

Archdiocesan News



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Safeguarding our Children

The Archdiocese of Cape Town is on the brink of rolling out its Child Safeguarding Policy. The promulgation by Archbishop Stephen Brislin is imminent. The training workshops have begun. The Parish implementation packs are being prepared.

The need for child safeguarding policies is well documented, in the domains of both the public and the Church. Pope Francis continues to urge the Church's bishops around the world to respond to this need. This particular policy is the Archdiocese's response. It is hoped that it will provide the foundation for promulgation throughout the parishes of the Southern African Bishop's Conference.

The direct objective of the policy is to ensure the safety of all children within the precincts of every parish, whether on parish grounds or participating in outside parish activities. All aspects of child safety are dealt with, including very clear guidelines on guarding against all abuse, including sexual abuse. In addition to ensuring the wellbeing of children, the full implementation of the policy has other significant positive implications.

Child abuse crosses cultural, tribal, social, economic and religious boundaries. No community can claim that it does not experience child abuse.

The Child Safeguarding Policy provides knowledge of what constitutes abuse, identifies symptoms, informs on the legal obligations and generally allows an understanding of the issues and how to respond to them. This knowledge allows the Church and individual Catholics to contribute to a progressive reduction of child abuse in our broader community.

The implementation of the policy requires the active involvement of every parish. It includes everyone who is participating in any ministry with special emphasis on those ministering to children in any way.

The clergy, religious and the laity will join hands in implementing and maintaining the policy. In this way all can play a truly evangelising role, as individuals and as parish communities, in healing the acknowledged wounds of the Church, the Body of Christ. One does not require more motivation than this.

The Policy is based on best practice and comprises a commitment to 7 Standards. Within these 7 Standards there are 2 core elements – firstly, ensuring the safety of our children and, secondly, how to respond to an allegation of abuse. Other elements include commitment to training and education, communication at all levels, support, implementation and, importantly, monitoring by the Archdiocese to ensure that the Policy is being implemented.

The Archdiocese will provide

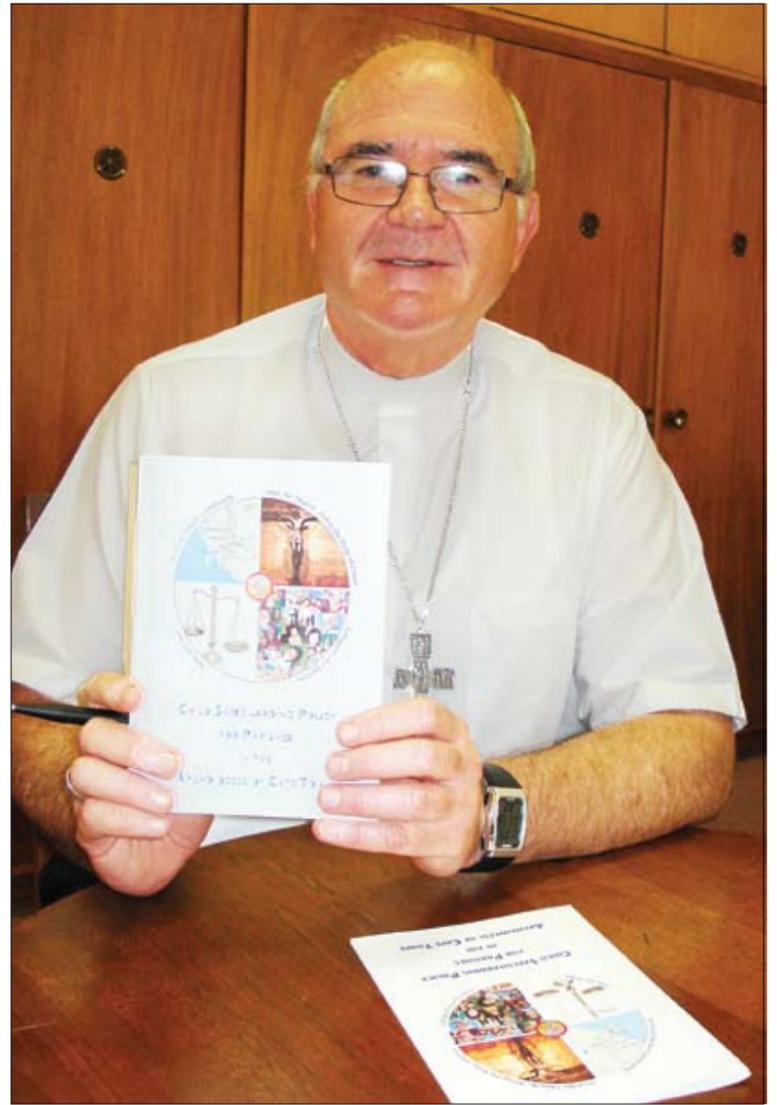
has knowledge, a suspicion or concern about a possible case of abuse, contact details of the appropriate civic authorities will be on display. Also on display will be the details of the Contact Persons appointed by the Archbishop. They are the primary recipients of information about an allegation of abuse. Their appointment is based on their training and experience in dealing with child abuse. They are completely independent from the parishes (see the Procedures Overview diagram). Other appointments by the Archbishop include the Child Safeguarding Officer, two Assistants and the Child Safeguarding Panel. These appointments are currently underway.

If an allegation of abuse does arise, the Policy focuses on two essential aspects. The first is the wellbeing and safety of the child. The second is to ensure that the incident is correctly reported to the civic authorities in terms of national legislation. In all instances where an allegation of abuse is reported to the civic authorities, the person against whom the allegation is leveled is immediately placed on Administrative Leave.

The Child Safeguarding Policy is a bold commitment. It will require a team effort. The Archdiocese, Parish Priests, Pastoral Councils and parishioners will all play a role.

The successful implementation and maintenance of the Policy will result in a cultural shift in terms of child safeguarding.

It will also be our contribution to



Archbishop Brislin holds a draft copy of the Child Safeguarding Policy for parishes of the Archdiocese of Cape Town

the healing process that the Church is so in need of. In the words of Archbishop Stephen Brislin – We cannot change the past but we can mould the future.

Michael Baker

Commitment to the following 7 Standards

- Standard 1: A written Safeguarding Policy
- Standard 2: Procedures – how to respond to allegations and suspicions
- Standard 3: Preventing harm to children
 - Recruitment and vetting
 - Code of behaviour
 - Running safe activities for children
- Standard 4: Training and education
- Standard 5: Communication
- Standard 6: Access to advice and support
- Standard 7: Implementing and monitoring these standards.

appropriate levels of training and education for all clergy, religious, volunteers commissioned to minister and other volunteers as well as all employees. The level of training will be determined by the level of contact that personnel have with children within the parish. General communication from the Archdiocese and specific communication in each parish will ensure that every parish member is aware of the Policy and knows how to interact with it.

An essential element of this interaction is the information publicly displayed in each parish. If anyone

Pope's homily to survivors of clerical abuse

By Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Here is the Vatican's English translation of the homily Pope Francis gave in Spanish July 7 during a Mass with victims of clerical sexual abuse:

The scene where Peter sees Jesus emerge after a terrible interrogation.... Peter whose eyes meet the gaze of Jesus and weeps.... This scene comes to my mind as I look at you, and think of so many men and women, boys and girls. I feel the gaze of Jesus and I ask for the grace to weep, the grace for the church to weep and make reparation for her sons and daughters who betrayed their mission, who abused innocent persons. Today, I am very grateful to you for having travelled so far to come here.

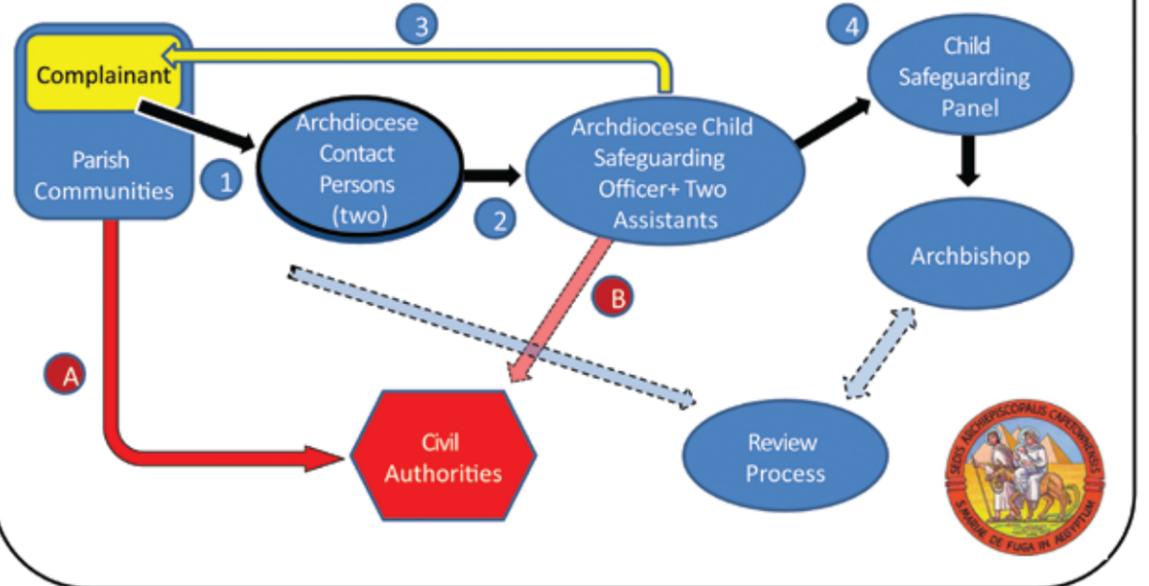
For some time now I have felt in my heart deep pain and suffering. So much time hidden, camouflaged with a complicity that cannot be explained until someone realized that Jesus was looking and others the same ... and they set about to sustain that gaze.

And those few who began to weep have touched our conscience for this crime and grave sin. This is what causes me distress and pain at the fact that some priests and bishops, by sexually abusing minors, violated their innocence and their own priestly vocation. It is something more than despicable actions. It is like a sacrilegious cult, because these boys and girls had been entrusted to the priestly charism in order to be brought

Continued on page 2

CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY

PROCEDURES OVERVIEW



Procedures Overview

1. The Complainant contacts the Archdiocesan Contact Person*
2. The Contact Person provides information to the Child Safeguarding Officer*
3. The Child Safeguarding Officer interviews the Complainant and explains the process and need to Report; a report is made to the Child Safeguarding Panel*
4. After a preliminary investigation, the Panel may advise to

place the Respondent on Administrative Leave.

- A.** The Complainant is required to report the allegation to the Civil Authorities in cases of sexual abuse.
- B.** The Child Protection Officer must report the allegation to the Civil Authorities in the event that the Complainant does not. Once an allegation is reported to the Civil Authorities, the Respondent is automatically placed on Administrative Leave.

*Appointed by the Archbishop

Living God's dream for you

Imagine living the dream that God has for you!

In this year of Consecrated Life we are called to live our vocation with joy. We hear of stories in both the Old and New Testament of how men and women who allowed God's dream to be realised in them were filled with great joy.

Moses was happy just being an ordinary man living an ordinary life. However, God's dream for Moses was that he would liberate the people from Egypt. Being hesitant in speech, Moses struggled to accept this task, but God promised his support, saying, "I will be with you." Young David was a shepherd boy when he was anointed by Samuel to be king of Israel. He would have been happy just being a shepherd, but he was called by God to lead the people of Israel as king.

Mary, the Mother of our Lord, was a young girl when she was told that she was going to be the mother of the Saviour of the world. Surprised by the news and feeling a bit afraid, the angel said to her: "Mary, do not be afraid."

Saul was persecuting Christians. He hated anyone who invoked the name of Jesus, until he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Immediately Saul wanted to know who was speaking to him. The voice responded: "I am Jesus and you are persecuting me". God's dream for Saul was realised, when after being blinded by light and hearing this voice, his life changed and he went into the synagogue saying that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Saul's name was changed to Paul, a great missionary telling everyone he met about the love of Christ.

Do you believe that God has a



Archbishop Brislin met with the seminarians and their families on 17 January 2015 at Holy Cross Convent, Parow Valley. Kneeling in front are, from left to right: Rui Henriques (2nd year Philosophy), David de Freitas (1st year orientation year), Vincent de Comarmond (2nd year philosophy, and Theo April (1st year Theology).

dream for you? Imagine living the dream that God has for you! What a life that would be!

If you are a young man or young woman thinking about the priesthood or religious life, then simply read the pages of Scripture that tell the stories of how God called different people and how they responded to God's dream for their lives.

Scripture texts to help you: Exodus 3:1-12; Isaiah 6:1-9; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 1:26-38 Acts 9:1-19;

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Episcopal Vicar for Vocations and Seminary Formation

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VOCATION DISCERNMENT DATES FOR 2015

21 & 28 February
14 & 28 March
11 April
25 April – Vocations Festival
9 & 30 May
6 & 20 June
18 & 25 July
1, 15 & 29 August
5, 19 & 26 September
10 October

Is God calling you to make a difference in the world as a priest? Speak to your parish priest.

Do not be afraid! I am with you, says the Lord.

For more information contact the Vocations Office on 021 462 2417 or 083 492 5552.

Continued from page 1

to God. And those people sacrificed them to the idol of their own concupiscence. They profane the very image of God in whose likeness we were created. Childhood, as we all know, young hearts, so open and trusting, have their own way of understanding the mysteries of God's love and are eager to grow in the faith. Today the heart of the church looks into the eyes of Jesus in these boys and girls and wants to weep; she asks the grace to weep before the execrable acts of abuse which have left life-long scars.

I know that these wounds are a source of deep and often unrelenting emotional and spiritual pain, and even despair. Many of those who have suffered in this way have also sought relief in the path of addiction. Others have experienced difficulties in significant relationships, with parents, spouses and children. Suffering in families has been especially grave, since the damage provoked by abuse affects these vital family relationships.

Some have even had to deal with the terrible tragedy of the death of a loved one by suicide. The deaths of these so beloved children of God weigh upon the heart and my conscience and that of the whole church. To these families I express my heartfelt love and sorrow. Jesus, tortured and interrogated with passionate hatred, is taken to another place and he looks out. He looks out upon one of his own torturers, the one who denied him, and he makes him weep. Let us implore this grace together with that of making amends.

Sins of clerical sexual abuse against minors have a toxic effect on faith and hope in God. Some of you have held fast to faith, while for others the experience of betrayal and abandonment has led to a weakening of faith in God. Your presence here speaks of the miracle of hope, which prevails against the deepest darkness. Surely it is a sign of God's mercy

that today we have this opportunity to encounter one another, to adore God, to look in one another's eyes and seek the grace of reconciliation.

Before God and his people I express my sorrow for the sins and grave crimes of clerical sexual abuse committed against you. And I humbly ask forgiveness.

I beg your forgiveness, too, for the sins of omission on the part of church leaders who did not respond adequately to reports of abuse made by family members, as well as by abuse victims

As a response to the world-wide phenomenon of sexual abuse of minors by priests, the Southern African Bishops Conference established the Professional Conduct Committee on Metropolitan level in 1999. The task of these committees, consisting mainly of professional people such as lawyers, social workers, psychologists and so on, is to investigate allegations of sexual abuse of minors by clerics and religious. The Protocol governing the work of these committees has been vetted by Police and Social Workers. These committees, including that of Cape Town, continue to function should any allegation arise.

themselves. This led to even greater suffering on the part of those who were abused and it endangered other minors who were at risk.

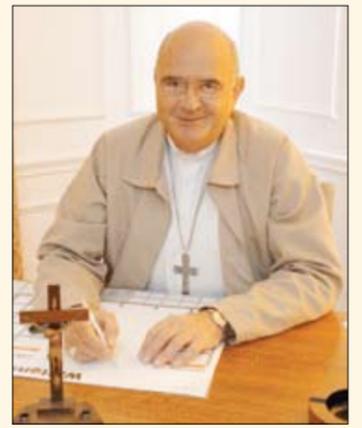
On the other hand, the courage that you and others have shown by speaking up, by telling the truth, was a service of love, since for us it shed light on a terrible darkness in the life of the church. There is no place in the church's ministry for those who commit these abuses, and I commit myself not to tolerate harm done to a minor by any individual, whether a cleric or not. All bishops must carry out their pastoral ministry with the utmost care in order to help foster the protection of minors, and they will be held accountable.

What Jesus says about those who cause scandal applies to all of us: the millstone and the sea (cf. Mt 18:6). By the same token we will continue to exercise vigilance in priestly formation. I am counting on the members of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, all minors, whatever religion they belong to, they are little flowers which God looks lovingly upon.

I ask this support so as to help me ensure that we develop better policies and procedures in the universal church for the protection of minors and for the training of church personnel in implementing those policies and procedures. We need to do everything in our power to ensure that these sins have no place in the church.

Dear brothers and sisters, because we are all members of God's family, we are called to live lives shaped by mercy. The Lord Jesus, our Saviour, is the supreme example of this; though innocent, he took our sins upon himself on the cross. To be reconciled is the very essence of our shared identity as followers of Jesus Christ. By turning back to him, accompanied by our most holy Mother, who stood sorrowing at the foot of the cross, let us seek the grace of reconciliation with the entire people of God. The lov-

From the HEART



We deeply appreciate Pope Francis' initiative in naming this year "The Year of Consecrated Life". The Church throughout the world – not least in our own country – owes a great debt of gratitude to Consecrated persons who have responded to the call of Jesus Christ in a radical way to leave everything: father, mother, husband, wife, children and career, and to follow Jesus Christ in a celibate and obedient way of life. It is Christ who is their first and only love. They have dedicated themselves to him by proclaiming the Gospel by the witness of their lives. Many have left their home countries to travel thousands of miles to live and work among people of different languages and cultures in often dangerous circumstances. Many of them died young. I studied theology at a Missionary College in London and I have vivid memories of the names of the deceased priests inscribed on plaques – in the 19th century most died from diseases or were killed at the age of 25, 26, 27... We are accustomed these days with Religious going on "home leave", but previously Religious left their countries "for good" with no expectation of returning or seeing their parents or families again.

The faith would not have been implanted and the Church not established in Cape Town if it were not for the Religious. They gave themselves completely to the mission entrusted to them, establishing and ministering in parishes, establishing schools, clinics, sanatoriums, orphanages and the like. They worked among the poorest of the poor and the rich alike. Certainly they made

mistakes and had their individual weaknesses but the good that has been accomplished far outweighs anything negative.

In the apartheid years they played an inspiring role of witness, remembered especially perhaps by such events as the opening of "white" schools to all races in violation of the discriminatory laws of the time, and ensuring that places such as Schoenstatt were a home to all people and a safe meeting place for people of faith from different race groups. They have run numerous projects and programmes to alleviate poverty and sickness, to care for people and to give young people a chance in life.

Not only has their prophetic voice brought about change in the Church and society, but their commitment to community life has given witness to the Church as a family of nations, especially in recent years with the establishment of multi-cultural communities. The love of Christ breaks down every barrier and unites people in the one faith – a lesson that is especially necessary in these times of xenophobic attacks in our country.

And so, this is a year to say "thank you", to acknowledge how much we owe to the brothers, sisters and priests of Religious Congregations. You have enriched us and inspired us, we are better people because of you. In a very special way we will be praying for you during this year.

+ Stephen Brislin

**+Stephen Brislin
Archbishop of Cape Town**

ing intercession of Our Lady of Tender Mercy is an unfailing source of help in the process of our healing.

You and all those who were abused by clergy are loved by God. I pray that the remnants of the darkness which touched you may be healed by the embrace of the Child Jesus and that the harm which was done to you will give way to renewed faith and joy.

I am grateful for this meeting. And please pray for me, so that the eyes of my heart will always clearly see the path of merciful love, and that God will grant

me the courage to persevere on this path for the good of all children and young people.

Jesus comes forth from an unjust trial, from a cruel interrogation and he looks in the eyes of Peter, and Peter weeps. We ask that he look at us and that we allow ourselves to be looked upon and to weep and that he give us the grace to be ashamed, so that, like Peter, forty days later, we can reply: "You know that I love you"; and hear him say: "Go back and feed my sheep" – and I would add – "Let no wolf enter the sheepfold."



Letters to The Editor

Articles, letters and advertisements should reach us by **2 April 2015** for the **April-June 2015** edition.

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Editor: Stephen Docherty

Deaf Catholics meet and unite

At the opening Mass of the Catholic Deaf Conference held in Cape Town from 12-15 December 2014, Archbishop Stephen Brislin welcomed all the participants from Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Mariannhill, Manzini, Pretoria and Lesotho. He encouraged each one to recognise their mission as baptised disciples that fits with the conference's theme: 'Building a Deaf-aware and Deaf-friendly Church together; celebrating our Catholic Faith in Sign Language'. However, our Catholic mission goes beyond the boundaries of the Church, because - as Catholics - we are called to witness to Christ throughout the whole world, including both the Deaf world and the hearing world.

During deliberations participants shared on the challenges facing Deaf Catholics in Southern Africa today. 'In Cape Town our Catholic Deaf members have dropped over the years,' explained Stephen Lombard, the PRO for Deaf Community Cape Town (DCCT) and facilitator of the Conference. 'We still have about 120 people coming to Mass on the Third Sunday of every month. This conference is important to help develop ways in which we can promote the Catholic faith among Deaf people.

We are losing out to many of the new Deaf Fellowship churches which are strong in the Western Cape'.

'One of the biggest problems within our own Church,' he said, 'is that priests in hearing parishes need to become more Deaf-aware. Many priests don't even know that they have Deaf people in their parishes. Most of the Deaf feel pastorally neglected. We need to develop an awareness programme for priests and hearing parishioners to make them more Deaf-aware and Deaf-friendly'.

Makeni Myanga and Christine Magongwa, two representatives of Deaf youth from the Archdiocese of Johannesburg, believe that 'the biggest challenge facing Deaf Catholics is the lack of young people in our church communities. We need to develop dynamic Deaf youth groups which make the faith appealing and understandable to Deaf youth. It has to be done through the medium of Sign Language, the language of Deaf youth today. We need good signing choirs and a youth camp to stimulate the faith of our Deaf youth'.

This conference is partly a realisation of Zanele Mbothwe's dreams. 'As Deaf Catholics, we felt lost after the

death of Fr John Turner CMM last year. In Mariannhill, we didn't know what we were going to do,' she said. 'God has been good in sending us a new chaplain in Fr Lufeyo Mpaha CMM. Thankfully this conference too, helps us get to know other Deaf Catholics and it gives us courage. Now we can build up a better future for Deaf Catholics in KZN'.

'Since the death of Fr John, many of the Catholics in Swaziland were being lured to join the Jehovah's Witnesses', says Sibusiso Zulu from Manzini. 'We lost our interpreter at the Sunday Masses because another church could pay him a salary. We were in desperate trouble. Fr Mark James OP has been visiting us to help build up the community again'.

Father Charles Phoofole OMI, a hearing priest from Lesotho, believes that 'Deaf awareness is a crucial task in Lesotho, just as in South Africa. Many people in my country still think Deaf people can't do anything important. Hearing people are very patronising and paternalistic towards Deaf people. Deaf people are not allowed to drive motor cars in Lesotho. There is much prejudice and discrimination to overcome', he said. 'I am encouraged by this conference to build support between Deaf Catholics in South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland'.

A working committee of seven members was elected comprising: Eric Mahamba (Cape Town); Zanele Mbothwe (Durban/Mariannhill); Makeni Myanga (Johannesburg); Sibusiso Zulu (Manzini); a representative from Lesotho; Father Lufeyo Mpaha CMM; and Father Mark James OP. The committee will clarify and implement the recommendations of the conference over the next two years.

Among the recommendations passed were the organising of a Catholic Deaf Youth camp during 2015; promoting



All participants with Archbishop Stephen Brislin after the opening Mass

Deaf Awareness in our parishes and dioceses; provision of interpreters for hearing Masses to ensure the inclusion of Deaf people in liturgical celebrations; improving our signing choirs and Deaf liturgy; encouraging Deaf people to become extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist; and to investigate the possibility of programmes like Marriage Encounter and Alpha being made accessible to Deaf Catholics.

In closing, a word of appreciation was expressed to the Deaf Community Cape Town (DCCT) and especially Fr Mark Foster, the chaplain to the Deaf in Cape Town, for agreeing to host this ground-breaking event. A firm foundation has been laid for a Church that is Deaf aware and more inclusive of Deaf Catholics throughout Southern Africa.

Fr Mark James OP

An upcoming event not to be missed

Andre Moubarak, a Maronite Catholic, is one of the few nominal indigenous Christians still to be found in Israel, and whose Christian heritage goes back to the early 4th century. He grew up in the Old City of Jerusalem, in the Christian Quarter, in the streets of the Via Dolorosa - The Way of the Cross. There are many guides in Israel and they are great teachers but Andre's way of teaching and his approach makes him unique and one of the best. He is also a strong Spirit-filled believer whose testimony is manifested by his guided tours and in the healing services he conducts.

In response to our pilgrims request, Saint Gerard's Holy Tours has invited Andre to Cape Town in July 2015.

You are welcome to come and meet Andre at any of the three parishes:

- St Clare's, Elsie's River - 6 July
- St Mary of the Angels, Athlone - 7 July
- St Gerard's, Parkwood Estate - 10 July.



Andre Moubarak

His visit will take the form of Praise & Worship starting at 7pm, testimonies by pilgrims and then a talk/healing service by Andre. Johnny, our tour partner in Israel, will also be in attendance.

Please bring your family and friends along to experience the wonderful healing gift the Lord has bestowed upon him, which we were all so fortunate in having experienced in the Holy Land.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, EGYPT and/or TURKEY with ROME option!!
FREE TRIP FOR YOU AND YOUR PRIEST/PASTOR IF ARRANGED VIA YOUR CHURCH OR COMMUNITY/ORGANISATION!! (t&c applies)
Walk in the footsteps of The Master!!
Cana, Nazareth, Church of The Annunciation, Tiberius, Boat ride Sea of Galilee, Capernaum; Mt of Beatitudes, Mt Tabor, Jordan River, Golan, Dead Sea; Masada, Jericho, Bethany, Mt Zion, Church of the Visitation, Shepherd's Fields; Church of the Nativity, Mt of Olives, Palm Sunday, Dominus Fleuit, Gethsemane; Cave of Betrayal, Cave of Assumption, Pater Noster, Stations of the Cross; Church of the Holy Sepulchre/Calvary/Tomb, St Ann Church, Wailing Wall; Visit the Pyramids and Sphinx with cruise on Nile, or 2 day tour to Turkey.
OTHER FAMOUS PILGRIMAGES!!
ROME, ASSISI & FRANCE
ROME - Visit Basilicas & Catacombs; Papal audience; Vatican Museum / Sistine Chapel, St Peters & Colosseum; Day visit to Assisi
FRANCE - Lourdes; Avignon (Palace of the Popes); Nevers (see St Bernadette's body); Paris (St Vincent De Paul & St Catherine's bodies); Notre Dame church; Eiffel Tower, etc.
PORTUGAL, SPAIN & FRANCE (Absolutely lovely - Private Bus Journey)
FATIMA - International Rosary and Torchlight Procession; Vigil Mass - Chapel of Apparitions and Esplanade altar; Stations of the Cross followed by a visit to Valinhos, Aljustrel and the parish
SPAIN - Private bus for journey through Spain. Overnight in Burgos, Spain
FRANCE - Lourdes; Avignon (Palace of the Popes); Nevers (see St Bernadette's body); Paris (See St Vincent De Paul & St Catherine's bodies); Notre Dame church; Eiffel Tower, etc.
ST FRANCIS PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY
ROME - Visit Basilicas & Catacombs; Papal audience; Vatican Museum / Sistine Chapel, St Peters & Colosseum; Assisi; Pompei; Sorrento; San Giovanni Rotondo; San Pio's Basilica; Monte St Angelo; Lanciano - Basilica of the Eucharistic Miracle
Professionally arranged by: St Gerards Holy Tours (2002/030680/23 cc) Contact: Deacon John Sheraton - 021 705 5131 or 083 277 7999 Also: Shawn Lotters on 082 543 5762 Email: stgholytours@gmail.com

St Gerard's Holy Tours

At the onset of 2015 we at Saint Gerard's Holy Tours would like to wish you and your family a God filled, blessed and peaceful year ahead.

Over the years you would have come across our name in the Archdiocesan News, Southern Cross, on posters and flyers or might have heard the testimony of our pilgrims. To further introduce ourselves we would like to share with you why we are so passionate about what we do!

Saint Gerard's Holy Tours have over the past decade been blessed with having the privilege of arranging spiritually successful pilgrimages as attested by the numerous feedbacks we have received from our pilgrims.

We are a registered company established in 2004 offering assured personalised, professional and affordable pilgrimages to all communities and denominations throughout southern Africa;

Our mission - Evangelising through Pilgrimages - spreading the Good News to people from all walks of life;

Although our tour packages include all the famous sites such as:

The Holy Lands (Israel) and Egypt with optional visits to Rome/Assisi, Turkey and Greece; Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Poland, etc., and the very latest one being a pilgrimage to India!! We are also able to adapt a pilgrimage to meet the expectations of an individual, family or group.

Our primary focus over the years has always been to facilitate a biblical oriented pilgrimage giving Christians the experience of the holy places of Israel and thereby encounter:

- the opportunity to walk in faith, prayerfully and devoutly, in the



Since the re-vamping of the Archdiocese of Cape Town website in April 2014, we have seen a considerable amount of traffic (and still progressively increasing!) to the site. It is an easy to use website, up to date, contains interesting and topical postings, and contains a link to our Facebook page. In order for us to improve the site why not visit it today, and leave a comment on what you think. Also click on our Facebook page and "Like" us. Here are some stats from our website over the last nine months:

- 123 204** the number of views on our website between May 2014 and Jan 2015
- 446** the average number of page views per day in this period
- 2 284** the highest number of page views in one day - Dec 24th
- 4 053** total number of page views between Dec 23-25 - 1351 per day
- 1 911** the number of "Likes" on our Facebook page by 4 Feb 2015



April 2013 Pilgrims from Holy Redeemer, Bergvliet walking the Via Dolorosa led by Fr Tyrone Sam CSsR, August 2014

footsteps of Jesus, the very places where he walked, preached, healed and came to die to save us all;

- a return "to our Hebraic roots, the roots of our Christian faith" encountering Mother Church, the church of Jerusalem from where the apostles went forth to spread the Gospel and from where the early Christians received guidance;
- and to meet and support a dwindling Palestinian Arab Christian community whose presence in the Holy Land is part of the Church's historic witness to the Gospel.

Although the financial viability of our operation is important in providing the services we do, it is when our pilgrims express that they have been changed by the experience; their hearts and minds transformed forever, or they have returned home with a new sense of their Christian calling to

take up a new way of life - only then have we succeeded in our purpose and mission.

Bishop Frank Nubuasah, Vicariate of Francistown, Botswana, on his return from the Holy Land shared with us:

"It was a beautiful event for me. It was a real pilgrimage to find my roots and the roots of my faith. I am a different person today". He, being only one of many who have returned, having an experience of a life time, which is our mission to bring "home" to many more!

So consider yourself the opportunity of a life time and allow St Gerard's Holy Tours to arrange a unique and memorable pilgrimage for you!

For a personalised quality assured service contact: Deacon John Sheraton 083 277 7999 or Shawn Lotters 082 543 5762. Email: stgholytours@gmail.com

YOUTH CHAPLAINCY

Greetings, youth of the Western Cape!

2015 is well under way and Lent is just about upon us! Before I get to the events and activities of the youth chaplaincy, I'd like to just take a moment and say to you, breathe.

For many people, the start of a new year is hectic - both stressful and exciting! It often means new adventures! A new school, the start of university, perhaps a new job! Maybe there have been tragedies over the festive season.

Maybe there have been life-changing relationships you have formed or decisions you have made. I would like to extend the following words of Jesus to you, and may they be a mantra for the entire year, "come away with me, by yourselves, to a quiet place and rest a little" (Mark 6:31). We all need these quiet times with Jesus and He desires to spend this time with us. May this Lenten season be a chance for you to enter, not numbly into the traditions of the season, but with your whole

heart. May you find the well-spring of life afresh this Lent, and may you hear Him say "come away with me, by yourselves, to a quiet place and rest a little". Our Lenten Ecclesia material can help you do this.

And now to business!

Lots of preparatory work has taken place since last we spoke in order to make 2015 jam-packed with meaningful and exciting events for you! Here are some highlights you can expect this year:

27 Feb - 01 Mar - Youth Ministry Conference

This is an amazing, international training festival that we are very proud to host in Cape Town. Registrations are closed but please keep us in prayers!

01 March - XLT (Exalt)

A youth rally like no other! Join us for an evening of praise and worship, Adoration, Confession, an inspiring talk and chill time at Durbanville Catholic Church at 6pm

21 March - Re-Unite!

A dynamic get-together of all youth leaders who have ever attended one of our Leadership Training Course weekends.

25 April - Living the Dream

- In collaboration with the Vocations Department

In a shepherd, God saw a king; in a teenage girl - the queen of Heaven! What does God see in you? Join us in a day dedicated to discovering God's awesome plan for our lives.

30 May - Family Focus Conference

Family comes first! We are proud to be part of this CPD initiative which aims to empower the family to live in the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

16 June - Youth Day

The biggest event in our calendar - always pulling a massive crowd. Join us for this celebration that incorporates our faith, our country's history and our passion as young people.

25 and 30 July - Leadership in Ministry Course

This is very important for all youth leaders. If you

missed the one in January, this is your last chance to qualify for our September LTC weekend. A very important course covering the nuts and bolts of leadership as well as the Diocesan Child Protection Policy. Certificates at completion.

29 August - Faith Formation Festival / Ecclesia Launch

After an incredible response last year we are excited to bring back this collaborative event incorporating all elements of pastoral ministry and launch our new Ecclesia season!

25 - 27 September - Leadership Training Weekend

Don't miss out - spaces are limited. Leadership training from experts in a rugged, wilderness setting. Collaborating with Scouts and CLA, this year's weekend will include more adventure time!

24 October - Youth Ministry Day

A joy-filled celebration of all young people who selflessly serve the Church in ministry

01 -30 November - Stop. Breathe.

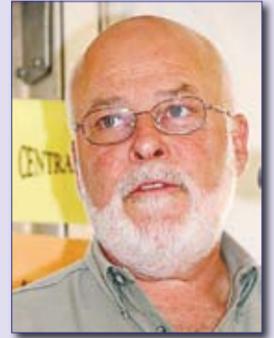
Remember what I told you in the beginning? If you still haven't done it by now - November is your chance. Take some time out because we've got a surprise for December, and you're going to want to have caught your breath before it hits you :)

December - Wait and see!

Have the year of your life!
Peace and blessings,
The Youth Chaplaincy

Theology Today

Mrs Andrew Borella



In the last issue of the Archdiocesan News, I looked at the four ways in which Jesus is present in the Eucharist and how important it is to have a real knowledge and awareness of Jesus and his presences. Only in this way do we become available to encounter Jesus. This is the basis for true reverence of the Person of Jesus and of the Eucharist. It needs to be an interior reality before the external manifestations of reverence will have a true meaning. We could appear to be very reverential, yet lack the interior disposition and vice versa.

I want to continue with the Eucharist and I will start with the whole issue of the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. Originally the reservation of Eucharist was a practical necessity in order to take Communion to the sick and as Viaticum to the dying. The Mass was celebrated only on Sundays, so Communion had to be kept in case anyone became ill or came close to dying during the week. In time, people came to pray before the reserved Sacrament and so began a process of developing the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In turn Exposition and Benediction came into being. Although the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament came to be more important than the actual Mass for many, Reservation flows from the celebration of the Eucharist, which is the central reality of our Catholic faith.

Today, Catholics have a very limited experience of Exposition and Benediction. That does mean that there are not places where Perpetual Adoration happens. Rather it tends to be the exception rather than the rule. Once again it is an issue of education and understanding.

Also there is the need to encourage people to a greater sense of the power of the Eucharist adored and to create opportunities for them to do so.

Since Jesus is really present in the Eucharist reserved in the Tabernacle, the issue of reverence is once again raised. When entering the church, we are taught to venerate the real Presence by a genuflection or a deep bow. Unfortunately children are taught to venerate without the explanation as to why they do it. It could be a powerful moment of faith formation in this simple gesture. We are left with sloppy and half-hearted gestures that certainly do not convey reverence or a profound belief in the real Presence of Jesus. Our gestures of reverence should embody a deep seated faith in Jesus and a loving desire to honour and worship him. Prayerfulness before the Blessed Sacrament is often replaced with a well meant desire to be friendly and to build community. Instead of silent communion with Jesus, we end up with noisy chatter. Again it is a question of ongoing education on the Eucharist and Eucharistic Presence.

If we believe in the real Presence, then it is a Presence to be encountered - it is a dynamic Presence. For such encounter to take place, it is not enough that Jesus is present to us. We need to be conscious of his Presence and become present to him. The question is raised: Do we experience the sense of his Presence in the church? I believe that it is this that sets a Catholic church apart from every other church. So we ought to become more aware of his Presence and of what we are doing when we gather to celebrate Eucharist.

To be continued.

KOLPING

Guest House & Conference Facility



Situated in a tranquil garden setting in the centre of Durbanville, with pool and braai facilities, we offer both tastefully decorated Bed and Breakfast rooms and Self-Catering units, as well as a full English breakfast and dinner by arrangement.

Conference facilities, wheelchair facilities, within walking distance of shops, restaurants, banks and close proximity to Catholic Church, tennis courts, golf course and wine route.

We would like to be your home away from home

CONTACT

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E-mail: info@kolpingguesthouse.co.za
www.kolpingguesthouse.co.za

Don't shatter that dream

A short story by Fr Ralph de Hahn



"And how is my Bobby doing today?" so rang out the morning greeting as Matron Sylvia Alcaster came into the E Ward for chronic invalid patients in St Luke's grand hospital in the heart of the American city. The humorous response from the young Bobby Larkins was ever sharp and clear "I'm still here sister and not likely to run away – not quite yet."

And, indeed, there was no possibility of his ever leaving his bed, for Bobby was seriously handicapped with a deformed spine and two weak legs unable to hold his weight; he was also unable to move his head from left to right, his eyes focused only on the empty ceiling. However, he was fully conscious and able to converse joyfully with his visitors – with the few who came.

"Well then, young man, don't ever attempt to leave us because we love you so much" and that was Matron's smiling response as she ruffled his curly hair. It was truly a penetrating lesson for all the staff and visitors how this lad, unable to walk to the window, was never able to view the outside world, and yet what a lovely sense of humour and a kindly peaceful disposition.

It was a whole new story when Lorenzo came into his life. It was the month of October when Sister Sylvia led Lorenzo into E Ward and introduced him to Bobby. The new visitor was short, in his fifties, and had both his arms in plaster and his head bandaged because of his accident on a motor cycle.

And he was obviously deeply moved to find Bobby in that hopeless condition. A short chatter of who and what and how, and then Bobby launched the big question:

"Lorenzo can you get to the window and tell me about the outside world? I am so excited to hear what you see."

There was a silence that betrayed some deep mental activity. Then Lorenzo spoke "Sure Bobby, I'll do that for you. Gladly. For I can see far more than most people see, and also hear far more than most people hear."

"That's great Lorenzo, then maybe you can describe to me what's going on at present. Are you close to the window?"

"I sure am... and it's a real beautiful sunny day. It's Spring and the colourful leaves are floating to the earth. Yes, it's the Fall."

"Gee, that has got to be real beautiful... what else?... tell me!"

Lorenzo paused for a few seconds and then continued... "I see people moving around the duck pond and a dozen baby ducks on the bank following the leader, one behind the other... and look, there are three or four squirrels under the trees munching away at their nuts."

Bobby was smiling and excited. "What else is happening in the Park?"

"All down the central avenue there are such colourful flowers. Every colour under the sun... and you know what, Bobby, that avenue has a name. It is named Roberts Avenue."

Bobby, even more excited, cried out "Hey, that's my name, Robert, that's why they call me Bobby. Gee, they named the avenue after me." So he thought!

And so it continued whenever Lorenzo visited the ward to offer his handicapped friend a living picture of the outside world. Christmas came and it was special. Lorenzo was delighted to paint a glorious picture of the lit-up tree in the park, the most spectacular tree ever with

a huge array of colours, flashing on and off – the snow flakes waltzing to the snow covered earth, the children skating merrily on the frozen lake, the bare skeleton of the surrounding trees, and the pedestrians wearing their thick winter coats.

Bobby beamed with excitement and obvious joy... for he could see it all. It was his avenue and he was there. "Gee" that was his famous exclamation. He imagined himself skating over the lake on fairy skates although he had never seen a pair of skates.

This happy encounter continued for a few months longer, on and off... and then came the shock! Lorenzo was no longer coming. He suffered a stroke and was dead within minutes. The matron passed on the sad news to the young lad with a soft kindly touch, so gently, for she knew of that brotherly bond between them. Bobby was silent for a whole six minutes. And then the tears flowed.

While trying to console him, Sister Sylvia learnt of the wonderful pictures he had received from his brother of the outside world. It had made his day, his very life. The matron was struck with astonishment.

Gazing out of the small window she saw only the walls of a high-rise building. No park, no lake, no Christmas tree, no glamorous lights, no people, no nothing! Unbelievable. And tears began to fill her eyes.

And to think that Lorenzo, because of that accident, was totally blind.

Abortion Warning

'The Pill' can abort, undetected, soon after conception. A medical fact. See www.humanlife.org/abortion_does_the_pill.php

St Gerard's Holy Tours

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land/Egypt with option to Rome, Turkey or Greece!!

An 11 day experience that will change your life!!

2015 PILGRIMAGES

Charismatic Renewal, Cape Town – May 2015 – Fr Emmanuel Siljeur & Fr Sizwe CSsR.
SORRY, FULLY BOOKED

St Cyprian's Anglican Parish, Retreat – May 2015 – Fr Beukes / Pat Marinus
Contact Pat Marinus 082 931 0937

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Retreat – October 2015 – Fr Sean Collins CSsR
Contact Connie Petersen 079 460 9318

St John Bosco Parish, Westridge, Mitchells Plain – October/November 2015 – Fr Eoin Farrelly SDB
Contact Deacon Mervin Solomons 082 373 9900

2016 PILGRIMAGES

West Coast Catholic Parish with Fr Aloysius Abone – February 2016
Contact Desire Jackson on 084 539 7757

Corpus Christ Parish, Wynberg – October/November 2015 – Fr Christopher
Contact Alberta on 083 513 3362

St Joseph's Parish, Goodwood – April 2016 – Fr Mari Joe
Contact Donovan 084 627 1543

St Norbert's Parish, Ocean View/Kommetjie – August 2016 – Fr Sebastian
Contact Karen 083 264 0125 & Val 079 436 4269

St Mary's Cathedral, Cape Town – August 2016 – Fr Michael Clement
Contact Desire Jackson 084 539 7757

St Anne's Parish, Steenberg – September 2016 – Fr Paul MSFS
Contact Maureen 071 850 3338

Upcoming Pilgrimages to Europe!!

July 2015 – Pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi & France (Lourdes, Avignon, Nevers and Paris)
– Fr Mark Pothier. *SORRY, BOOKING CLOSED*

June 2016 – Pilgrimage to Portugal (Fatima), Spain & France (Lourdes, Avignon, Nevers and Paris) – Fr Job MSFS. Contact Deacon Joseph Arulandu 082 466 8057

Contact: Deacon John Sheraton on 021 705 5131 or 083 277 7999 or Shawn Lotters on 082 543 5762. Email: stgholytours@gmail.com



Inspiring youth to grow closer to Christ

Come end February 2015, youth ministry in South Africa will get ready for the biggest and most inspiring ministry-filled weekend of the year. The Catholic Youth Ministry Conference, powered by Life Teen International returns to Cape Town from Friday 27 February – Sunday 1 March 2015.

Aimed at all youth leaders (there is no age restriction or limit) in South Africa, and Africa, the 4th annual Catholic Youth Ministry Conference with Life Teen International hosts

an array of guest speakers on various topics – from relational ministry, to setting up a youth or Life Teen group to understanding the role of social media in faith development, among many other pertinent topics surrounding youth ministry.

This year, the conference continues on last year's theme "Inspired". Join hundreds of other Catholic youth workers from across the country and even other parts of Africa to discover a deeper level of your faith, through workshops, Ted-style talks and a spe-

cial XLT praise and worship event on Sunday evening to close the weekend.

"These conferences are truly amazing. I leave on the Sunday with a changed and renewed heart! I absolutely love these training weekends" said one participant after 2014's conference.

The conference takes place at Okkie Jooste Camp outside Stellenbosch in the Western Cape. Unfortunately bookings closed before going to press, but we would appreciate that you keep us in prayer during this time.

Catholic Business Network

Three years ago in August 2012 the Catholic Business Network was formed by Cape Town businessmen Sinclair Broadhurst and Vic Barra. This initiative has since grown in leaps and bounds and continues to try and attract new members.

To this end Vicar General Fr Peter-John Pearson will draw this work to the attention of parishes.

If given the opportunity, we are most willing to address your parishioners and set up a network in your area.

The network is made up of approximately forty Catholic business people who endeavour to support and promote each other's professional and business undertakings. These business people include business owners, sales managers, trainers and several artisans.

Various industries are represented including the glass, aluminium, print-

ing, mining, wine, bottling, piping, automotive, chemicals, promotional, insurance, estate and hospitality sectors.

Our services are advertised on our website: catholicbusinessnetwork.co.za.

Our Mission Statement, 'God is with us', encourages us to operate within the ethos of Christian morals, ethics and values:

- Genuinely support one another
- Offer quality and competitive products and services
- Dedicated to making business grow among us
- Inspired by God to make business work
- Share positively to grow our network
- Work and pray towards a common goal
- Interest in other businesses to make

our network grow

- Thoughtful and considerate towards one another
- Honest and ethical in all our dealings
- Understand and have the belief to make it happen
- Success comes with caring and trusting in God

Every fortnight (commencing Tuesday 20th January 2015) the group meets at the Goodwood Sports Club, Milton Road, Goodwood.

At these meetings our businesses are promoted, relevant tips and experiences are shared and we pray for our members' success. Often these meetings are attended by local priests who support this project.

For further information please contact Sinclair 083 300 6747 or Vic 083 308 4014.



Above is a picture of Kolping members who celebrated Blessed Adolph Kolping Commemoration day on Sunday 7th December at Schoenstatt Retreat and Conference Centre. Kolping members from Khayelitsha, Kleinvele, Langa, Delft, Kraaifontein and Strandfontein attended.



Michael Fisher, from Belhar parish, who recently celebrated his 93rd birthday, poses for a photograph. He has eight children (two of whom have died), 24 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren.

Celebrating Consecrated Life

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Greetings of Peace and Joy!

We have just begun a new year and soon we will be entering into a new liturgical season, the holy season of Lent. Lent is a time of introspection and conversion for each one of us. This season invites you and me to make the necessary changes in our lives. I wish each one of you a very holy season of Lent.

As you all are well aware our beloved Holy Father Pope Francis has declared the **YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE** which began on 30 November 2014, the First Sunday of Advent, and concludes on the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple on 2 February 2016. The aims of this special time according to our Holy

Father are:

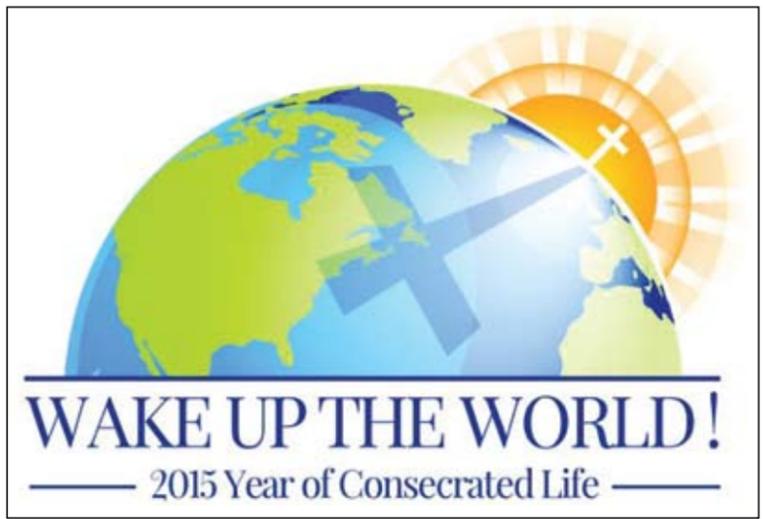
1. TO LOOK TO THE PAST WITH GRATITUDE.

All our Institutes are heir to a rich history rich in charisms. At their origins we see the hand of God who, in his Spirit, calls certain individuals to follow Christ more closely. Every Institute had a humble beginning based on the time and situation in which the institute was established. Like a seed which becomes a tree, each institute grew and stretched out its branches. So it is quite fitting for each Institute to reflect on its origins and history, in order to thank God who grants the Church a variety of gifts which equip her for every good work. It is a time for us to evaluate ourselves and our own success and failures and to experience the Lord's merciful love.

2. TO LIVE THE PRESENT WITH PASSION.

Living the present with passion means becoming "experts in communion", "witnesses and architects of the plan for unity which is the crowning point of human history in God's design". In a polarized society, where different cultures experience difficulty in living alongside one another, where the powerless encounter oppression, where inequality abounds, we are called to offer a concrete model of community which, by acknowledging the dignity of each person and sharing our respective gifts and talents, makes it possible to live as brothers and sisters.

So, be men and women of communion! Have the courage to be present in the midst of conflict and tension, as



CPD Training Courses

Please direct all queries about training to CPD at 021 462 2417.

FEB	19	19.00	Rite of Election (1) at OLHC, Lansdowne	
	20	19.00	Rite of Election (2) at St Mary's Cathedral	
	25	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
		-27	Lifeteen Conference at Okkie Jooste, Stellenbosch	
	28	09.30-12.30	Incorporating the Family in Catechesis (Family Mall) at OLHC, Lansdowne	
		09.30-12.30	Morning of Prayer and Reflection with Mgr Borello for Proclaimers of the Word at Pinelands	
		10.30-13.30	Proclaimers of the Word part 2 at Goodwood	
		10.30-13.30	Proclaimers of the Word part 2 at the Chancery	
MAR	1	15.00	Meeting of all the Funeral Ministers in Xhosa/Sesotho area at Langa	
	4	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
	6	-8th	Marriage Encounter Weekend at Maryland	
	7	09.30-12.30	Catechetical Policy Roll-out (1) at Maryland, Hanover Park	
			09.30-15.00	SPRED training sessions 1 & 2 at St John's, Maitland
			10.30-13.30	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion training part 1 at Goodwood
			09.30-12.30	Morning of Prayer and Reflection with Mgr Borello for Proclaimers of the Word at Pinelands
	11	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
	14	09.30-12.30	RCIA Training part 2(2) at St Ignatius, Claremont	
			09.30-12.30	Catechetical Formation Programme (CFP) (2) at Lansdowne, Parow, Paarl & Westridge
			09.30-15.30	Catechetical Formation Programme (CFP) (3&4) at Vredenburg
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part I (2) at Bergvliet
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part II (2) at Table View
	18	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
21	09.30-12.00	Catechetical Policy Roll-out (2)		
25	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery		
28	09.30-12.30	Catechetical Policy Roll-out (3) at Lentegeur		
		10.30-13.30	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion training part 2 at Goodwood	
		09.30-12.30	Altar Server Co-ordinator meeting at the Chancery	
APR	9	19.30	Marriage Preparation Course (6 weeks) at Retreat	
	11	09.00-15.00	Catechists' Retreat (1) at Maryland, Hanover Park	
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part I (3) at Bergvliet
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part II (3) at Table View
			09.30-12.30	Sacristan training at the Chancery
			-12th	Catholic Engaged Encounter at Christ the King, Pinelands
	15	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
	18	09.30-12.30	RCIA Training part 2(3) at St Ignatius, Claremont	
			09.30-12.30	Catechetical Formation Programme (CFP) (3) at Lansdowne, Parow, Paarl & Westridge
			09.30-12.30	Proclaimers of the Word workshop at St Raphael's, Khayelitsha
21	19.30	Marriage Preparation Course (6 weeks) at Table View		
22	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery		
29	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery		
MAY	2	09.30-15.00	SPRED Training sessions 3 & 4 at Maitland	
			09.30-12.30	Catechetical Policy Roll-out (5) at Ocean View
			14.30	Training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Gabriel's, Gugulethu
	5	19.30	Marriage Preparation Course (6 weeks) at Athlone	
	6	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
	9	09.30-12.30	Catechetical Policy Roll-out (4) at Parow	
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part I (4) at Bergvliet
			09.30-14.00	Good Shepherd Catechesis level I, part II (4) at Table View
			09.30-12.30	Funeral Ministry training at the Chancery
			14.30	Training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Gabriel's, Gugulethu
	16	09.30-12.30	RCIA Training part 2(4) at Claremont	
			09.30-12.30	Catechetical Formation Programme (CFP) (4) at Lansdowne, Parow, Paarl & Westridge
			09.30-15.00	SPRED Training sessions 5 & 6 at Maitland
			14.30	Training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Gabriel's, Gugulethu
	20	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery	
	22	19.00	Mass for Neophytes at the Cathedral	
23	14.30	Training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Gabriel's, Gugulethu		
25	19.30	Marriage Preparation Course (6 weeks) at Milnerton		
27	19.00-21.00	Theology Course at the Chancery		
30	TBA	Family Focus Conference		
		09.30-15.00	Retreat for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Xhosa) at Holy Cross, Parow Valley	

credible sign of the presence of the Spirit who inspires in human hearts a passion for all to be one. We should be able to hear and listen to other people especially of our own communities and we should become models for all interpersonal relationships.

3. TO EMBRACE THE FUTURE WITH HOPE.

We all know the difficulties which the various forms of consecrated life are currently experiencing: decreasing vocations and ageing members; particularly in the western world and the global financial crisis. Added to that is the issues of internationalization and globalisation of our social sector. But it is precisely amid these uncertainties, which we share with so many contemporaries, that we are called to practice the virtue of hope, the fruit of our faith in the Lord of history, who continues to tell us "Be not afraid... I am with you". Jer.1:8.

This hope is not based on statistics or accomplishments, but on the One

in whom we have put our trust, the one for whom nothing is impossible. This is the hope which does not disappoint. It is the hope which enables us to look into our future positively. We need to use this Year to revitalize our Charisms and work together as consecrated people to re-evangelize ourselves in our vocation as consecrated people.

An appeal to all the Religious men and women working in the Archdiocese of Cape Town: Please try to participate actively in the various programmes which will be arranged by the Executive body for the Religious in the Archdiocese, which will be announced through e-mails and through the next issue of the Archdiocesan News.

May this year be one of abundant blessings for all the Religious in the Archdiocese.

Fr Job Kaleekapampil MSFS
Episcopal Vicar for Institutes of Consecrated Life

MAKE LENT MEANINGFUL!

JOIN OR LEAD A SMALL GROUP ON THE 6 WEEK JOURNEY THROUGH LENT ECCLESIA SERIES



ecclesia

Journey through Lent

Gospel Reflections for Small Groups (Year B)

Centre for Pastoral Development

Archdiocese of Cape Town

ECCLESIA FOR ADULTS, YOUTH, TEENAGERS AND CHILDREN

REFLECTION BOOKLETS: There are special reflections for all age groups. Booklets are available from the Centre for Pastoral Development. There are no DVDs for this series.

FAMILY FOCUS: The Sunday Gospels for Lent Year B are broken open and explained; Prayers and reflections; Questions and suggestions for action. Adapted by the Ecclesia Office from a Lenten series by Fr Michael Winstanley SDB.

ARCHDIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS

PARISH NAME	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2014
PARISH NAME	PRIESTS' PROV. FUND		MISSION SUNDAY		ADVENT APPEAL		GAZA
ATHLONE				1,691.00	5,720.70	7,190.00	4,567.3
ATLANTIS	829.00	195.00	538.00	456.50	1,733.40	2,475.60	738.1
BELGRAVIA	1,070.00	1,275.80	1,561.60	1,217.40	4,700.30	7,199.10	
BELHAR	4,173.50	1,552.00	1,984.00		10,539.20	9,732.00	1,959
BELLVILLE	5,108.00		4,576.00	3,890.00	19,930.00	21,614.00	4,122
BONTEHEUWEL	945.10		956.65	213.40	4,313.90	3,860.70	789.4
BOTHASIG	8,885.60	5,265.75	6,532.75	3,304.50	22,102.35	22,165.60	7,893.3
BRACKENFELL	2,660.30	2,396.25	1,960.05	2,586.90	9,913.45	10,496.25	2,091.7
BRIDGETOWN	524.00	556.00	328.00	612.00	2,296.50	2,432.60	565
CAMPS BAY	2,801.10	3,222.55	1,600.00	2,492.60	9,021.00	10,171.25	2,500
CATHEDRAL	2,247.15	4,772.80	1,824.20	2,042.90	2,512.55	13,899.50	
CLAREMONT	2,079.00	2,840.00	2,018.20	2,740.00	12,353.75	11,930.00	2,780
CONSTANTIA	7,690.00	6,400.00	5,300.00	5,730.00	23,160.00	21,520.00	6,740
DELFT	430.00	350.00	900.00	500.00	2,650.00	1,550.00	400
DISTRICT SIX	582.05		818.00	476.70	2,844.25	3,481.30	1,135
DURBANVILLE	8,179.45	9,482.00	8,174.10	8,063.00	35,234.80	31,458.60	6,050
ELSIES RIVER	1,185.00	1,565.00	1,224.00	836.10	4,769.70	6,209.40	3,127.4
FACTRETION	1,058.15	1,016.10	1,068.55	1,025.10	3,879.25	4,421.20	
FISH HOEK	1,664.00	1,596.70	789.50	1,235.40	9,572.70	10,251.15	3,533.55
GOODWOOD	3,553.00	3,029.00	4,448.00	3,219.00	14,069.00	13,575.00	5,165
GRASSY PARK	3,290.00	3,000.00	1,710.00		13,910.00	16,450.00	2,550
GREEN POINT	3,450.00	2,320.00	2,330.00	3,005.00	10,556.00	10,270.00	3,300
GUGULETHU	513.00	319.00	650.00	280.00	1,544.50	2,251.50	827
HANOVER PARK	2,151.00	1,920.00	1,642.00	1,510.00	7,298.10	8,810.00	2,220
HEATHFIELD	6,499.85	5,827.95	5,822.00	7,358.45	38,884.05	38,772.55	11,963.35
HERMANUS	2,044.50		1,904.00	1,391.70	9,092.85	7,678.30	2,343.5
HOUT BAY	2,116.70	1,868.40	1,937.80	1,716.00	9,094.90	9,341.50	1,272
K'LITSHA OLQOA	300.00	965.00	300.00	371.80	1,040.00	500.00	
K'LITSHA St Raphael	750.00	380.00	1,177.00	449.00	2,401.00	2,285.00	
KLEINVLEI	1,450.00		1,250.00	1,481.00	8,441.50	8,423.00	1,185
KOELNHOF		552.70	600.00	406.45	1,804.90	2,316.40	968.5
KOMMETJIE	1,799.80	1,520.50	1,665.70	1,277.50	10,035.20	8,713.45	2,170.8
KRAAIFONTEIN	2,485.75	2,643.40	2,192.15	2,262.95	6,850.95	7,559.05	1,877.85
KUILS RIVER	940.00	2,497.10	580.00	3,048.45	2,807.00	10,012.80	
LAMBERTS BAY	537.80	318.50	343.80	502.50	962.25	993.75	
LANGA	720.00	280.00	540.00	330.00	3,220.00	2,740.00	410
LANSDOWNE	9,192.50	8,985.20	5,782.10	6,079.30	26,448.10	28,485.80	5,278.5
LAVISTOWN	1,960.00	1,517.00	2,510.00	1,300.00	7,485.50	7,818.00	1,135
LENTEGEUR	3,247.35	4,018.70	2,148.45	1,938.45	14,922.05	10,348.55	3,303
MAITLAND	2,076.50		1,350.60	1,185.00	8,565.45	3,617.45	1,675.9
MALMESBURY	534.00	545.10	411.50	413.45	1,797.10	2,304.50	496
MANENBERG			505.30		2,420.10	3,359.90	792.8
MATROOSFONTEIN	2,127.00	1,020.00	550.00	1,530.00	10,521.00	13,451.00	
MILNERTON	3,112.00	2,280.00	2,650.00	2,380.00	11,484.00	7,010.00	
MOWBRAY	2,781.80	3,733.25	2,692.05	2,627.00	11,757.95	11,988.70	2,590.9
NEULANDS	2,978.00	4,065.95	4,105.00	3,780.00	19,375.05	18,450.05	3,780
NYANGA	55.00		34.00		277.40	0.00	
OBSERVATORY	537.00	1,722.60	605.00	782.50	3,822.40	3,143.80	
OVERBERG	1,533.00	1,610.70	1,107.95	1,116.50	5,863.25	5,207.40	
PAARL	4,140.05	4,674.75	3,090.05	3,300.80	16,239.20	16,798.75	3,852.55
PAROW	4,520.00	4,500.00	4,900.00	4,710.00	17,420.00	18,251.00	4,500
PAROVVALLEY	2,552.90	2,092.90	1,642.60	2,147.00	11,576.80	10,675.00	2,188.8
PINELANDS	2,033.10	3,838.05	2,913.20	2,852.60	10,860.80	15,685.60	5,394.3
PLUMSTEAD	3,753.85	6,115.70	4,456.00	5,586.50	17,128.05	22,396.80	6,315.4
PORTUGUESE	444.75		457.50	546.30	3,102.55	3,388.25	1,553.2
RETREAT		1,220.00	1,510.00	1,350.00	6,710.00	7,160.00	3,395
ROCKLANDS	1,905.00	2,266.00	1,933.00	2,030.00	8,790.50	8,030.00	843
RONDEBOSCH	5,960.80	7,324.40	8,318.60	8,570.70	37,810.00	34,476.50	11,395.3
SEA POINT	3,574.00	4,100.00	5,142.00	3,750.00	14,020.00	12,520.00	
SIMON'S TOWN	400.00	500.00	3,922.00	2,847.00	12,525.00	15,239.00	4,995
SOMERSET WEST	6,026.20	6,256.50	7,000.55	5,327.75	23,666.45	22,795.50	6,687.75
ST JAMES	3,508.20	4,118.70	3,436.30	3,289.45	10,421.30	10,526.30	2,013.4
STEENBERG	1,498.20	2,081.80	1,427.85	1,246.40	6,835.85	9,363.90	966.5
STELLENBOSCH		5,868.65	4,983.35	4,249.70	13,681.55	13,456.40	4,581.6
STRAND	4,430.00	3,190.00	2,676.00	3,950.00	16,957.50	16,295.00	2,610
STRANDFONTEIN	3,267.00	3,000.00	1,890.00		14,710.00	15,090.00	2,580
TABLE VIEW	13,840.00	17,030.00	12,770.00	14,101.80	50,260.00	57,220.00	15,250
TAFELSIG	1,023.15	779.85	1,069.20		4,108.60	4,520.60	303.7
VREDENBURG	1,180.00	835.30	1,040.00	941.55	6,238.00	5,614.00	904.9
WELCOME ESTATE	1,234.25	884.00	786.00	1,242.00	4,355.40	4,457.50	978.95
WESTRIDGE		3,000.00		2,500.00	12,020.00	15,000.00	2,800
WOODSTOCK	700.00	2,000.00	400.00	590.00	2,710.00	3,040.00	750
WYNBERG	6,244.50	4,240.00	4,770.00	5,170.00	21,150.00	23,850.00	4,460
TOTALS	R 187,082.90	189,342.60	176,232.20	171,155.05	807,296.90	837,756.60	193,616.20

Please Note: The above figures represent deposits made up until 22 September 2014.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS January-March 2015



The Elsie's River men's group at the Men's Weekend in Bainskloof



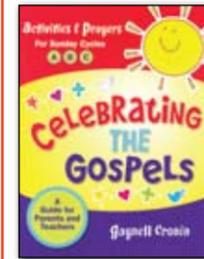
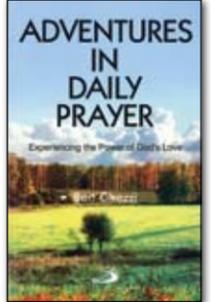
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ADVENTURES IN DAILY PRAYER:

Experiencing the power of God's love Bert Ghezzi
"If you want to grow in your spiritual life, read this book, implement some of its suggestions, and you will be on your way" -Fr Larry Richards 2010 pb 160pp R50.00

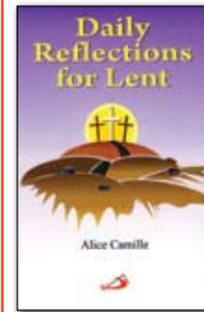
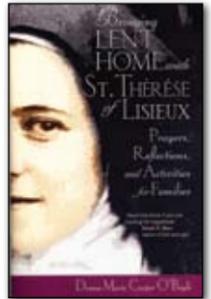


CELEBRATING THE GOSPELS: Activities & prayers for the Sundays of Cycles A, B & C

Gaynell Cronin This valuable resource for parents and teachers helps families and small groups in ministry and catechesis read the gospel prayerfully to prepare for the Sunday liturgy each week. Each Sunday Cronin leads you through four steps: Reflecting, Talking/ group discussion, Doing and Praying 2003 pb large format 175pp R245.00

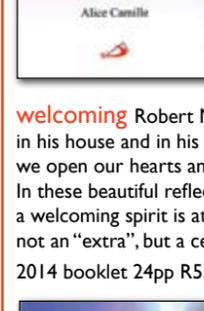
BRINGING LENT HOME WITH ST THERESE OF LISIEUX:

Prayers, reflections and activities for families Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle This daily guide provides the family with a time of prayer and conversation, including a daily quotation from St Therese and a story about her life 2013 booklet 94pp R48.00



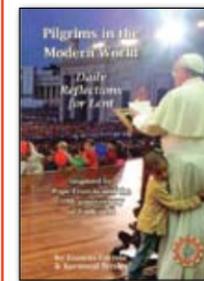
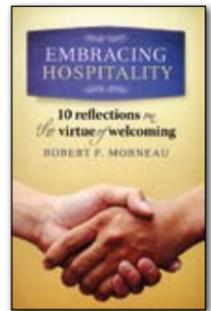
DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT

Alice Camille During this season we are once again called to move from desert to city, from solitude to community, from temptation to dedication, and from personal accomplishment to radical trust in what only God can do - this religious educator and retreat leader shows us how 2013 pb 126pp R55.00



EMBRACING HOSPITALITY: 10 reflections on the virtue of

welcoming Robert Morneau "God longs that we abide in his house and in his heart. That same God desires that we open our hearts and our homes to our fellow pilgrims". In these beautiful reflections, Bishop Morneau reveals how a welcoming spirit is at the core of a virtuous life. It is not an "extra", but a central part of Christian discipleship 2014 booklet 24pp R53.00



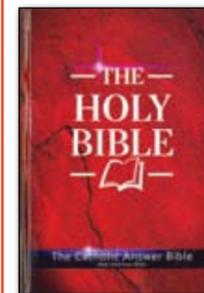
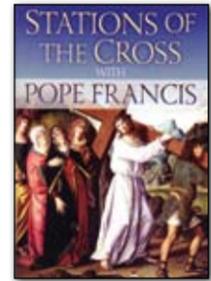
PILGRIMS IN THE MODERN WORLD: Daily reflections

for Lent Frances Correia & Raymond Perrier These meditations are inspired by Pope Francis and the 50th anniversary of Vatican II. They place Jesus and the gospel at the centre of the journey to Easter and encourage us to live out our heritage as a service of light to the world 2015 booklet R65.00



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH POPE FRANCIS

Nick Donnelly An invitation to stop and pray with the pope and to understand his message of love and mercy 2014 booklet colour illus 65pp R58.00



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Please Note!!

Once the venue and costs are finalized it will be sent to all the parishes. Only a limited amount of participants can be accommodated at a time. To avoid any disappointment please book early. Details regarding venue, etc. will be communicated at a later stage.

Course presenters are Sr Ulrike Diekmann (cps) and Dcn Terry Okkers.



Dcn Terry Okkers



Sr Ulrike Diekmann cps



Proteas all-rounder JP Duminy donated a cricket bat signed by the 2009 Protea squad to Fr Syabonga Dube OMI and Mr Betram Fuscher of St Stephens Church, Rocklands. The bat will be auctioned by the parish for much needed funds. Photo by Phillip Randelhoff.



ABOVE: The Love Buckets initiative of St Catherine of Siena, Kleinvelei was run under the auspices of the Church in the World Commission of its Parish Pastoral Council. 120 buckets were prepared and distributed in and around the parish.



ABOVE: On 12 December 2014 FrJob Kaleekarampil celebrated a thanksgiving Mass and braai for all ministries and bazaar stall holders at St Clare's Elsie's River. Also in attendance was our very own Theo April, who is one of four seminarians from Cape Town. The evening was enjoyed by all. While the Men's Ministry did the braaiing Fr Job issued chocolates to all in attendance. Photo by Wayne Carolissen.



ABOVE: The Emerging Leaders Process (ELP) which is run by the Leadership Commission of St Catherine of Siena, Kleinvelei Parish Pastoral Council. 13 Women joined the process which runs over six months. The process prepares and strengthens women for effective leadership in various organisations in and outside the church. The process is supported by the Franklin Covey Institute of South Africa.



PERSONALISED CANDLES

for any sacraments, funeral, birthday, wedding, etc.

Contact Lucinda Permall on 0792228588

or email Lucinda.permall@gmail.com.



ABOVE & BELOW: Archbishop Stephen Brislin, president of the SACBC and Fr Peter-John Pearson director of the CPLO were part of a delegation that visited Gaza in January. They saw the destruction caused by the 51 day onslaught on Gaza and met members of the small Christian community in the area. At the time of the war, Archbishop Brislin had spoken about the disproportionate response of the Israelis in this conflict. They also visited the Cremisan Valley where the dividing wall is set to pass through the property of the Salesians. The Patriarch of Jerusalem emphasised that none of the requests made by Pope Francis with regard to the plight of the Palestinians had met with a favourable response from the Israeli government.



Decomasus Foundation 086-483 NPO

19 Balfour Street Parow 7500

e-mail:decomasusfoundation@gmail.com

Cape Town Cell: +27 71 641 2692

VACANCY FOR GENERAL SECRETARY

Decomasus Foundation, whose main objective includes health, healing and transformation, was registered as an interregional community development NPO following an appeal from some ecumenical partners to have the multi disciplinary course and services extended throughout the Southern Africa region.

Upon its inception in January 2010, Decomasus achieved tremendous strides in Southern Africa; however it encountered some draw backs due to some staff turnover and is now desirous to engage a General Secretary to lead the organisation and redesign its comprehensive website.

The ideal person would be a mature, responsible law abiding citizen, a practising Catholic with high moral standards, conducting respect and moral support from spouse, family, friends and community, be devoted to do God's work with courage, determination and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the word of God (The Bible). Ideally the leader would be working from their enterprise and only take up full time office in Cape Town when the need arises.

This very challenging position calls for a highly motivated self starter, self disciplined and self supervisor who is prepared to work with people of diverse cultures irrespective of race, colour or creed, in an endeavour to revive the Caribbean and Southern Africa regional chapters; assisting their basic ecclesiastic communities to achieve their intended goals and apply for funds for the objectives of the organisation including allowances and honorariums.

The organisation will seek to establish long term mutual relations with partners of the ecumenical movement and collaborate with other NPO's or institutions doing similar work, where professionalism, transparency and accountability is called for; whilst refraining from fanaticism, idol worship, prestige, competition or gain as opposed to collaboration and sharing so as to enjoy life in its abundance as promised by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, at the same time promoting co-existence "Bio-diversity in harmony with nature and the creator".

Interested parties should submit their intensions; each of which would be treated confidentially, to the accounting officer at the above address on or before 30 June 2015 and at least two references of which one is from the head of their church, which enjoys full or observer membership status with the regional Christian Councils of Churches, or from an NGO or NPO with long term reputation in the region.

Apart from the president, the chairperson or the treasurer, the general secretary is the only executive member who may take up full time office when necessary "funds permitting" to lead the organisation when the need arises; adhering to the registered constitution and the operational strategies.

This challenging position involves planned travel within the regions to establish infrastructural developments, including planning of eco - tours, seminars, conferences, ceremonies and also travelling abroad to raise funds and cement ecumenical relations, engaging volunteers and support staff for the organisation. The full terms of reference would be furnished to the short listed prospective leaders.

Knowledge of public relations, communication and documentation, administration and management skills is paramount, in as much as theology and community development studies, as well as working with NGO's and the ecumenical movements in particular.

CPLO Highlights



Towards a regional integrated migration regime: A future perspective, 3 September. CPLO, in collaboration with the Scalabrini Institute for Human Mobility in Africa, held a roundtable on a regional approach to asylum. Speakers were Luca Marin, of the Centre for the Study of International Migration in Paris, Christopher Nshimbi of the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation at the University of Pretoria, and Roni Amit of the University of the Witwatersrand's African Centre for Migration Study. In attendance were delegates from academia, civil society organisations that focused on migration, and Parliamentary researchers.



Parliament: Degraded or re-invigorated? 22 October CPLO, together with the Hanss Siedel Foundation, hosted a roundtable discussion to look at Parliament in SA today. The speakers at this gathering were Dr Zwelethu Jolobe, a lecturer at UCT's Department of Political Studies; Mr Kasper Hahndiek, former National Assembly secretary; and Ms Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, former deputy speaker of the National Assembly. The event was attended by people from different NGOs and CBOs, parliamentary researchers and ordinary citizens.

The aim of this roundtable discussion was to look at Parliament in light of the disturbances that followed the EFF's demand that the President pay back the money spent on his homestead in Nkandla, as recommended by the Public Protector.



Mainstreaming disability and the role of the family, 21 November. This roundtable was a collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Social Development and NICRO. The roundtable was addressed by Ms Patisa Momoza, Programme Manager of Services to Persons with Disability of the Western Cape Department of Social Development; Ms Caroline Taylor, from Inclusive Education; and Ms Gadija Koopman, who is the Director of the Western Cape Cerebral Palsy Association. The rights of persons with disability, both in terms of the Constitution and International Instruments of Human Rights, were emphasized and the various policies and interventions that are necessary for those with disability to realize these rights and enable them to participate in the mainstream of society, were discussed. The point was strongly made that a person with disability is not defined by their condition.



Meetings with new Members of Parliament, 8 September L-R: DA Member of Parliament, Michael Bagraim, Councillors Stuart Diamond and Errol Anstey

Prams to cutlery, vintage clothing to ball gowns – NOAH's Trestle Table has it all

The NOAH Trestle Table - based in Regent Street, Woodstock - opened its doors in 2009 and has steadily become a firm fixture in the life of the buzzing Woodstock community. Through the sale of donated bric n' brac, clothing and other quality goods to the public, the shop generates an income for NOAH and its actively ageing shopkeepers.

Shopkeepers Avril Jonas and her assistant, Geraldine - both state pensioners living on R 1350 per month and NOAH residents are responsible for the management of the shop including pricing, sale and stock. The shop not only provides a valuable service to the community by offering much-needed, inexpensive goods ranging from prams to cutlery, vintage clothing to ball gowns but also provides a boost to their monthly income.

Most days, the shop is packed with locals hunting for a bargain, sharing a joke with the feisty Avril or negotiating on the price of a much-loved dress.

"The shop has given me a new perspective on life as it gives me something to do. I have always been a driven person - regardless of health and circumstance I have worked and kept my hands and my mind busy. I believe this is why I have remained youthful in my life as I have always had a purpose", says Avril.

The shop encapsulates NOAH's 'pro-ageing' approach and the organisation's vision of 'Home, health and happiness for every older person'.

"NOAH believes that social entrepreneurship programmes are key to NPO's sustainability strategies. The Trestle Table is such an initiative that has a multi-dimensional impact: our beneficiaries, our community and our organizational income", says Anne van Niekerk, NOAH Director.

The shop welcomes donations and pick up of items can be arranged on request.

To support this initiative, kindly contact Vivienne at (021) 447-6334 or vivienne@noah.org.za



Neighbourhood Old Age Homes - Woodstock

We have opened a second hand shop in Regent St. Woodstock, called The Trestle Table. We are appealing to the public for donations such as clothing, bric a brac, books, furniture etc.

All the money goes to NOAH to support our programmes with the elderly. We appeal to you for your support. We will also collect at your convenience.

Contact: Ian - 021 447 6334

St Kizito Children's Project – stories from the field

School Uniforms – A gift for the whole family

Each year, SKCP seeks funds to purchase school uniforms and stationery for children in need. This is often seen as a wonderful gift not only by the child, but also by the parents and guardians who are unable to purchase such items. An example of such was a mother who had just returned from a stay in the hospital. She was extremely thin, and looked as though she was fighting her own body for strength. She nevertheless welcomed SKCP members with a great smile and seemed most grateful for the visit. When she saw that SKCP had bought some school items for her child, she simply broke into tears of joy. She said that with her illness she had no money, and was very worried about her child not having any school clothing. She thanked us, and thanked God for the help. Her prayers had been answered. It was a very moving moment and highlighted that even though just a gift of clothing, it meant the world to her and to the other families that we helped.

Feed the poor

SKCP parish groups are encouraged to look at establishing or supporting local parish initiatives that can help families and children in need. A concern for many of our parish groups is the number of families that indicate that, though they are receiving social grants, their household income is not sufficient to buy sufficient food items and as such experience a high degree of hunger. Two of our group members have helped to establish and operate a parish initiative of a weekly soup kitchen in Kleinvele that feeds well over two hundred people, mainly children. The demand for this soup drive had grown since it first started and both large pots are empty within a few minutes. Each year at Christmas these committed members work hard to provide the children with a special Christmas meal.

The Reality of growing up in a Child-headed household

Fourteen years ago, a young family of six children suffered the tragic death of their mother. Their father had previously passed away, and so the children had no remaining parent to raise them. South Africa at the time had very little in place to support such families, and the children's own family support network was very small and limited. The oldest child,



Genesis (R'bosch) hosts SKCP Christmas party

Thandi**, was seventeen years, and took on the responsibility of looking after her two sisters and three brothers (two of whom were mere babies). Sadly, it meant that she had to drop out of school to look after her little siblings. She has never since had the opportunity to go back to school. Now some fourteen later and at the age of 31, she has a baby of her own, little work experience and still continues to look after her siblings (two of whom started High School this year) and three children from her two sisters besides her own child. She is helped by one adult sister who lives with her, and who also is currently unemployed.

A few years back a neighbour of the family had told Thandi about the St Kizito Children's Programme at the local Catholic Church of Gugulethu, and said that she should visit them and see if they could help. Thandi did this, and the SKCP parish group have assisted her family in many ways. The family continues to live in a poor household and survives on the social grants that they now receive from government. Thankfully, the third sister has found work outside of Cape Town but she had to leave her son with her sisters to take up this opportunity. Earlier this year, this parish group was able to help fix the family roof and home from the rain and cold. They also provided some school uniforms and stationery for the children, as well as a bunk bed so that no one needed to sleep on the floor. The family is very grateful for the help received and care shown to them by SKCP. The members will continue to visit this family, providing them with moral support and help in times of need.

** Name used is not her real name.

If you are interested in volunteering your time, making a donation, or starting a St Kizito Group in your parish, contact Wayne Golding on 082 301 9385 or 021 782 7941, or via email wayne@stkizito.org.za

Catholic Education News

Congratulations!

The year has started on a high note with many of our schools receiving accolades for their Matric, ANA and Systemic results. What many people don't realise, is that most of our Catholic schools work in very challenging circumstances. Matric success is wonderful but the excellent throughput rate of our schools is the real achievement. Our pastoral care systems within the Catholic school ensure that learners are held and supported through the trials and tribulations of life, thus enabling them to reach Matric.

Governance:

A number of committed lay Catholics have recently been trained and appointed as Owner's Reps in our schools. Each of them has a distinctive skill set which will ensure that the Owners' interests (Archdiocese or Religious Congregation) will continue to be served. They will serve on the Governing Bodies of the schools and ensure that the Catholic ethos is sustained through suitable staff appointments, religious education programmes and sustainable maintenance strategies.

New SGB governors will be appointed during the SGB elections (6-28 March) and we pray that they will see this service as a ministry to our children.

Training and Formation:

A number of exciting programmes are on offer to our schools this year:

- Restorative Justice training (facilitates a new approach to discipline within the school)
- Religious Educator Conference 20-21 Feb at Schoenstatt
- Principals' Conference CB Centre (Jesuit Institute's 'Spirited Leadership')
- Catholic Education Congress 9 May at Springfield.

In addition to the above, we continue to provide our schools with Religious Education and Pastoral Care training, Child Safeguarding and Induction programmes, Leadership and Governance support as well as administrative and educative services.

Networking:

The Catholic Schools Coordinating Council, as well as the Religious Educators' Forum, provides several networking opportunities of a spiritual, sporting, intellectual and social nature throughout the year. We have a wonderful cohort of experienced, skilled and enthusiastic leaders and educators who give very generously of their time and talents. Please visit our website to find out more about our schools and activities.

Website: www.catholicsschoolsoffice-ct.co.za



Grade 10 Leadership Day



Choir Festival



Principal's Care Day



South Cape Caretakers Christmas Outing

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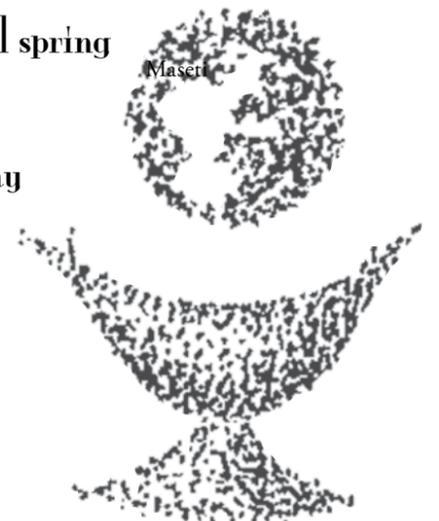
The cottage is set in a forest with a natural spring and close to the mountains and the sea.

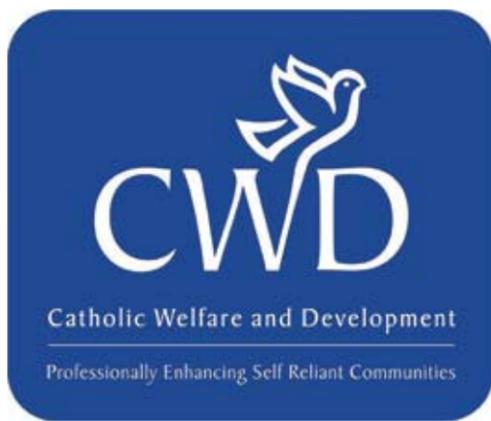
Preference is given to those wanting to stay for three days or more.

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NEWS



Buckets filled with Love



Above, from left to right: 4 pensioners (all above the age of 65) were happy to receive a Bucket of Love each in the impoverished community of Brooklyn, 20km outside Cape Town. They are also responsible for taking care of their grandchildren; Among other schools, church organisation, businesses and individuals, 60 young girls from the Springfield Convent School assisted in packing 570 buckets in less than 2 hours. They managed to organize themselves in a very efficient production line to maximize the output; Homeless people living underneath the N2 bridge in Cape Town were very happy to receive Buckets of Love. These individuals were protecting their belongings from others while their children were out begging in the City's streets; The principal at Ithemba Educare in the informal settlement of Samora Machel received a number of Buckets of Love for the families of the children in her crèche. They are an extremely impoverished ECD crèche.

For over 20 years, CWD's "buckets of love" campaign has aimed to create awareness around hunger in poor and marginalised communities, as well as raise awareness on the power of individual and collective giving. Buckets of Love is an annual campaign run by Catholic Welfare and Development (CWD) in the Western Cape to raise money for the purchase and packing of 10 litre buckets containing essential food items. Completed buckets are then distributed to the poor and less fortunate communities during the Christmas Festive season. Every year CWD receives many requests for "buckets of love" from various parishes and other organisations (both Catholic and non-Catholic) given the socio-

economic conditions facing the poor in our country. These buckets provide much needed and practical food items to those who otherwise find it difficult to afford it, especially over the festive season.

The campaign was executed in the 4th quarter of the year, resulting in distributing the buckets in December among the needy, irrespective of race, religion, sexuality and nationality. CWD has been fortunate to receive assistance from various local schools, businesses and dedicated volunteers during the packing phase. Some schools such as Muizenberg Junior, Springfield Convent and Bergvliet Primary School helped with packing buckets, and also contributed ingre-

dients and donated already packed "buckets of love" even before the official packing started.

During the 2014 campaign, CWD aimed to pack and distribute 6 750 buckets containing non-perishable food items such as rice, sugar, tea-bags, mixed vegetables, soya mince, lentils, maize meal, samp & beans, pilchards, peanut butter, soup mix, sweets and lemon creams. By 10 December, CWD exceeded the target when a total of 6 978 buckets were packed. However, the contribution from supporters continued and by 22 December a total of 7 926 buckets were accounted for. That means that if one bucket has the capacity to feed a family of four for a week, then more

than 31 000 less fortunate individuals benefitted from this campaign during the festive season.

CWD, with the help of its partners, managed to distribute buckets in communities such as Khayelitsha, Gugulethu, Delft, Samora Machel, Ysterplaat, Sir Lowry's Pass Village, Du Noon, Khayamnandi, Woodstock, under the N2 bridge, Brooklyn, Weltevreden and Atlantis, to name a few.

CWD wishes to thank every indi-

vidual, school, parish, church and organisation who contributed to the success of the campaign. You have truly touched the lives of those less fortunate in a meaningful way. Thank you for helping to bring a smile to those who were despondent during the festive season and most importantly, thank you for giving of yourself to help us succeed. With your continued support to our annual "buckets of love" campaign, we aim to do even better in 2015!

CWD's distribution list for the 2014 campaign was as follows:

Community Development Centres and Youth Interfacing programme	1 572
Parishes and other Catholic Organisations	3 386
Other churches and organisations	1 753
Schools in Delft and Samora Machel through ELSO	1 215

Youth Interfacing show off their talented beneficiaries

On 20 December 2014, CWD's Youth Interfacing programme registered three acts who auditioned for a local talent TV show called "Cape Town has Talent: Season 3," presented by MJ Li who is a Martial Arts specialist and TV show host/producer. The show hosted three auditions during December 2014 with the final showdown scheduled on 3 and 4 January 2015.

Seventy eight acts from all over the Cape Flats competed in a battle to showcase their various talents, which included dancing, singing, rapping and playing musical instruments. Sakhubomi Guitar Band from Khayelitsha, Youth Amaza Marimba band from Phillippi and contemporary dancer Ayanda from Mitchell's Plain represented the CWD Youth Interfacing programme (YIP). During the auditions, each act was allowed a maximum of 1 minute 45 seconds to impress the judges after which only the 20 best acts were chosen for the semi-final showpiece in January. All YIP's representatives managed to impress during the group stages and were selected for the next round.

The second stage was more intense



Second place winners Amaza Marimba band impress the judges

for the competitors as they fiercely contested for a spot in the final 14. This time, each act was allowed a maximum of 2 minute 30 seconds to impress the judges. All 3 of YIP's acts again managed to be chosen for the finals and they were overjoyed as their hard work and dedication to their work was recognised.

The final stage was set on 4 January at Ratanga Junction and the chosen 12 acts had to dig deep to compete for the title of "winner of Cape Town has Talent: Season 3". The show also announced that the best six acts would be part of a roadshow (hosted by Cape Town has Talent) during February, March and

April where they would travel across the Western Cape and visit Gold Reef City in Johannesburg to showcase Cape Town's talent.

YIP's 3 acts did their best once again and were all chosen to be part of the roadshow with the Amaza Marimba band winning second prize. Congratulations to YIP's teams who gracefully executed their respective talents and confidently performed in front of a diverse Cape Town audience.

(The "Cape Town has talent" TV show broadcast weekly on CTV and DSTV Channel 263 every Saturday at 4.30pm and Tuesdays at 8am for the repeat.)

Soccer tournament in Piketberg



Under 10s posing for their group photo-op

CWD Youth Interfacing Programme hosted a five-a-side soccer tournament through the South African Youth Leaders Network in Piketberg which is a rural town in the Western Cape. The town is located in the picturesque foothills of the Piketberg Mountains, a range of low mountains formed from Table Mountain Sandstone. Here, over a 100 young people between the ages of 7 – 15 years competed in a soccer tournament on 13 December 2014 to celebrate the festive season. Teams were divided in competing divisions,

based on their age groups (under 10s, 13s, 15s and seniors) and the event started as early as possible to ensure a full day's playing. This event had no prizes but games were competitive and played in a harmonious spirit. Participants showed good fellowship towards one another, which was fitting to the spirit of Christmas. The closing match saw Piketberg seniors play a friendly game against CWD's Youth Interfacing programme, after which all gathered for a group photo before lunch was served.

Please support our Buckets of Love campaign. For more info visit our Facebook page 'Catholic Welfare and Development'.