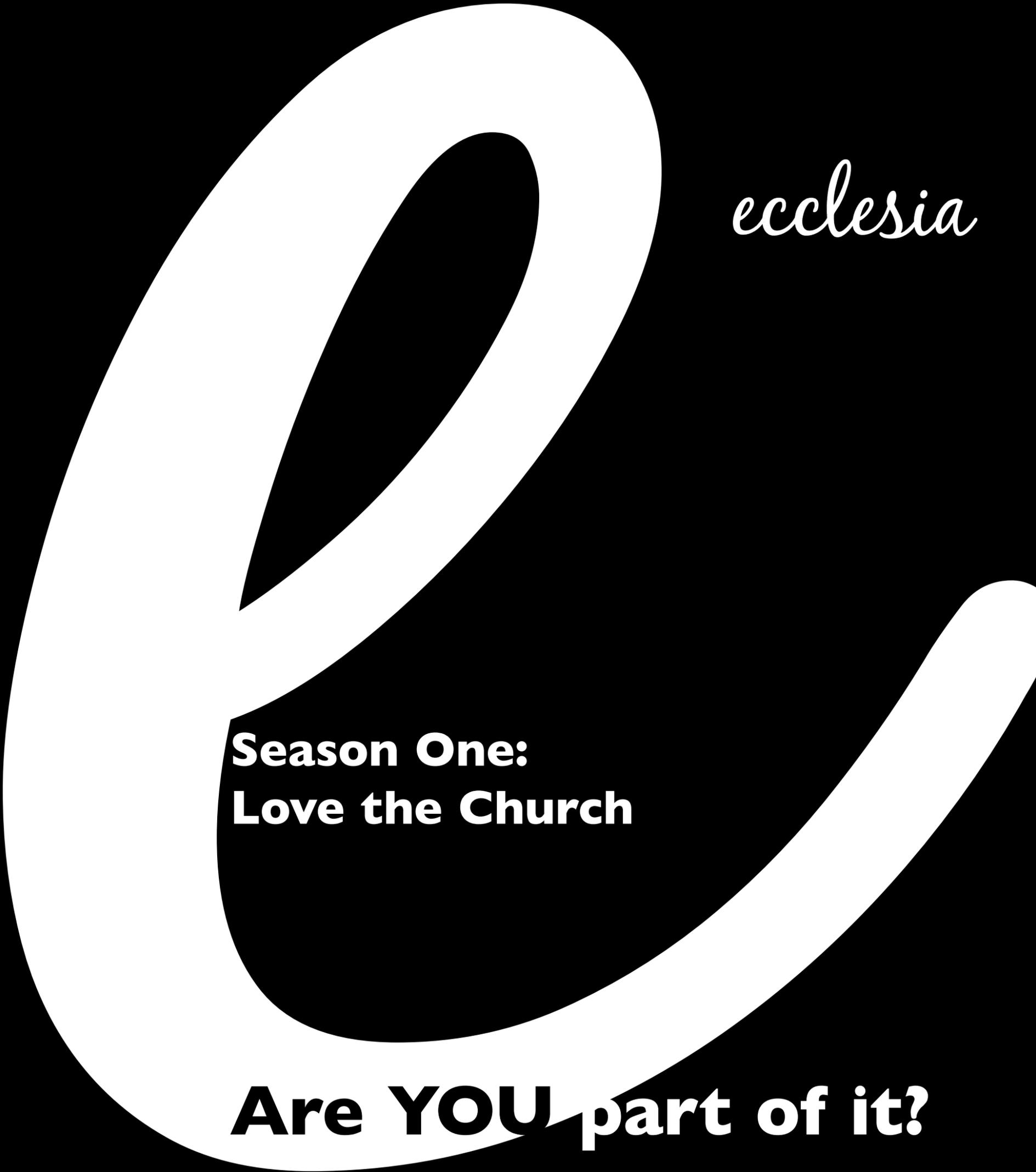
LAST THING AT NIGHT: Prayers and readings for the end of the day. Compiled by Rima Devereaux. A collection of prayers, psalms, gospel readings for use before going to bed at night. There are also readings from the works of Carmelite saints and writers such as Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Therese of Lisieux and Edith Stein.
2011 pb 128pp R128.00

A BOOK OF SAINTS FOR CATHOLIC MOMS Lisa Hendey. Introduces fifty-two holy companions as guides for the vocation of Catholic motherhood. There are also stories, scripture texts, prayers for the family and simple soul-strengthening exercises
2011 pb 331pp R168.00

WALKING THROUGH LENT WITH HOPE & JOY Reflections for every weekday by Ron Boudreaux SJ. Images by Philani Godfrey Mavundla. You are invited to reflect on your relationships – with self, with others, with objects, the planet and with God. Each theme is accompanied by quotations from Scripture, Vatican II and other writers. A Hope & Joy publication
2012 pocket size pb 64pp R40.00

Shop hours: Mon-Fri 08.30-16.30 + Sat 08.30-12.00
Street address: The Grimley, 14 Tuin Plein (next to St Mary's School)





ecclesia

**Season One:
Love the Church**

Are YOU part of it?

**Contact Joan at 021 462 2417
for more information.**

Jubilee church of Cardinal McCann in Factreton celebrates 50 years

The parish of St Luke in Factreton is celebrating its Golden Jubilee in this year of our Lord 2011. The year of thanksgiving leading up to the titular feast of the parish (18th October) was started with a mini Mission with the "The Seven Sacraments" as the theme.

We had various priests from the diocese coming to teach on the Sacraments:

- Baptism & Confirmation – Fr Peter John Pearson
- Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick – Fr Noel Rucastle
- Holy Eucharist – Fr Mark Foster
- Marriage – Fr Babychan Arackathara
- Holy Orders – Fr Hugh O'Connor

The Mission culminated with an awesome celebration of Holy Mass on Sunday 16 October with Archbishop Emeritus Lawrence Henry as the principal celebrant, together with the parish priest Fr Mark Foster and priest in residence Fr Hugh O'Connor – and the only deacon in the City Bowl Deanery, Dcn Henry White (at 84 still serving) – all at the altar of our Lord, giving thanks and praise for 50 years of Ministry & Service to the people of Factreton & Kensington. Voices were raised in praise to the Holy Trinity at the Mass, sung by the Archbishop, and the people responding with great gusto, joy and jubilation.

An Offertory Procession of various symbols was brought to the altar in thanksgiving and remembrance:-

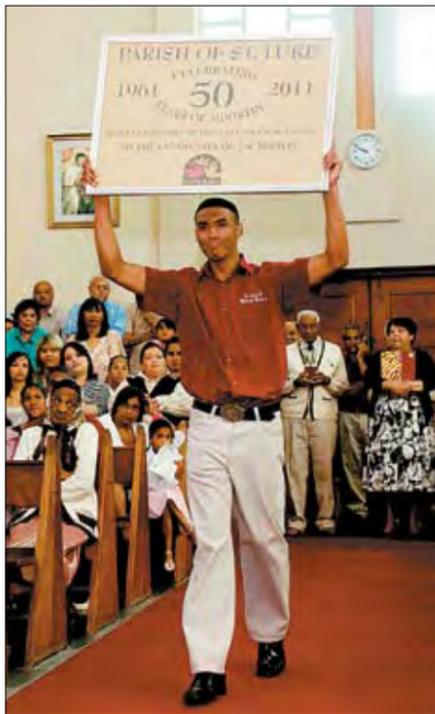
The Catechism of the Church was brought by Maureen Papier, a catechist, and one of the first babies to be baptised in this church 50 years ago.

Altar Server robes – brought by Gary Sickle, one of the original altar servers of the parish.

A guitar was brought by Joan Aspeling, one of the longest serving members to the music

ministry.

A priestly stole was brought by Sharon Klink, to remember all the priests and religious (Holy Cross Sisters) who have served this community, and especially those priests who have passed on, particularly Frs Brendan Long, Lawrence van Schoor, Billy D'Arcy & Irvin



Ethan Morris presents a banner of gratitude and remembrance to Cardinal Owen McCann for his gift of the church to the community of Factreton. Photo: Shona Hartogh

Mannoe.

A birthday gift to the parish from the people was brought to the altar by Ilona & Henry Felix who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary earlier in the month.

A banner of gratitude and remembrance to Cardinal Owen Mc Cann, for his gift of this church to the community of Factreton, was brought by Ethan Morris, a newly confirmed adult member of the church. (Cardinal Mc Cann, then Archbishop of Cape Town had gifted three churches to the people of Cape Town on his jubilee to the priesthood – St Anne's in Steenberg, St Matthew's in Bonteheuwel and St Luke's in Factreton).

The Book of the Gospels was brought by Bridget (Hartogh) Engelbrecht, in remembrance of the first Requiem Mass said in this church for her father Joseph.

The gifts of bread and wine was brought by two of the oldest Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, still serving in the parish – Goldencia Eckles & Abe Schroeder.

On this high note of thanksgiving, the chairperson of the PPC Mr Len Bailey thanked the Archbishop for sharing this auspicious occasion with the parish. With some tears in the congregation he also thanked the two priests who also celebrated their last Mass in the parish.

The Dean, Fr Mark Foster goes back to being the parish priest of St John's, Maitland and his various other duties in the diocese e.g. Chaplain to the Deaf and Chaplain to the Emergency Services.

Fr Hugh O'Connor goes back to the seminary in the new year, and also will continue, with all his other tasks in and outside of the diocese, and in various schools.

Mr Bailey then welcomed Fr David Anderson (in his absence) who would take up the post as new administrator at St Luke's.

The celebration ended with a slap-up breakfast in the parish hall. A big thank you to all who worked behind the scenes to make the day possible and may we continue to grow our parish from strength to strength. The parish will continue to celebrate with a "Potjiekos competition" in November, a Christmas raffle of a "Vuka scooter", and ongoing fundraising in the new year.

"May God who began the good work in all of us bring it to fulfillment and may all of us, under the protection of Saint Luke the Evangelist, be strengthened by his spirit and know that together, united by Christ in and through his gospel we continue on this mission of spreading the good news."

"Everyone should take into account what they do and consider if they are labouring in the vineyard of the Lord." – St Gregory the Great.

Cindy Leeson



The Sacred Heart Sodality hosted a farewell for Fr Pierre Goldie who was their chaplain for nine years, and they also welcomed their new chaplain Fr Nkululeko Qokolo at St Raphael's Church in Khayelitsha.

City Bowl Deanery hosts carols at Nazareth House

On 16 December 2011 weather conditions were perfect for the City Bowl Deanery's 4th annual Carols at Nazareth House, which involves all the ten parishes of the Deanery. Parishioners, families and friends arrived from 5.00 pm with their blankets and picnics and settled on the lawns of Nazareth House. They also brought with them gifts of baby care products for the Children's Unit of Nazareth House.

From 6.30 pm the band from St John's, Maitland provided background music. They, together with their choir, led the singing of carols at 7.00 pm. After a welcome from Fr Mark Foster, Dean of the City Bowl Deanery, Bishop Reginald Cawcutt opened the proceedings in prayer. Chris Hill, Chairperson of the Deanery Pastoral Council, introduced the six readers from the Cathedral, St Theresa's Camps Bay, Holy Cross District Six and St Luke's Factreton. The children forming the pageant were from St Luke's Factreton, St John's Maitland and St Patrick's Mowbray. Baby Ishmael from Nazareth House had the star role as Baby Jesus – and slept throughout!

The readings, which focused on portraying the Christmas story to the children, linked the carols which were enthusiastically sung by everyone who was there. The liturgical dancers from Holy Cross,



Three wise men bearing gifts at the pageant.



Parishioners, families and friends spread out on the lawn at Nazareth House. Photos: Fr Mark Foster.

District Six and a blessing from Bishop Graham Rose, who was visiting from Dundee Diocese, were a fitting end to a wonderful evening.

Special thanks must go to the Sisters of Nazareth House for once again hosting this special event of the City Bowl Deanery and also to all those

who made donations in return for candles. A special thanks also to all those who attended the wonderful spiritual and relaxed evening. Over R1200 was raised for Nazareth House for their work with children and seniors and also for their hospice care.

Margie Cook

Carols by Candlelight celebrated at Parow Church



Photo: Richard Lang

On 10 December 2011 the ladies of the Catholic Women's League, Parow under the guidance of their priests, Frs Basil and Sonny, hosted "A Carols by Candlelight" evening on the lawns in front of the church.

This took place after the 6 pm Mass. The evening was dedicated to all the youth, parents and leaders of the church. We also remembered the needs of our people in these difficult economic times.

At this time lights, sponsored by parishioners, were switched on. The lights were provided by Chris Bockle, the sound system of Patrick Lombardo and

the music provided by Rudolph Engel and his Brass Ensemble, enhanced the evening and transported everybody into the true meaning of the birth of Christ.

The children surprised the audience with their spontaneous performance. Everybody received a programme, as well as candles, which helped people to be part of the event. This transformed the lawns into a world of light – the light of Christ.

Snacks were provided by the Alpha Team.

The evening was concluded with the youth presenting Ecclesia, in a very innovative way, to the audience.

If you have any damaged or broken statues of the Sacred Heart or Blessed Virgin Mary you would like to donate to Monsignor Jock Baird, please phone 021 461 8316 or 074 260 4074.

CPLO News and Views



Roundtable Discussion: The Experiences of CAFOD in Faith-based Advocacy with Government

While in Cape Town, Julian Filochowski addressed a small group of people representing various faiths who have an advocacy role. Pictured above are Reverend Suzanne Peterson (Anglican Church Public Policy Office), Sr Margaret Kelly (former head of the Bishops' Conference J+P Commission), Fr Wim Lindeque (CT Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission) and Ms Lois Law (CPLO Researcher).



Roundtable Discussion: The costs of our energy options

The rising cost of electricity, in conjunction with continuing power outages, has led to much uncertainty regarding South African's energy supply. There is also a great deal of misunderstanding, indeed confusion, surrounding the costs of the different energy options available to the South African public (i.e. nuclear, coal, solar, wind, hydro, etc.). Many sustainable and renewable energy solutions are not being readily implemented because of how much more expensive they are – or are said to be – in comparison to fossil fuels. At the same time, the 'hidden' environmental costs of coal, oil and nuclear energy are not always taken into account. This roundtable discussion was addressed by Dr Andrew Marquard from the UCT Energy Research Centre. Organizations represented included: WWF South Africa, Islamic Relief Services, Ethicore and the 90x2030 Project.



Public Lecture: The Legacy of Archbishop Oscar Romero for Contemporary Public Life

This event was hosted at St Michael's parish hall in Rondebosch and attracted about 200 guests. Pictured above are Peter-John Pearson (CPLO director), welcoming guests and Julian Filochowski, CMG, OBE, former director of Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD) in the UK.



Roundtable Discussion: Social Welfare Grants: Are They Still Affordable and Sustainable?

Government spends 10.9 percent of its total budget on social welfare grants which support approximately 15.2 million South Africans. Given the current economic crisis facing Europe and our own escalating public debt, we must ask ourselves whether we can sustain such spending on social welfare. On the other hand, with so many of our people dependent on social welfare, can we afford not to spend the money? These were some of the issues addressed by our two speakers; Professor Stan du Plessis from the Department of Economics, University of Stellenbosch and Mr David Neves, researcher at PLAAS, University of the Western Cape (both pictured above left). Organisations represented included the National Association of Child Care Workers, BADISA, Wolpe Trust and Hope Africa.



Roundtable Discussion: Exploring the SA Family Policy

This roundtable discussion was co-hosted with the SACBC Family Life Desk and took place in Pretoria. The Family Policy recognizes the many different kinds of families that exist in our country and focuses on effective functioning for the wellbeing of the family unit as well as the individual members. Various bishops, including Archbishop William Slattery of Pretoria, pictured above right with Fr Peter John Pearson, and those interested in this policy participated in this discussion. Organizations represented included World Vision, Foundation for the Person and the Family, Turquoise Harmony Institute, Retrouvaille Johannesburg, and Radio Veritas.



Deacons are configured to Christ the Servant

Permanent deacons are married men who are called to follow Jesus, who came to serve and not to be served, to be a servant for all. If you feel the Lord is calling you to the ministry of a permanent deacon you are invited to contact the Co-ordinator of Deacons, Dcn Eugene Tito on 072 765 2508 or eugene.tito@yahoo.com

In his address to those taking part in the plenary assembly of the Congregation for the Clergy regarding the diaconate on 30 November 1995, Pope John Paul II advised that:

The Second Vatican Council restored the diaconate to the Latin Church "as a proper and permanent rank of the hierarchy" (cf. Lumen Gentium, #29)

The vocation to the diaconate is a great gift of God to the Church and for this reason is "an important enrichment for the Church's mission" (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church #1571).

"Catholic doctrine, expressed in liturgy, Magisterium and the constant practice of the Church, recognises that there are two degrees of ministerial participation in the priesthood of Christ: the episcopacy and the presbyterate. The diaconate is intended to help and serve them. Catholic doctrine also teaches that the degrees of priestly participation

(episcopate and presbyterate) and the degree of service (diaconate) are all three conferred by a sacramental act called 'ordination', that is, by the Sacrament of Holy Orders" (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church #1554).

By the imposition of the bishop's hands and the specific prayer of consecration, the deacon receives a particular configuration to Christ, the head and shepherd of the Church who, for love of the Father, made himself the least and the servant of all (cf. Mk 10: 43-45; Mt 20:28; 1Pt 5:3).

Sacramental grace gives deacons the necessary strength to serve the People of God in the "diakonia" of liturgy, of the Word and of charity, in communion with the bishop and his body of priests (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, # 1588).

By virtue of the sacrament received, an indelible spiritual character is impressed upon him, which marks the deacon permanently and precisely as a minister of Christ. Consequently he is no longer a layman nor can he return to the lay state in the strict sense (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church #1583).

These essential characteristics of his ecclesial vocation must pervade his readiness to give himself to the Church

and must be reflected in his outward behavior.

The Church expects of the deacon a faithful witness to his ministerial state. In particular, he must show a strong sense of unity with the Successor of Peter, with the bishop and with the presbyterate of the Church for whose service he was ordained and incardinated.

It is of great importance for the formation of the faithful that the deacon, in exercising the duties assigned to him, should promote an authentic and effective ecclesial communion. His relations with his own bishop, with the priests, with other deacons and with all the faithful should be marked by a diligent respect for the various charisms and duties.

Deacons are ordained to exercise a permanent and distinct ministry, which is not that of a priest, because they "receive the imposition of hands not unto the priesthood but unto the ministry of service" (cf. Lumen Gentium #29).

They have specific tasks: "To assist the bishop and priests in the celebration of the divine mysteries, above all the Eucharist, in the distribution of Holy Communion, in assisting at and

blessing marriages. In the proclamation of the Gospel and preaching, in presiding over funerals, and in dedicating themselves to the various ministries of charity" (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church #1570; Lumen Gentium #29; Sacrosanctum Concilium #35; Ad Gentes #16).

The exercise of the diaconal ministry requires of all deacons, celibate or married, a spiritual attitude of total dedication. Although in certain cases it is necessary to make the ministry of the diaconate compatible with other obligations, to think of oneself and to act as a "part-time deacon" would have no sense (cf. Directory for the Ministry and Life of Priests #44).

The deacon is not a part-time employee or ecclesiastical official, but a minister of the Church. The deacon is called to be a person open to all, ready to serve people, generous in promoting just social causes, avoiding attitudes or positions which could make him appear to show favoritism. As a minister of Jesus Christ, deacons must always promote unity and avoid, as far as possible, being a source of disunity or conflict.

The spirituality of the diaconate "has its source in what the Second Vatican Council calls the sacramental grace

of the diaconate" (cf. Ad Gentes #16; Catechism at the General Audience, 20 October 1993).

By virtue of ordination, this is defined by the spirit of service. This service should first of all take the form of helping the bishop and the priests, both in liturgical worship and the apostolate. However, the deacon's service is also directed to his own Christian community and to the whole Church, to which he must foster a deep attachment, because of her mission and divine institution (ibid. #2).

To fulfill his mission, the deacon therefore needs a deep interior life, sustained by the exercises of piety recommended by the Church (cf. Sacrum diaconatus ordinem # 26-27; AAS 59 [1967], 702-703).

Carrying out ministerial and apostolic activities, fulfilling possible family and social responsibilities and lastly practicing an intense personal life of prayer require of the deacon – whether celibate or married – that unity of life which can only be attained, as the Second Vatican Council taught, through deep union with Christ (cf. Presbyterorum Ordinis #14).

Deacon Eugene Tito
Co-ordinator of Deacons

Youth News

Hello Cape Town

How time does fly. It seem like just the other day that we were preparing for World Youth Day 2011, and here we are in 2012, talking about World Youth Day 2013 (assuming, of course, the world does not end this year!)

We have already had the first Archdiocesan youth event for the year, which was the Youth Leaders Forum, held on Saturday 21 January at Lansdowne. Unfortunately a number of parishes never sent representatives (only 19 parishes were represented), which made the Deanery elections somewhat difficult, but by all accounts the day was nonetheless a success. We started off with a talk from Fr Emmanuel about vocations, and then broke into Deanery groups to discuss the year plan and draft Youth Policy. After lunch there was time for feedback and the day ended with a short time of prayer and meditation.

Important dates for the year are:

- Leadership Training Weekend – 27-29 April
- Youth Day Mass – 16 June
- Closing date for World Youth Day Applications – 30 June
- Youth Ministry Mass – 29 September
- Junior Youth Christmas Camp – 19-22 December

I look forward to visiting more youth groups this year – and please also remember to invite me to any special events or activities and I will do my best to make an appearance.

Peace and Blessings

Fr Charles
Youth Chaplain



Fr Emmanuel speaks on vocations



Deanery groups discuss the year plan and draft youth policy



Lending a helping hand in the kitchen: Maud Stellenboom, Susan Februarie and Coral Fisher. Photos: Mark Renaud

John Boonzaaier

John Boonzaier, a humble servant of the Lord and loyal member of Immaculate Conception Church, Parow, passed away peacefully on Friday 13 January, 2012.

Each event in John's life he interpreted as a call, a sign, an invitation from both man and God. So he gave his attention to these circumstances and in doing so, he made himself available to his brothers and sisters and to God.

It is therefore no surprise then that John, as a committed Christian, was co-ordinator of Catechetics and made sure that all children received instruction from people seeking the will of God.

When the Synod was launched in Cape Town he made himself available, and with the parish priest they represented the church at all the sessions. As a result of his experience at this assembly he, together with three other members, formed the Pastoral Forum, a body which saw to the smooth running of the election of the new Parish Pastoral Council. This marked an historic event as this was the first time that this took place according to the Statutes of the Archdiocese.

Besides these, John made himself available whenever there was a need, even to the point of giving instructions in the homes of people who, through unavoidable circumstances, could not come to church. He was also very flexible to those who were working shifts so that they could move closer to attaining the fullness of Christ.

John's life was one of collaboration with the Lord and so he committed himself in faith, hope and love to many facets in the Church, attending workshops, conferences, courses, etc. for his one desire was to live his life in Christ in all humility and in doing so, to love his brothers and sisters.

He was a devoted husband and father and set a wonderful example. He was a

daily communicant and always tried to renew and reaffirm his spiritual values.

In October 2011 he was diagnosed with cancer and accepted God's will graciously. On Wednesday 18 January, in a packed church, a Requiem Mass was conducted to celebrate John's life.

John is survived by his wife Anita, and eight children.

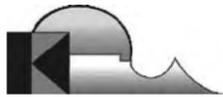
Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of the Lord.

Valerie Rensburg



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ARCHDIOCESAN DIARY 2012

Date	Day	Event	Category	Time	
11-Jan	Wed	Schools Open	General		
21-Jan	Sat	Archdiocesan Youth Forum	Archdiocese	09h30	
02-Feb	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
05-Feb	Sun	Flight into Egypt	Liturgical		
16-Feb	Thur	Priests AGM	Clergy	10h00	
17-Feb	Fri	Rite of Election	Archdiocese	19h00	
19-Feb	Sun	Ecclesia Season Starts	Archdiocese		
22-Feb	Wed	Ash Wednesday	Liturgical		
23-Feb	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
24-Feb	Fri	Rite of Election	Archdiocese	19h00	
25-Feb	Sat	Archdiocesan Pastoral Council	Archdiocese	08h30	
29-Feb	Wed	College of Deans	Clergy	11h00	
01-Mar	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
01-Mar	Thur	Council of Deacons	Clergy	19h30	
05-Mar	Mon	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
06-Mar	Tues	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
07-Mar	Wed	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
08-Mar	Thur	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
09-Mar	Fri	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
15-Mar	Wed	Deanery Meeting	Clergy		
17-Mar	Sat	Workshop: Sacrosanctum Concilium	Archdiocese		
21-Mar	Wed	Human Rights Day – Public Holiday	General		
23-Mar	Fri	Schools Close	General		
23-Mar	25-Mar	Fri	Deacons' Retreat	Clergy	
29-Mar	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
01-Apr	Sun	Palm Sunday	Liturgical		
05-Apr	Thur	Chrism Mass/Holy Thursday	Liturgical		
06-Apr	Fri	Good Friday – Public Holiday	Liturgical		
07-Apr	Sun	Easter	Liturgical		
09-Apr	Mon	Family Day – Public Holiday	General		
10-Apr	Tues	Schools Open	General		
12-Apr	Thur	Presbyteral Council	Archdiocese	10h00	
15-Apr	Sun	Redemptorist Centenary Celebrations	Archdiocese		
15-Apr	Sun	Deacons' Recommitment Mass	Clergy	15h00	
21-Apr	Sat	Vocations Festival	Archdiocese		
26-Apr	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
27-Apr	29-Apr	Fri	Youth Leadership Training Course	Archdiocese	
01-May	Tues	Workers Day – Public Holiday	General		
03-May	Fri	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
04-May	06-May	Fri	Discernment Weekend	Archdiocese	
17-May	Thur	Ascension Day	Liturgical		
19-May	Sat	Workshop: Gaudium et Spes	Archdiocese		
26-May	Sat	APC Meeting	Archdiocese	08h30	
27-May	Sun	Pentecost	Liturgical		
30-May	Wed	College of Deans	Clergy	11h00	
31-May	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
03-Jun	Sun	Trinity Sunday	Liturgical		
04-Jun	Mon	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
05-Jun	Tues	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
06-Jun	Wed	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
07-Jun	Thur	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
07-Jun	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Archdiocese	09h30	
08-Jun	Fri	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
10-Jun	Sun	Corpus Christi	Liturgical		
16-Jun	Sat	Youth Day Mass	Archdiocese		
16-Jun	Sat	Youth Day – Public Holiday	General		
21-Jun	Thur	Deanery Meeting	Clergy		
22-Jun	Fri	Schools Close	General		
26-Jun	Tues	Deacons' Council Executive Meeting	Clergy	19h30	
28-Jun	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
05-Jul	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
10-Jul	12-Jul	Tues	Winter Living Theology	Archdiocese	
16-Jul	Mon	Schools Open	General		
26-Jul	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
02-Aug	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
09-Aug	Thur	Women's Day – Public Holiday	General		
10-Aug	Fri	School Holiday	General		
15-Aug	Wed	Assumption	Liturgical		
19-Aug	Sun	Celebration of the Assumption	Archdiocese		
25-Aug	Sat	Workshop: Dei Verbum	Archdiocese		
26-Aug	Sun	Bible Sunday	Archdiocese		
30-Aug	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
01-Sep	Sat	APC Meeting	Archdiocese	08h30	
05-Sep	Wed	College of Deans	Archdiocese	11h00	
06-Sep	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Archdiocese	09h30	
10-Sep	Mon	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
11-Sep	Tue	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
12-Sep	Wed	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
13-Sep	Thu	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
13-Sep	Thu	Deacons AGM	Clergy		
14-Sep	Fri	DPC Meetings	Deanery		
14-Sep	Fri	Holy Cross Feast Day	Archdiocese		
20-Sep	Thur	Deanery Meeting	Deanery		
24-Sep	Mon	Shrine to Shrine Pilgrimage	Archdiocese		
27-Sep	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
28-Sep	Fri	Schools Close	General		
29-Sep	Sat	Youth Ministry Day	Archdiocese		
30-Sep	05-Oct	Sun	Priests' Retreat at Goedgedacht	Clergy	
07-Oct	12-Oct	Sun	Priests' Retreat at Schoenstatt	Clergy	
08-Oct	Tues	Schools Open	General		
12-Oct	14-Oct	Fri	Deacons Retreat	Clergy	
13-Oct	Sat	Catechetical Festival	Archdiocese		
14-Oct	Sun	Ecclesia Season Starts	Archdiocese		
18-Oct	Thur	Presbyteral Council	Clergy	10h00	
25-Oct	Thur	Schoenstatt Priests' lunch	Clergy		
25-Oct	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
01-Nov	Thur	Priests' Morning of Recollection	Clergy	09h30	
02-Nov	04-Nov	Fri	Deacons' Wives Retreat	Clergy	
09-Nov	Fri	Mass for Deceased Clergy & Religious	Archdiocese		
22-Nov	Thur	CPD Thanksgiving Mass	Archdiocese		
29-Nov	Thur	Consultors	Clergy	10h00	
06-Dec	Thur	Priests' Christmas Party	Archdiocese		
07-Dec	Fri	Schools Close	General		
16-Dec	Sun	Day of Reconciliation	General		
17-Dec	Mon	Public Holiday	General		
25-Dec	Tues	Christmas	Liturgical		
26-Dec	Wed	Day of Goodwill – Public Holiday	General		

Danny and his Cross

A short story by Fr Ralph de Hahn

Even as a tiny boy Danny fascinated his parents and his friends by spending most of his free time carving out baby crosses with his favourite knife. It wasn't a masterpiece but it meant the world to him, especially when his mother promised him that he would one day be a carpenter, just like Jesus.

But that did not satisfy Danny. "But, mom, I also want to be his disciple; not just make a cross but also carry his cross." That's what Father Norbert often preached about in the parish church. Quoting the gospels of Matthew 10 and Luke 9, the pastor very gently encouraged the sick and suffering parishioners to carry their pain and burdens with Jesus, never without Him.

And this boy of nine had no trouble quoting the Lord's command that "unless you take up your cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple!" And he would remind his mother more than once that "when I grow older and bigger and stronger, I will make even bigger crosses and carry them for Jesus." And that is all he dreamed about – to be his disciple!

On the side wall alongside his bed, Danny treasured a huge painting of Jesus carrying his cross; the other two smaller figures on the painting was Mother Mary and St John. He would lie in bed, gaze at the figure and murmur "When I am bigger and stronger, Jesus, I will help carry your cross."

Every year, while growing up, Danny would join the parish procession on Good Friday carrying a cross which he had made himself. There was the parish cross, of course, carried by a variety of people, but Danny was a disciple... and he had his own cross to be carried – and with such fervour and devotion. His mother admired his courage; his dad thought he was a crazy kid!

But Danny never grew much bigger. He was afflicted with polio and then arthritis attacked all his bones and practically crippled him, even at an early age. Now and again he was allowed to move into the bright sunlight, in his wheelchair, and gaze at the birds and ducks playing across the lake. His two best friends Charlie and Ruth often came to accompany him and were so amazed at his ever-smiling countenance and his annoying sense of humour.

"Will you ever get better, Danny?" they would ask almost on every visit. "Sure, I'll be getting better and stronger, because I want to be Jesus' disciple and carry His cross." When his little friends suggested that his handicap was enough to endure while they were able to play outdoor games, Danny would insist "No, no that is not enough. I need to carry his cross to really be his disciple... Jesus said so!" Then he would throw his gaze onto the side wall and direct their gaze to the huge painting.

A remarkable incident occurred one Good Friday when Danny was unable to join the parish procession. From his bed he could view the procession winding through the neighbourhood. But suddenly his friend Charlie was at his side "Danny, we must do something... Ruth has been taken to hospital; she is so sick, and vomiting and all swollen and in pain... Please, how can we help her...?"

Danny took one look at the Jesus painting, grabbed one of the tiny crosses he had just carved, placed it in Charlie's hand "Go, take this to Ruth... place it in her hands... tell her that Jesus is our Saviour... go, go now, take the cross."

Charlie did what he was told. Father Norbert was already at her hospital bed when Charlie arrived with that tiny cross. Father blessed the little cross,



placed it to her lips and then in her hands. The priest prayed over her. The night passed quietly. However, the next day, Holy Saturday, Charlie brought Ruth to visit Danny at home, and was he happily surprised! For Ruth gave him a healthy smile which brought joyful tears to his eyes, for Danny never doubted the power of the cross.

He never forgot St Paul's assurance when he wrote to the Corinthians "My grace is sufficient for you... my power is ever present in your weakness" ... or something to that effect. Danny never believed he was weaker because of his handicap and his aching body. He recalled that Christ spoke of his glory in the Cross.

Danny was 34 years old, his condition worsening, when he confessed to his mother that he felt a little disappointed that the Lord had not made him stronger so that he could get out there and carry the real cross, the bigger one – and fulfil his life's ambition – to be His disciple. He could not accept his mother's word that he already had a cross to carry 'it was enough for a young man', she insisted. It was always a deep consolation for Danny just to gaze at his wall painting and behold the face of Jesus carrying that heavy wooden cross.

On the Good Friday of 1992, after the parish procession, Danny received a visitor. She was Sister Bernadette of the Sacred Passion. She had been Danny's teacher in his earlier years. Now she had been made aware of his painful condition and longed to pay him this visit. Danny was delighted to see her. They laughed over events in those early days when he was so active and mischievous; she marveled at his joyful heart amidst the pain he was obviously experiencing. Sister admired the painting on the wall. It was striking; it glowed with a certain... something. It was a stunning painting of a large Jesus and two smaller figures – Mary and John. She loved it.

She kissed him goodbye, not knowing if they would ever meet again in this life; she moved into the lounge to meet his parents "You have a remarkable son. I am so sorry to find him in this condition. I presume he has suffered much for many years,"

"Yes, many years... and yet so content with his lot."

After a refreshing cup of tea, and as Sister Bernadette was making her way to the door, the mother touched Sister's arm and whispered "Did you admire that wonderful painting on the wall

Fr Cyril Axelrod visits Cape Town

On 29 December 2011 Fr Mark Foster, the chaplain to the Deaf Community in Cape Town, had a meeting with Fr Cyril Axelrod and some members of the Catholic Deaf Community of Cape Town. Fr Cyril Axelrod is a deaf/blind priest, from South Africa, now residing in London. He was visiting Cape Town whilst on holiday in South Africa and the meeting was set up to plan for the evangelization of the Catholic Deaf Community of Cape Town.

Fr Cyril was born deaf and Jewish yet became a Catholic priest. He could not walk until he was three yet his work has spanned five continents. Fr Cyril could not speak until he was nine, yet has knowledge of 15 languages. He grew up under apartheid but did pioneering multiracial work. He lost his sight but never lost his vision. He is now both deaf and blind but that is no barrier to his faith or work. (Taken from his autobiography "And the Journey Begins.") He studied for the priesthood at St John Vianney Seminary in Pretoria and was ordained to the priesthood on 28 November 1970 by Bishop Ernest Green, then Bishop of Port Elizabeth. Later on he joined the Redemptorist Congregation in 1974 and worked in Cape Town and Pretoria.

There is so much to say about Fr Cyril Axelrod, and his autobiography makes wonderful reading. Fr Cyril has offered his support and help to Fr Mark and the Deaf Community



Members of the deaf community with Fr Cyril Axelrod. From left to right: Susan Lombard, Stephen Lombard, Fr Cyril, Michelle Lombard and Faith Cronwright. Photo: Fr Mark Foster

of Cape Town. It was amazing to see him communicate with his Braille keyboard and Braille reader which is linked to a cell phone thereby allowing him to receive and send emails and text messaging. The meeting with Fr Cyril

was such an inspiring occasion and the Deaf Community is looking forward to a new evangelization this year. A year to be filled with Hope and Joy.

Fr Mark Foster
Chaplain to the Deaf Community



Archbishop Stephen Brislin holding Melissa of Nazareth House on the Confirmation Day.

alongside his bed?"

"Of course I did... beautiful... a smiling Jesus, with his mother Mary and I guess St John the apostle."

"No, no" interrupted his mother, "I mean the huge painting of Jesus carrying his cross!"

Sister stood motionless, surprised.

"I certainly saw Jesus... but there was no cross."



The City Bowl Deanery held a facilitator training workshop for the Ecclesia faith sharing programme on Saturday 28 January. The workshop was hosted by St Luke's parish in Factreton and well attended by facilitators from the parishes in the deanery. (Photo: Cedric Meyer, Holy Cross District 6)



15 January 2012 was a very special day for Thomas Mhamba, Roberta Carolus and Lindie Uithaler of Nazareth House. They were Confirmed at a special Mass when Archbishop Stephen Brislin preached especially to them. Here they are also with Sr Margaret and Sr Anna-Mercy who prepared them for the reception of the Sacrament. Photos, above and left: Margie Cook

2012 TREFOIL Competitions

(closing date extended to 31 March 2012)

• **WRITING COMPETITION:** 1st prize **R800**; 2nd prize **R200** for an article or a story suitable for publishing in Trefoil; 1300 to 1800 words. Entrance fee R10 per entry.

• **A 'HOPE & JOY' PROJECT:** A prize of **R300** for best article of 800 to 1000 words about an established project that is uplifting young people and/or creating hope and joy in our community. No entry fee.

• **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION:** A prize of **R200** for the best original Colour photograph that would make a suitable cover for Trefoil. Themes: Our rainbow community, Christian art, children at play or your choice. Entrance fee R5 per photo.

• **POETRY COMPETITION:** two prizes of **R100** each; Entrance fee R5 per poem.

Note: **Entry fees may be sent in unused postage stamps.** The decision of the judges is final. No correspondence will be entered into with competitors. The winning entries may be published. Trefoil reserves the right to publish competitors' entries at some future date. Entries must be competitors' own work. A pen name may be used but competitors' names must be supplied to Trefoil's editor. Please send your postal address and a telephone number and email address to:

The EDITOR: TREFOIL PO Box 1879 BEDFORDVIEW 2008 South Africa.

The 2011 winners were: 1st prize Article, Barbara Marr; Hope & Joy Project, Jerome McCarthy CFC. Photos: John Penn and Athalie van den Berg (13); Poetry: Aideen Gonlag and Fr Ralph de Hahn.

A missionary family at the feet of Peter

On 15 and 16 October 2011 more than 8 000 representatives of the workers in the field of the New Evangelization participated in an International Conference organized by the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization. During the Pontifical Mass which concluded the meeting, an Italian family was appointed with the task of presenting the Eucharistic gifts to the Holy Father.

Dino and Roberta Furgione, together with their six children, are one of the many families of the Neocatechumenal Communities who felt a calling to offer their lives to the New Evangelization. Quoting the words of the Pope's homily, they chose to follow the "Way that is Christ, to make others know the beauty of the Gospel that gives life"; they have left the comforts of their life in Rome and are now living and evangelizing in South Africa.

What moves these families is the gratitude for having discovered the love of God and the desire to share this with other people. "The Lord has been calling us for a long time" said Dino Furgione "to leave everything and follow him, but many times we chose to put securities such as our loved ones, our house and especially a career



Dino and Roberta Furgione, and their six children, who are responsible for the Neocatechumenal Way in Southern Africa, after meeting with Pope Benedict XVI in Rome. Photo: Felici.

in first place.

But four years ago, after a period of suffering by our first daughter due to a form of epilepsy, we realized that the Lord was waiting for us in this reality, and it was then that we strongly heard his voice, with his clear invitation to bear our cross and to follow him.

So we listened to His calling and accepted it, and now our itinerant mis-

sion is the answer to this calling. It is now two years that we are the Itinerant Family in Mission responsible for South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

At the present moment we are serving four Dioceses. We have seen and acknowledged that the Lord is very creative: he led us to the South of the world to serve Him so that we can meet

Him concretely in events, persons and in our own body. This happens every day through trials and persecutions, and then with His providence, miracles and wonders. As the Word says: the Lord wounds and then heals the sore. A song taken from psalm 139 says: "You press me from behind, you attack me from the front, and at the same time you keep your hand on me: such knowledge is mysterious to me, knowledge too high for me to understand". This knowledge is truly impossible to comprehend, but it moves us every day, and if it moves us it means that it's descending in the depth of our selves, which is good firstly for our lives, and then for the people who benefit from our service.

"This encounter with the Holy Father" he continued "has been very important for all of my family, to strengthen our faith and to encourage us in our mission, knowing that the Holy Father accompanies us with his prayers". "This humble sign of presenting the Eucharistic gifts meant for us also an opportunity, on behalf of all the families in mission of the Neocatechumenal Way, to present to the Pope our faith and to renew to him our total obedience, knowing that only

in communion with him our mission will bring fruits".

Kiko Argüello and Carmen Hernandez are the initiators of the Way, and he has now been appointed a member of the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization. During this International Conference he recalled the centrality of the Christian community in the mission of the Church: "every age has had its special pastoral accent," he said "and today being Christians is to make present a Christian community". The Christian community, which has as its model the Holy Family of Nazareth, the "missionary family" who – according to the inspiration of the Neocatechumenal Way – lives in "simplicity, humility and praise, where the other is Christ".

The statute of the Neocatechumenal Way has been approved by five Vatican congregations in 2008, and in January 2011 the Holy See approved all the catechetical and theological material used along this "itinerary of Catholic formation valid for our society and our time", as Blessed John Paul II recognized the Way.

Marco Cavagnaro

Translation: Fr Lorenzo Ricci

Three Wise Men come to Cape Town to visit more than 200 children

Thursday 5 January wasn't an ordinary day for many children in Cape Town. For centuries Christians have celebrated the Epiphany, in memory of the visit of Three Wise Men to Bethlehem. They came from the east following a star, to do homage to the infant Jesus and to bring him gifts. The Neocatechumenal communities of the Archdiocese of Cape Town wanted this to become a visible and living sign for the children in St Lawrence parish, Delft. And so – after a few weeks of frenetic organisation – on this Thursday morning three men dressed like oriental kings were spotted riding on donkeys, on their way to Cape Town.

Had they mistaken South Africa's Southern Cross for their star? For weeks parish families had been preparing their children, telling them that the Three Wise Men, on their way to Bethlehem, are going to stop

in Cape Town! The children were invited to write a little letter to these travellers, asking for gifts. Parents explained that they should not just seek something material, but also something that would be important for their lives or for the lives of others. So the expectation and the excitement of the children grew: the kings are coming with presents!

The Wise Men arrived at the church accompanied by songs, while the 200 and more children who filled the parish hall sang: "where are you coming from, with your horses and your camels, what is it that brings you here?". Their arrival had been prepared with so much care and attention to detail that they presented a vivid and marvellous scene. The more than two hundred children thronged to surround them. And many of the little ones had no doubts that in front of them stood a real King. The

three presented themselves: their own names, the far eastern land from which they had come, and the names of the gifts they were bringing to Jesus. Then some of the letters were read aloud. The children had truly entrusted to these mysterious kings their hopes and wishes for the coming year. Some asked for toys, but all of them asked for something important for their lives: peace, reconciliation in their families, and joy for the coming year. The openness and faith of their words were amazing, and the wise men were moved. Commenting on this joyful celebration, Dino Furgione, a member of the Neocatechumenal Way, explained the purpose of such an event: "We read in the Bible that king Herod decided to kill all the children of Bethlehem, because he had heard that the Messiah would be born there in this time, and he was afraid. I sometimes think that a Herod lurks in



The Three Wise Men arrive at St Lawrence's parish in Delft

our generation, that our children face many perils in this violent society in which they grow up... but this visit of the three wise men is a great sign, the answer that we as church should be giving: we love our children, and we want them to experience what a gift the Church is to us, and what a gift it is to live the beauty of the gospel".

When the wise men later left, continuing to follow the star on their way to Bethlehem, many baskets full of candies and little gifts were left behind, and everyone got a present. Many little children who had been wandering around on the streets

joined the happy crowd, just to share the joy of receiving an unexpected gift – a surprising sign of love on what for many is an ordinary summer's day. They ran around with the toys in their hands, ecstatic.

"When are they coming back?" "But who were they, really?" "Where are they going?" – were some of the many questions being asked. This celebration of joy and happiness gave its seal to this Christmas season. It may be said that a star rose in our Archdiocese, and that "the sight of the star filled them with delight" (Mt 2: 10).

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130 years of marriage – Make a decision to love!



With so many difficulties and stresses of everyday life and marriage relationships being challenged more than ever, it is encouraging that there are still married couples who set time aside to be present to each other with likeminded couples.

A group of couples has been meeting once a month and have been doing so for the past ten years. Together they have been married for 130 years. Each couple will either be celebrating 40, 35, 30, or 25 years of Marriage during 2012. The purpose of the gathering is to share experiences of our own marriage and family life and to be an encouragement to each other.

As married couples, we often tend to forget that we are two unique individuals with two different personalities and two different ways of coping with life. As a result, we sometimes get impatient with each other's method of doing things and stubbornly insist on handling things our way.

Meeting in a manner like this has taught us to be other-centered, and set aside our own self centered desires to make that decision to love and become a gift of self. We strive to live our marriage as a Sacrament, however the journey is not easy, but with prayer, support and encouragement from each other and with determination we can



Left to Right: Joe & Neela Kay, David & Brenda Alexander, Mark & Adele Katts and Vincent & Jean Hendricks

start over again.

On 19 November 2011 the Domestic Church of the Archdiocese of Cape Town launched the newly developed Marriage Enrichment Programme "DATE NITE". It is a parish based programme in celebration of marriage.

The purpose of this series is to look at our own marriages in the light of God's plan for all his children, and so to enrich our lives as couples and achieve that level of sharing and intimacy which is all part of this plan.

Unless we deliberately set aside time for each other, we'll discover that the demands of work, finances, parenting and life in general overtake us and we would not have had a chance to connect on an intimate "us only" level.

The programme has already been run as a pilot in two parishes and the feedback and responses were very positive.

For more information contact Jean Hendricks 021 462 2417 jean.hendricks@pastoraldevelopment.co.za.
Jean Hendricks

Come Holy Spirit

**IN PREPARATION FOR PENTECOST
AN ARCHDIOCESAN CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR**

Date	Topic
Fri 18/05/2012	God the Father loves you personally
Sat 19/05/2012	Jesus saves you and sets you free
Sun 20/05/2012	Jesus is the Lord of your life
Mon 21/05/2012	You are called to be his disciples
Tue 22/05/2012	Jesus sends you his Holy Spirit
Wed 23/05/2012	You will receive his Holy Spirit
Thu 24/05/2012	You then are the Body of Christ
Fri 25/05/2012	You shall be my witnesses
Sat 26/05/2012	Pentecost Mass

Venue: Bloubergrant School
6 Curlew Road
Tableview

Dates: Fri 18 May to Sat 26 May 2012

Time: 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Email: hscentre@telkomsa.net or karenadriaanse@gmail.com

Tel: 083 215 8105

Fill us with your Love

Br Clarence has some new tunes for Salesian youth

Br Clarence Watts, who has been with the Salesians since 1994, is the new projects director at Salesian Institute Youth Projects.

He will be responsible for Learn to Live, 16+, YES (Youth Employment Skills) and Don Bosco Hostel. His other duties include Cape region delegate for the Salesian Youth Pastoral Team which is tasked to animate youth pastoral activities at Cape Town parishes served by Salesian priests: John Bosco (Westridge), Our Lady Help of Christians (Lansdowne) and Our Lady of the Rosary (Hanover Park).

He succeeds Fr Alberto Villalba, who has been appointed youth pastoral delegate and social communications director for the province, including Swaziland and Lesotho, working from Booyens, Gauteng.

Br Clarence previously worked at the institute's Don Bosco Hostel Programme between 2000 and 2005. Between 2005 and 2011 he served

at the renowned Salesian Centre at Nairobi and at Don Bosco Youth Centre in Johannesburg, where his work included the LoveMatters Programme, Confirmation instruction, First Holy Communion and leadership programmes.

Br Clarence, 40, plans to share his great love of music – from pop to rock – as a creative support for the Salesian outreach in youth development. He also has a love of "the great outdoors, social media such as Facebook and Twitter (@clarencesdb) and most of all engaging with youth".

Born in Port Elizabeth, Br Clarence matriculated at St Thomas High School, Gelvandale, in 1989. After his pre-novitiate at Clonlea, Daleside, he entered the Salesian novitiate at Maputsoe, Lesotho, under the guidance of Fr Eugene Hennessy SDB. He made his first vows on 31 January 1996, starting his philosophy studies at St Francis Xavier House, Irene,



Br Clarence Watts.
Photo: S Duval.

Pretoria, the same year.

After completing his philosophy studies he began a two-year course in practical training at Bosco Youth Centre which involved running retreats for Confirmation and First Holy Communion groups, and leadership camps for schools and parishes.

In 2005 he began his studies in

CPD Training Courses 2012

FEBRUARY

17	Fri	19.00	Rite of Election	St Mary's Cathedral
18	Sat	09.30	Proclaimers of the Word	Holy Redeemer, Bergvliet
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
19	Sun	00.00	Ecclesia Season One	
21	Tue	19.00	Evenings for the Engaged	St Martin de Porres, Lavistown
24	Fri	19.00	Rite of Election	OLHC, Lansdowne
25	Sat	10.30	Eucharistic Ministers I	St Joseph's, Goodwood
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
		08.30	APC	St Joseph's, Montana
26	Sun	11.00	Xhosa Pastoral Visit	Kraaifontein
27	Fri		Youth Leadership Training	
29	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town

MARCH

3	Sat	09.30	Cats Co-ordinator's Mtg	Immaculate Conception, Parow
		09.30	Become One Body One Spirit in Christ	St Joseph's, Montana
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
4	Sun	11.00	Xhosa Pastoral Visit	Grabouw
7	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
10	Sat	09.30	Cats Formation (E)	St Joseph's, Montana
		10.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis	Good Shepherd, Bothasig
		10.30	Eucharistic Ministers 2	St Joseph's, Goodwood
		14.00	Cats Formation (X)	St Anthony's, Langa
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
14	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
16	Fri	19.30	Marriage Encounter	Schoenstatt, Constantia
17	Sat	09.30	Cats Ongoing Formation	St Joseph's, Montana
		09.30	Sacrosanctum Concilium	St Joseph's, Montana
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
		18	Sun	11.00
24	Sat	09.30	Living the Word	OLHC, Lansdowne
		09.30	Altar Server Co-ord mtg	Chancery, Cape Town
31	Sat	09.00	Cats Formation (A)	St John the Baptist, Atlantis
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha

APRIL

1	Sat	14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
11	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
12	Thu	19.30	Evenings for the Engaged	St Mary's, Retreat
14	Sat	09.30	Cats Formation (E)	St Joseph's, Montana
		10.30	Liturgy Training	St Joseph's, Goodwood
		14.00	Cats Formation (X)	St Anthony's, Langa
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
15	Sun	14.30	Funeral Ministers meeting	St Gabriel's, Gugulethu
16	Mon	19.30	Evenings for the Engaged	St Stephen's, Rocklands
18	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
20	Fri	19.30	Engaged Encounter	Christ the King, Pinelands
21	Sat	09.00	Catechists Retreat	Schoenstatt, Constantia
		10.30	Funeral Ministry Training	St Joseph's, Goodwood
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
24	Tue	19.30	Evenings for the Engaged	83 Sandown Rd West Beach
		19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
		19.30	Evenings for the Engaged	Mater Dei, Parow Valley
27	Sat	14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
28	Sat	09.30	Cats Ongoing Formation	St Joseph's, Montana
		09.30	Eucharistic Ministers	St James, St James

MAY

2	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
5	Sat	09.30	Cats Formation (E)	St Joseph's, Montana
		14.00	Cats Formation (X)	St Anthony's, Langa
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
9	Wed	19.00	Theology	Chancery, Cape Town
12	Sat	09.00	Cats Formation (A)	St John the Baptist, Atlantis
		09.30	Living the Word for Cats	OLHC, Lansdowne
		10.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis	Good Shepherd, Bothasig
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
18	Fri	19.30	Marriage Encounter	Schoenstatt, Constantia
19	Sat	09.30	Cats Ongoing Formation	St Joseph's, Montana
		09.30	Gaudium et Spes	St Joseph's, Montana
		14.30	Xhosa Theology	St Kizito's, Khayelitsha
26	Sat	08.30	APC meeting	St Joseph's, Montana

spirituality at the Institute for Spirituality and Religious Formation at Tangaza College, Nairobi, where he obtained his Dip Spirituality with a focus on his essay on popular music and spirituality. He later obtained a

BA degree through the School for New Learning at DePaul University, Chicago. The focus of his final project was on "Popular Music as a Tool for Evangelisation Among the Youth".

Sydney Duval



CWD's "Buckets of Love" campaign distributed 8 049 Buckets over the Christmas period. Since one bucket feeds a family of four, on average, the campaign fed at least 32 196 people in the greater Cape Town area, as far afield as Vredendal, about 300km from the city.

Buckets of Love testimonies

UITSIG: Genevieve Gertse, 36, of Uitsig says she doesn't work, receives child support, so life is hard. Patricia Nixon, also of Uitsig, who has a 13-year-old daughter, survives on a disability grant, so she's looking forward to enjoying the contents of her Bucket of Love and cooking healthy food. Caregiver, Claudine Lemtjies, says her Bucket of Love is truly a blessing, because now she has a little more than usual, especially for a household that includes her partner, children and four boarders. Katrina Constable, 38, who is sickly and does not receive a grant, usually relies on handouts, so she will enjoy her Bucket of Love for as long as its contents last. Pensioner Sophia Alfestus is part of an extended family of 16 living in containers situated in front of two council houses that were gutted by fire three months before, and which were once family homes. So her Bucket means so much to her as it does her sister, Stella Daniels, who's also a pensioner.

KHAYELITSHA: Victor Tinzi, 48, of Khayelitsha, is happy now because his three grandchildren will have something to eat. Single mother of three, Gloria Botha, 48, is just grateful for her Bucket, because now she'll have something to eat over Christmas. She is sickly and survives on a disability grant, which is not enough to cover basic necessities. To Mzasi Nikelo, 27, a Bucket of Love is a luxury, as he is unemployed and his last job was in 2007, yet he would like to work again.

WOMEN IN NEED, WOODSTOCK: Charlene McDonald, 45, a client of CWD programme Women In Need, says she is taking her Bucket of Love to her children in foster care in Malibu Village near Brackenfell. She says the Bucket will ensure they all have a decent meal and a sense of having more over Christmas. So says Chantal Williams, 43, who is taking her Bucket with her to share with her mother and two children in Manenberg. Eileen Veldsman, 47, is taking her Bucket further afield, to PE, where her three children are living with her mother-in-law. Jeremy Collins, 41, says a Bucket of Love, because it's like gold, will be rationed, so he, his partner and their two children can enjoy the experience for a bit longer.

GUGULETHU: Gugulethu gogos striving to live independently, and who participate in programmes run by a local old age home, are very grateful for their Buckets of Love. Lillian Yabo says her Bucket will make a big difference to her children and grandchildren, because now her Christmas table will be more decorated. Pauline Mhlahlo says a Bucket is so handy, because one can make several kinds of dishes with its contents. Because of her uncertain health, Elda Nxazonke is grateful for the nourishing food, and she will hide the treats away from her five grandchildren, because only she will distribute them. Sylvia Yoyo says her Bucket of Love will last her right until March.

NEW CROSSROADS: It was the first time that Elsie Roro, 92, of New Crossroads had laid her eyes on a Bucket of Love. The venerable elder lives with her granddaughter Thobeka, an unemployed teacher, and her son. The three look forward to a better Christmas. So does fellow New Cross roads resident Stephen Motsware, who says he no longer gets Christmas presents. Unemployed Joyce Oniwe says her Bucket of Love was the first Christmas gift she had received after more than 30 years. "Hopefully, things will get better," she said. These sentiments were also expressed by Eunice Kenyana. She and her disabled husband live with seven grandchildren.

MBEKWENI: Mrs Madlaba said she looked forward to sharing her Bucket of Love with neighbours who are really struggling, aside from the 20 children that she and others care for. Lungi Boo, 21, also from Mbekweni, has no food or money of his own and lives with his grandmother in a house of six people. Victor Tsotetsi, 62, also seldom has very nourishing food in his house to feed the five who live there. The carpentry jobs he has are irregular, so life is a struggle. Moziso Ngesi, 33, no longer receives a social grant. He has two children whom he cannot support. With only odd jobs to make ends meet, life is a struggle.

Significant developments in CWD's youth programmes

Youth development had some significant moments at CWD this year, with national triumphs scored in such development vehicles as ropeskipping, ballroom and traditional dancing, with potential for expansion in other areas, such as cricket.

Ropeskippers trained by the Youth Interfacing Programme (YIP), CWD's youth development focus area, once again triumphed at national and provincial level.

In December, CWD was named Club of the Year 2011 for Ropeskipping (level 4) at the Western Province Gymnastics Association's annual awards evening, which was held at Eversdal Primary School, Durbanville.

Three YIP beneficiaries from Khayelitsha and Gugulethu – Mkhululi Gosa (level 5, under 12), Siphosethu Simelani (level 5, under 14) and Lindokuhle Shumi (level 5, 16 years and older) – took top honours in ropeskipping in the South African championships.

It was a tremendously successful year for YIP's ballroom dancing project. Of eight couples who participated, five won the 2011 SA Open Dance Championships organised by the South African Dance Foundation, and held in the courtyard of the Old Mutual campus in Pinelands on December 10.

Ballroom dancing also forms part of CWD's youth development strategy, involving Life Skills followed closely by "Sports and Recreation" and "Arts and Culture", ways of keeping youth from poor communities off the streets, away from the negative influences of crime, drugs and other social ills that beset the Cape Flats.

YIP youth development worker Zingisile Minya said the couples won in five sections of the competition—novice, tiny tots, youth and adults, and professional.

This was not the first time that YIP ballroom couples had scored success. They also participated in the Ackermans

Open Dance Regional Championship Series, at Emperor's Palace, Johannesburg last February and GrandWest Casino in May, when six couples won prizes also in different sections.

The Masizakhe Dance Group, a Gugulethu-based traditional dance group that received training under YIP's traditional dance project, participated in the Baxter Dance Festival 2011 in October. The festival gives community-based dance groups a chance to showcase the quality of their work and to draw attention to the initiatives emanating from those communities.

For the first time, YIP made a tentative foray into cricket, thanks to funding from Caritas Germany for a cricket clinic, which took place at the Nyanga Sports Ground in early December, and which was run by coaches from the Nyanga Cricket Club.

From their side, the coaches wanted to adopt an existing group that was already involved in sport, an idea that bore fruit when the club was approached by Nosakhele Mpushe, YIP focus area manager, to run the clinic.

"An important way for CWD to be visible in the townships is through sport," said YIP youth coordinator Mpume Prusent, "it is an essential marketing tool." She added that she saw cricket as "a potential point of expansion" for the programme.

"Any kind of sport that exists as a change agent in young people's lives is good," Ms Prusent said. It is also about partnership building and forming relationships of goodwill among stakeholders involved in community development, she said.

The Nyanga Cricket Club, established in 1991 and supported by the Western Province Cricket Association (WPCA), squires young hopefuls off the township's streets, mentors them and connects them fully with the sport, said coach Lucky Tywaku, a Western Province player from the under-13 stage right to senior level.

"Children learn so much from clinics," another coach, Wandile Gamanye, said, "and often, many who show interest are afraid to approach the club, so we always have to source children from several quarters."

