



# Diocesan News

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## OBITUARY Valerie Cynthia Button:

23 November, 1934 –  
25 May 2010

BY JOAN O'DONNELL (CATHOLIC  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE, IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION CHURCH, EAST LONDON)



Val, as she was always known to her many friends, was born on 23 November, 1934 in the Mater Dei Hospital in East London, the fourth of six children to the Lehmann's of Albany Street, just a few doors down from the Immaculate Conception church where she was baptised, received First Holy Communion, was confirmed, and finally married. As a child she attended the Sacred Heart Convent, also in Albany Street, throughout her education. After school she worked at Woolworth's until she met and subsequently married her beloved Jock on the 12 May, 1956 at the tender age of 22.

After her marriage Val left work to become a stay-at-home wife and eventually mother to her three children, Michael, Tracey and Trevor. In keeping with the motherhood of the time Val always took an active part in her children's education. She was prominent in the mother's group functions of both St Anthony's Boys School, where the boys attended, and St Anne's Girls School, where Tracey had the joy of being educated; she was forever baking and raising funds for both schools.

In addition to this, Val was active in church activities at Immaculate Conception. She and her neighbour did sacristan duties there for many years, until that was taken over by the Cronin sisters. She was also a member of the Catholic Women's League for over 40 years. In this she was always at the fore when help or duties were needed. Of particular interest is that she never managed to drive a car; this task was a part of Jock's obligations to his untiring and precious wife – even attending most of her CWL meetings with her when he used to sit outside waiting for his wife (he must have been the only male member of the CWL in the country when he was consistently invited in by the girls!).

Apart from the absolute joy of Tracey's two bubbling girls, Nicole and Rebecca, Val was able to witness the ordination of her son, Trevor, to the priesthood after some years as a Benedictine monk (he now successfully serves 5 parishes in the Fort Beaufort area).

Val unfortunately suffered for many years with a painful back condition, but her concern for others always pushed this into the background. She cared for her sister's children when this was necessary, she mothered her granddaughters so that their mother could go out to work, and still she found time to make those all-important calls and visits to sick friends – such that they were a pleasure to them – right up to her last days!

Trevor celebrated a Requiem Mass for his mother in Fort Beaufort, which was followed by a Concelebrated Mass, with six priests, on the 29th May at Eucharistic Heart of Jesus in East London with a packed congregation paying their last respects.

Val will be sorely missed by the CWL and all her many friends and acquaintances. The Morning group of the CWL, East London, sends its sincere and heart-felt condolences to Jock and her family. May her dear soul rest in peace in the arms of our Lord, Jesus.

## St. Francis Xavier and St. Martin de Porres Parish, East London

FR CHRISTOPHER  
SLATER – GRADUATION  
OF "DOCTORATE IN  
THEOLOGY"



**Congratulations to our Parish Priest Fr. Christopher Slater who graduated with a doctorate degree in theology.**

In his research, entitled "TOWARDS A NEW MODEL OF DIOCESAN MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES AND PROFICIENCY IN THE POST-VATICAN TWO ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH" Fr. Slater investigated the contemporary diocesan management church structures. His research ascertains how ecclesiastical management, as a vital aspect in the church, is responding to the challenges of the Second Vatican Council to make the church relevant by allowing members full participation and representation in the management thereof. Fr. Slater developed a management model that is based on an extensive literature review and data from an empirical research he conducted. We the parishioners of St. Francis Xavier and St. Martin de Porres congratulate you and we are very proud of you and your success.

## Pastoral Development Office

P.O. Box 7082, Newton Park, Port Elizabeth, 6055  
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pdo@isat.co.za

## Why Catholic?

FR JERRY BROWNE

**Small Christian Communities continue to meet throughout the diocese to share faith; pray together; learn from the scriptures, the teachings of the church and one another; to support one another, and to be actively involved in the mission of the church. In September 2010 we will begin preparing for the fifth season of RENEW Africa, The Church in Africa Today: at the service to Justice, Peace, and Reconciliation.**

This season focuses on the gospel call to create a more just world. It not only leads participants in prayer and reflection on the social justice teaching of the Church, it also provides a practical model of analysis and theological reflection for action on behalf of justice. The sessions foster the examination of unjust structures in the light of the Gospel, followed by appropriate actions and projects that contribute the Church's mission to be at the service of justice, peace and reconciliation.

So what happens after Season Five of RENEW Africa? Well, the faith sharing continues! Small Christian Communities continue! Catholics across the diocese will be given an opportunity to explore what it really means to be *Catholic!*

Beginning in 2011 the Diocese will offer a faith sharing resource entitled *Why Catholic?* Many Catholics have inherited the Catholic faith without knowing why they are Catholic. Why are you a Catholic? Maybe you were 'born' Catholic and have not had much opportunity to explore what it really means to be Catholic! Or maybe you have converted to the Catholic faith and feel that you need to go deeper. Or maybe you are a catechist, or are in ministry, and there are questions about our faith that you struggle with!

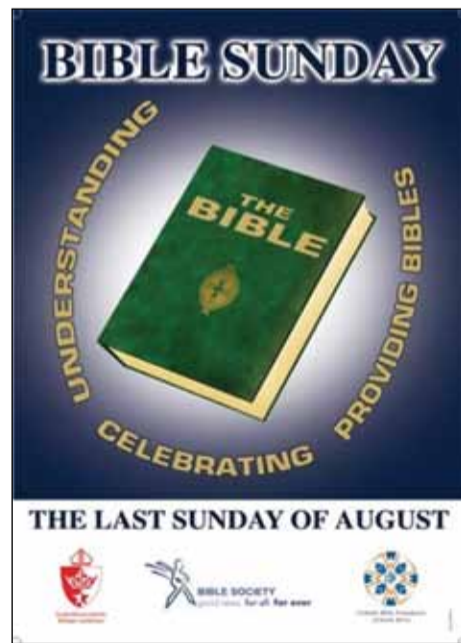
*Why Catholic?* is a resource that explores the unique basis, content, richness, and joy of our Catholic faith. It will help you become more comfortable in reaching out to others as everyday

evangelizers. *Why Catholic?* aims to help people better know Jesus Christ and his saving love for us. It is for those who want to know more about their faith and share time with others deepening that faith.

*Why Catholic?* is proposed for the widest possible participation in the parish. *Why Catholic?* invites people to become more familiar with and to embrace the teachings of the Catholic faith as expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

The *Why Catholic?* process is designed to balance prayer, sharing on Scripture, and reflection on the teachings of our faith, providing a full and fruitful faith-sharing experience for participants. While a prayerful listening to and reflection on Scripture is an integral part of each session, *Why Catholic?* is not meant to be a Scripture study. By nourishing and strengthening women and men in all callings, *Why Catholic?* can serve as an essential tool on the journey to mature Christian faith. The process has been designed to help participants discover and embrace their own personal faith story. It is founded on encouraging us to live the reasons why we are Catholic, and so lead us to a faith that is lived more authentically, connecting us more deeply and meaningfully to God, and to others.

If you would like more information about *Why Catholic?* please contact the Pastoral Development Office on 041 365 2117 or pdo@isat.co.za and we will be happy to assist.



**AACHENER CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
IN CONCERT AT  
ST. AUGUSTINE'S CATHEDRAL  
FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2010**

- The Aachen Cathedral Choir is the oldest boys choir in Germany, with its more than 1200 years of history. Its foundation goes back to the Aachen court school "Schola Palatina, which the scholar Alcuin of York founded.
- They have given concerts in recent years in Russia, America, Israel, the Central German States, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Italy and South Korea.
- A particular highlight was the participation of the cathedral choir at the Extraordinary Charlemagne Prize of Aachen award to Pope John Paul II on 24 March 2004 in Rome.

**LIMITED UNRESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE**  
BOOKING OPENS ON 2<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST 2010 - Donation R40<sup>00</sup>  
(R 20 to Choir & R 20 to Cathedral Maintenance Fund)

<b>BOOKINGS:</b> Contact Neill Deane St. Luke's Retreat Centre Tel: 041 373 0039 Email: retreat@saerosat.co.za	<b>VENUE:</b> St. Augustine's Cathedral 2 Prospect Hill, PE. Time: 7.00 pm sharp. Please be seated by 6.30pm
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## PE'S STUNNING STADIUM



## MORE SOCCER PHOTOS ON PAGES 2 AND 7



# SOCCER MADNESS

## Eucharistic Heart Of Jesus, Cambridge, East London

RODRIQUES & CANIERO FAMILIES



FR VARGHESE CALLING HIS PARISHIONERS TO MASS

Above: Sr Alocoque Hecker greeting the community on arrival at Church on Soccer Sunday

## Mater Dei



TOP: The flags in front of Mater Dei

BOTTOM: Mater Dei parishioners on Soccer Sunday sporting their football jerseys



Bottom & Right: Scott and Lyle Hearne (Sacred Heart) at the Portugal vs Ivory Coast game



Bottom: Patti and Neil Myburgh joining the Greeks at the first soccer match in PE when Greece played against Korea



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Top: Bishop Michael Coleman, Ann Lentz and Neil Myburgh attended the Germany vs Uruguay match



Top: Bishop Michael Coleman mastering the Vuvuzela, with Ann Lentz and Patti Myburgh

**Care Ministry News**

SIOBHAN DOOLEY

Football fever hit the Care Ministry along with the rest of the world as we enjoyed the ups and downs of the tournament. Well done to SA for hosting a wonderful event. The Care Ministry has been busy with training programmes throughout the last few months and we continue to take pride in the achievements of all our volunteers.



Siobhan facilitated a "Theory and Practice of Advanced HIV/AIDS Counselling Skills" course throughout April to June for 16 participants. This course is facilitated over 9 sessions and the volunteers showed a deep commitment to the programme.

Moirá has been busy facilitating the Care Skills programme for 9 participants from different parishes of Port Elizabeth. This course is presented in four blocks and examines personal growth, listening skills, dealing with death and dying as well as evaluations and endings.

Siobhan has just completed a three day "Psycho-Social Support for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children" training for 18 grannies

from the Motherwell area. These women are caring for both their own relatives as well as other children in their community.

Thank you to all members of the Diocese who continue to donate clothes and other articles for those in need in our communities.

Anybody wishing to access information or counselling support can contact the Care Ministry office at 041 365 1135.

Divorced and separated support programme: for information contact Kaye Henrick (during office hours only please) 083 299 1842.

Bereaved support programme: for information phone Shirley Mandy: 041 581 5932; Maureen Krige: 041 581 5341; Irene Anstey: 041 583 4753.

**San Francisco Catholic Church – St Vincent De Paul Society.**

The St Vincent De Paul Society of San Francisco Catholic Church in Port Elizabeth held a food evening on Saturday, 8 May 2010 in order to raise funds to buy blankets for the needy. The SVDP society handed out 160 blankets to the needy.



**News From St. Martin De Porres Parish, Gelvandale**

URSULA GHANSAR.

Our Renew Africa Mass was celebrated with a difference on Tuesday 8 June by Fr. Davis Mekkattukulam CMI. Parishioners met in the Meeting rooms where the chairs were placed in a semi-circle and a table was used for the Altar.

This created a beautiful feeling of warmth and a spirit of togetherness. There was no formal homily and parishioners shared their experiences of Renew. Those who shared their personal experiences inspired all present and encouraged parishioners to join the next Renew Africa session.

During the offertory procession gifts of soup ingredients were brought in procession which was handed to the Community Soup Kitchen. After Mass a bring and share took place where parishioners shared a cup of tea. During this time parishioners continued to share their Renew Africa experiences.

The Parish Pastoral Council organized a wonderful Bring and Share for the Closing of the Year of the Priest. After Mass parishioners were invited to the Parish hall for a cup of tea where Fr. Davis socialized with parishioners who thanked him for his commitment to the parish and the well being of parishioners.

Our Soccer Sunday Mass celebrated on the 13 June was a great success. People were asked to dress in their favourite T-shirts or any other soccer clothing. The liturgy committee used the guide from 'Church on the Ball' which was sent by the Diocesan office and it was wonderful to see how the people participated in the Mass. The church was decorated with the Zakumi mascot, flags from the participating countries, soccer balls and prizes were handed out to best dressed parishioners. It was heartrending to see how everyone stood and sang the National Anthem just before the final blessing was imparted.

After Mass Fr. Davis encouraged all to 'get into the Ayoba mood'. The words-Feel it – it's here! was very present.

Our Bingo Drive held on Saturday 11 June was a major success. The atmosphere was wonderful as Fr. Davis assisted with the calling of the bingo numbers. The fundraising committee worked very hard to ensure that all was well organized and the afternoon was enjoyed by all who attended. Our Parish Youth group made us very proud as they assisted with the serving of refreshments. Many of those who participated went home with wonderful prizes.

**DICK CHAN AGENCIES**  
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[www.portsideinn.co.za](http://www.portsideinn.co.za)

Your hosts  
**Mignon & Mervyn**

**JUST 4 KIDS**

Hi Boys & Girls,

I'm afraid you have to get back to your school work and make up for lost time. The 2010 World Soccer Cup is over and our Bafana Bafana team can be proud of their achievements and their country – we did it! We also made a lot of friends who only have nice things to say about us. Let's keep it up!

Let us continue with our story of Joseph who told Pharaoh the meaning of his dream about the 7 "good" years and the 7 "lean" years. Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph that he put him in charge of his palace and the country, gave him his own ring and bought him the best clothes. Joseph was 30 years old when he began to serve Pharaoh and in the 7 "good" years he stored the food so that when the 7 "lean" years began and the Egyptians were hungry, they went to Pharaoh for food and Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold food to the Egyptians.

Now Jacob, Joseph's father, heard of the abundance of food in Egypt and told his sons to go down and buy food so that they wouldn't starve so they went to see Joseph like everyone else and, not knowing it was Joseph, bowed down before him. But Joseph recognized his brothers who twenty-three years before had sold him into slavery.

The story gets more exciting – so let's wait and see how Joseph behaves towards his brothers now that he is in charge of Pharaoh's palace and country.

You'll be hearing from me again soon. God bless you all and know that Jesus loves you.

Granny Undene

**News from Sacred Heart Catholic Church, King William's Town**

**TERRY KINGSTON**

Subsequent to our bazaar reconciliation meeting and finalization of profits from the various stalls we received a cheque of R20000 from Julian Alexander. Thanks Julian. We are currently also raffling a sheep kindly donated by Brian Rushmere as part of our bazaar effort.

On the 20 June our parish marked the Closure of the Year of the Priest with a special mass followed by refreshments thereafter, Parishioners from our sister churches in Ginsberg, Tuysa, Rhamyiba and Welcomewood joined us in thanking our priests and deacons for their dedicated service to our communities.

Four Knights accompanied by their wives attended the KDG Regional Convention hosted by CL19 of Port Elizabeth. For some it was the first time that they visited St Lukes Retreat Centre and were astounded by the size of the complex and the many chapels, dining rooms, lounges, Holy statues, pictures and prayer enclaves.

The atmosphere was truly contemplative and restful and comes highly recommended. Frank Wightman gave a very uplifting report on Marian Villa and the various generous benefactors. To date 185 babies have been saved..

The input by Bishop Michael Coleman on various topics was interesting and much appreciated. We thank Past Regional Grand Knight Dennis and Athaly Jenkinson for a successful term of office and congratulate his successor Len and Pam Wild.

Sacred Heart held a Novena in June ending on our feast-day.

The Knights once again ran a very successful July Draw fundraiser with over 200 people attending this value for money cheese & wine/finger supper. At the same event R3000 in prizes were given by Sunny Jacob (convenor) to the winners of the 100 club draws. Profits from this venture go to Marian Villa.

We congratulate Luke September on being chosen for the Border junior chess team. Dalene Christian is once again doing well with her water polo and represents South Africa in various teams.

Both CWL ( Jenny Mettam) and the Knights ( Mike Tassell ) gave very good presentations during Sunday masses to our parishioners explaining what the CWL and Knights were all about. SVP, Legion of Mary and the Youth are scheduled to do their presentations shortly. All these presentations are to inform parishioners of what the various sodalities do and how they are structured and to invite new members to join.

Our parish hosted a priests /deacons retreat . Thanks to the Knights for the braai.

**Knights of Da Gama – Eastern Cape Regional Convention.**

**DENNIS JENKINSON**

The convention, which also celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Regions, was held at St Luke's Pastoral Centre, hosted by Council 19 Port Elizabeth. Delegates from Port Elizabeth, East London, Grahamstown, King William's Town and Gonubie attended the celebrations.

Supreme Knight Anthony Beale, Deputy Supreme Knight Chris McGrath, Supreme Councillor Vic Barra, and Regional Grand Knight from Kwa Zulu Natal, Terry Whitfield, also attended while visiting the area for the "Apostleship of the Sea"

The Convention which was under the charge of Regional Grand Knight, Dennis Jenkinson, and assisted by Regional Secretary/Treasurer, Charles Hutchinson, commenced on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> July with evening Mass at St Bernadette's, and followed by a "Get Together" at Council 19's Headquarters, "Henebrey's" which was named after the late Peter Henebrey who was the first Regional Grant Knight in the Eastern Cape.

Saturday morning the ladies were taken out to visit a Bird/Animal Rehabilitation Centre, and then on to the Boardwalk for a luncheon.

The Knights proceeded with their meeting at which they were joined by Bishop Coleman. Thereafter the Regional team relinquished office, and the new team were formally installed, namely, Grand Knight – Len Wild; Regional Chaplain – Fr Max Salsone; Regional Secretary – Drew Von Bratt; and Regional Treasurer – Barry Nazer. Our prayers for them and their wives for a successful and happy term of office.

This was followed by Mass at St Luke's Chapel, where Neill and Carl had made everyone comfortable and well looked after the whole weekend. Immediately after breakfast the delegates made their way home.

Appreciative thanks go to Port Elizabeth Council 19 for their well organised event.

**Christian Life Community News**

**KAYE HENDRICK**

The Christian Life Community in the Eastern Cape is alive and active! The PE Community held a day of prayer at the Assumption Sisters house in Schoenies on 3 July and it was a grace filled day for members and visitors.



**New Members in Nazareth CLC Community; Cheryl Bhana, Tristan Bailey, Rami Molete, Sheryll Pillay.**

East London Community had 2 weekends of guided prayer, short versions of a directed retreat, at the King Dominican Sisters' house in Gonubie on 16-18 July and 23rd - 25th July, also a really blest time. We are truly grateful to the religious sisters who allow us to use such lovely facilities. The East London Community celebrated the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, and CLC with a day of prayer on 31st July, the actual feast day.

The PE Community celebrated the Feast Day on Sunday 01 August

with the reception of 4 new members, Cheryl Bhana, Rami Molete, Sheryll Pillay and Tristan Bailey into our family.

It was encouraging for the new members to have the existing members from St Stephen's Group in Mater Dei, and Nazareth Group in St Augustine's present to celebrate with them. Locally and nationally CLC is working on a more visible apostolate grounded on our charism of deep personal relationship with God, shared in community and expressed in service in our daily and community lives.

**News from St Augustine's Cathedral Parish**

**KAYE HENRICK**

The past few months at St Augustine's saw such glorious celebrations. We joined with 13 young boys and girls from the parish and our school in celebration of their First Holy Communion on the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ .

The whole parish entered into the spirit of the World Cup and most weekends during the event were characterised by a blaze of national T-shirts from participating countries and local supporters, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Italy, Germany, Brazil, Portugal, South Africa, among the most dominant. Mons. Brendan captured the spirit of the congregation when he proclaimed just as he left for his holiday in Ireland, that for the first time in about 40 years he had lost track of who was leading the race in the Wimbledon Tennis. He was so converted to soccer!

Some Saturday evenings we had to compete with a festival on the square and in the fan park as we tried to follow the organ and sing our hymns. It was such an emotional moment when on Saturday 12 June

we sang together our national anthem, prayed the prayers for the continuation of this spirit of unity in SA and ended with a rousing version of "All the World Belongs to You".

The celebration of the 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mons Brendan's ordination on 16<sup>th</sup> June was truly joyful and full of gratitude for his devoted service in our parish. Our thanks to Fr Jerry who supplied during his absence on holiday, and our warm welcome back to our administrator.

Many parishioners attended the evening sessions of the Theology Winter School and were enthusiastic about the inputs by Prof Brian Gaybba. We also had a good representation at the liturgy workshop. The parishioners are deeply appreciative of these opportunities to deepen our understanding of our faith and worship.

**News From St Kevin's Catholic Church**

**PAM LEVENDAL**

A very big thank you to all who responded to our request in the previous Newsletter. Special thanks to Connie and Aileen. Thanks to them, we now have two machines for the ladies to use.

St Kevin's celebrated Fr Donagh O'Meara's birthday recently. The ladies made a special cake in the form of a bible which was cut on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate Nelson Mandela's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

The community celebrated this special day with tea in the hall immediately after Sunday Mass.

Our "Golden Oldies" dance was much enjoyed by all those who attended. The CWL ladies hosted a "Women's Day Breakfast" on the 9<sup>th</sup> August, and at the end of August we will be hold a variety show to bid farewell to Fr Donagh on his return home to Ireland.

**Appeal for financial assistance**

*Mohlaletse Catholic Church is one of the outstations of Saint Michael's Catholic Parish, Diocese of Witbank. With the contribution of the members and a support from outside we managed to build a new church in 2006. We are still facing a problem, the fence.*

*We made a big yard for future purpose, it is not for the Catholic Church only, but for the whole population of Mohlaletse.*

*We plan to make a fence in order to protect the site. That is the reason why we ask for financial assistance. Actually we need twenty five (25) rolls of thirty (30) meters each. This can cost R40 000.00 (Forty Thousand Rand).*

*We hope that this request for the good of our people will have a positive echo from your side.*

**For any donations, here are the banking details of the Parish:**  
**Catholic Church Mashabela;**  
**Account No. 031191916**  
**Bank: Standard Bank**  
**Branch: Groblersdal**

We thank you in anticipation.  
 Yours faithfully  
 Mr Phala R.S (cell. 0725068420)  
 Father Joseph Nsitu Khonde  
 Chairperson of Mohlaletse Parish Priest.  
 (cell. 0760423018)

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+ Bishop William Slattery OFM

## INTER-DIOCESAN CONSULTATION Motivational Letter

*"Africa, rise up, take up your pallet, and walk (Jn 5;8)*

### Introduction

*"Africa is not helpless. Our destiny is still in our hands. ..Africa is already moving; and the Church is moving with her, offering her the light of the Gospel. The waters may be turbulent. But with our gaze on Christ the Lord (cf Mt 14; 28-32), we shall make it safely to the port..."* No 43

With these closing words from the final message of the second Synod of Africa the Bishops invite us to listen to God, to one another and to the world around us, in an atmosphere of prayer and reflection. We your Bishops of SACBC invite the whole Church at this moment of transition and kairos to engage in a struggle for the soul of Southern Africa in an inter-diocesan consultation.

### The Previous Consultation

In the 1980's the Catholic Church engaged in an inter-diocesan consultation involving all Catholics to respond to the struggle for justice and transformation. From our rich sharing there resulted the Pastoral Plan, Community serving Humanity, which has borne much fruit. Our conditions of life in Southern Africa and in the world have changed radically since then. It is time to meet again, to share our concerns and hopes and to do so in the light of our faith. The Church needs to evaluate its Pastoral Plan in the light of our new world of 2010.

### Present day pastoral challenges

We face new challenges in Southern Africa today. We thank God for the peaceful transition to independence and for our new democracy and freedom. We are a people of many talents in a country of great potential. We are part of that Africa of which Pope Benedict said was 'the spiritual lung' of humanity today. However, as Christians we find elements which unsettle us. There is a loss of Christian vision. The Bible as a source of morality and ethics is often replaced by worldly values. Traditional values are abandoned and corruption and mismanagement are rampant in administration. Some constitutional decisions are at odds with Gospel values and agnostic lobby groups are influential.

Urbanisation creates problems of housing, poverty and crime. The divide between the rich and the poor is increasing and many feel betrayed. With the scourge of HIV Aids our society is ravaged and education is for many a failure. Christian values are rarely emphasised in parliament and public debate. The family and family values are under severe assault often in the name of the constitution.

### Urgent need for faith formation

We feel the voice of the Catholic Church has weakened. Though the Church played a leading part in education and health care in the past this role is now sidelined and ignored. While we put emphasize on Welfare, Aids Ministry and Justice and Peace over the past 30 years there would seem to have been a mediocre Formation of Catholic people in the areas of Evangelisation, Liturgy and Faith and Morals which are at the core of Catholic identity.

Many of our youth are drifting from the faith. The world of our youth is a new sub-culture, a mall culture, dominated by music, fashion, cars, alcohol, sex, cosmetics, sport, soaps, facebook and mxit. This urbanized youth is being de-Africanized and de-christianised. Rural youth aspire to the city, their schools are places of despair, their hope of employment minimal and their access to the comforts they see everywhere a mirage. Secure and loving families where children encounter and experience God through the love and faith of their parents are becoming rare.

### Everyone is called into the vineyard

The primary apostolate of lay people, since the early Church, has always been to spread and defend the faith among the families and neighbours and to bring the teachings of Christ to bear on the issues facing their communities. Lay believers are a priestly people with a primary mission beyond the sanctuary of the church.

We cannot help but to proclaim and testify to the great difference that Jesus Christ has made in our lives. We cannot be silent about what we have seen and heard and felt. We are, as Paul tells us, ambassadors for Christ.

### Invitation to a consultation

We your bishops wish to engage with you in a faith-filled and real conversation. Community serving Humanity must be revisited. Over the past ten years the Church in Africa has held two Synods which emphasise *'The Church as the Family of God'* and the *'Church in the service of reconciliation, justice and peace'*. Through these events God is calling us to discern together how to realise his kingdom now. This inter-diocesan consultation will bring the whole community together, bishops, priests, religious and laity.

### Conclusion

The final message from the second Synod of Africa is insistent; *"All members of the Church must be mobilized to work together in the unity that brings strength. We are challenged and encouraged by the African proverb which says that "an army of well organized ants can bring down an elephant". We should not be afraid of, less still be discouraged, by the enormity of the problems of our continent"* (No 15). I encourage all of you to join in this consultation with hope, energy and confidence chartering the way forward for the local church into the millennium. I would like to end as Pope John Paul II always did when he wrote his encyclicals by invoking the assistance and intercession of Mary, Queen assumed into heaven, as patron of Southern Africa to be with us all in this endeavour.

+ Bishop William Slattery OFM

## Inter- Diocesan Consultation

FR JERRY BROWNE

As you will see from Bishop William Slattery OFM's letter, the Southern Catholic Bishops' Conference have begun an Inter-Diocesan Consultation among the laity. In our own diocese, parish pastoral Council chairpersons have been sent all the relevant information to conduct the consultation in their parish.

While this request comes from the Catholic Bishops' Conference, the information gained will also be of immense benefit at a diocesan and parish level. The outcome of this consultation will inform the discussion and planning of the upcoming Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, which will be held in November this year.

If parishes have any difficulties with this process, e.g. making copies etc, they are free to contact the following members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, who will be most happy to assist.

**East London:**  
Julei Stanworth 082 558 8966  
[stanworthj@elections.org.za](mailto:stanworthj@elections.org.za)

**Grahamstown:**  
Errol Kleinmans 082 668 1774  
[e.kleinmans@ru.ac.za](mailto:e.kleinmans@ru.ac.za)

**Cradock:**  
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041 365 2117 [pdo@isat.co.za](mailto:pdo@isat.co.za)



St Peter Claver Catholic Church in Duncan Village, 10 candidates of the Sacred Heart Sodality were admitted to full members. Fr Lubabalo Mguda officiated at this historic event.



M Aplom; N Mtyashe; N S Mjo; N Mangena; V Roji; N Teto; T Marhwele; Members of the Sacred Heart Port Elizabeth Diocese committee and Border Deanery who attended the ceremony at St Peter Claver Catholic Church in Duncan Village.

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RESIDENTS OF "XABISO NONNTU" IN FLAGSTAFF ENJOYING THE WARMTH OF THEIR BLANKETS AND BED SLIPPERS WHICH WERE MADE BY THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERS OF SAN FRANCESCO CHURCH, CHARLO, PE. THESE WERE KINDLY DELIVERED TO THEM IN FLAGSTAFF BY BERNIE DOLLEY. SINCERE THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE.



### 6<sup>th</sup> Sacred Heart Pilgrimage to Centocow Mission

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2010 there was an Interdiocesan Pilgrimage of the Sacred Heart Sodality to Centocow Mission – the Place of Birth of the Sodality.

In the picture from Right to Left are, Pumla Madliwa; Bulelwa Mene; Nomathamsanqa Madliwa; Nombulelo Halom and Buyiswa Williams. All from Christ the King Catholic Church in Mdantsane.



### FR VALIS DANIA Moine Haddad the oldest CWL member presents Father with his birthday gift



### News from St Francis Xavier/ St Martin De Porres in East London

NEILL ERASMUS

#### JAREN HENDRICKS DRUMMING IT TO THE TOP

Our parish would like to congratulate **Jaren Hendricks (16)** who was selected to the **National School's Jazz Band**. Jaren, a learner at Stirling High School in East London, is a member of the Liturgical Band at St Martin de Porres in East London. He joined the church band as a 12 year old boy and his drumming improved dramatically over the years.

We are truly proud of the achievements of this young parishioner and wish him well with all his future endeavors. We also hope that his success will motivate other young parishioners to use their God-given talents in worshipping God.

#### ANNUAL PARISH CARNIVAL

On Saturday, 31 July, the community of Buffalo Flats came together at the Buffalo Flats Primary School for the Annual Carnival. Wards, under the leadership of the assistant ward leaders, set their stalls up early Saturday morning with a big variety of items on sale. After the opening of the carnival by Fr. Slater, the sales commenced.

This year saw activities for the youth included and this made the day a very enjoyable day for the youth. The day was concluded with the customary end of evening Over 30's disco. This function was well attended. Our sincere gratitude to the Finance Council, Assistant ward leaders and all parishioners for their continuous support and for making this function a huge success.



Left: **Richard Lionel Mundell** together with **Fr. Robert Kamangu** who made his first holy communion. It is also the first "First" undertaken by Fr. Robert who has recently joined our Parish.

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# SOCCER MADNESS



We started Mass on the 13th with a procession of flags and singing the National Anthem. The Church was adorned with flags, soccer balls and vuvuzelas (it was not blown). I showed the Church on the Ball Video fifteen minutes before Mass started. It was well accepted and dealt with HIV, Human Trafficking and 2010 World Cup Soccer. Most of the parishioners turned out with their soccer sweaters and the altar servers and Father Trymos came to mass with Bafana Bafana attire.

## Somerset East by SYDNEY MARINUS



## St Augustine's Cathedral



Top: Staff members at Huntersraig Hospital in the spirit of soccer fever. Jenny Richards, Colleen De Wet and Kaye Henrick



Top: Cameroonian, Brazilian and South African supporters at Mass on Soccer Sunday



Top: St Augustine's Parish Secretary, Avril supporting SA with some Cameroonian Parishioners

### Proud to call you our father



Fr Max Salsone, from St Joseph's Church in Uitenhage, with his Vuvuzela, Soccer Ball and flag

*A man who teaches the word of God, the word of truth that gives the people power... the power of love....the love of God!*

*A man who not only hugs the sheep, but touches the heart of his flock. The sheep know his voice and are blessed by his presence.*

*A man who teaches the medicinal benefits of laughter, and the financial benefits of giving.*

*A man whose singing brings light into dark places, and pierces the heart into conviction. A man whose smile actually means "I love you", A man whose eyes say "I'm praying for you" A man whose lessons from the pulpit make you jump up and say I can take on the world, bring it on!*

*A man who everyone has heard of, most people know, who many people want, but we have him! because he chose to stay our father...*

*A man I appreciate and love, and who I am proud to call "Our father"!*

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**TIMES AND CHURCHES WHERE EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT TAKES PLACE**

St Bernadette's, Walmer	Saturday from 5p.m. to 5.45p.m.
Mater Dei, Newton Park	Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Friday from 4.30p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturday from 8.45a.m. – 9.45 a.m.
Sacred Heart, Kabega	Sunday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
St Peter's Swartkops	Sunday from 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
St Martin de Porres, Gelvandale	Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9.30a.m – 10.30 a.m. First Friday of the month - 7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE DIOCESAN NEWS IS WEDNESDAY 6th OCTOBER 2010  
The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles received without permission from those contributing towards this.  
ANN LENTZ, EDITOR - DIOCESAN NEWS  
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**FROM THE BISHOP'S DIARY  
AUGUST - NOVEMBER 2010**

- AUGUST**  
3 - 11 SACBC Plenary meeting – Mariannhill  
14 Profession – Assumption Sisters, Grahamstown  
15 Confirmations – St. Mary's, Mdantsane, EL – 10.00 a.m.  
16 Parish Visitation – Holy Redeemer, Quigny – 6.00 pm  
18 Confirmations – San Francisco, Charlo – 7.00 p.m.  
20 Inter-Catholic Schools Sports Day – 9.00 a.m.  
21 Confirmations – St. Colmcille's Kirkwood – 4.00 p.m.  
22 Confirmations – St. James, Schauderville – 10.00 a.m.  
29 Confirmations – Holy Name, New Brighton – 9.00 a.m.
- SEPTEMBER**  
5 – 11 Retreat Mariannhill Diocese  
12 Catechetical Sunday  
15 Confirmations – St. Dominic's Priory @ St. Bernadette's, Walmer  
18 Confirmations – All Cradock parishes  
19 Confirmations – Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Somerset East  
26 Confirmations – Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Malabar
- OCTOBER**  
1 Confirmations – St. James Parish, Port Alfred – 6.00 p.m.  
9 Confirmations & Parish visit: St. Martin de Porres Parish, Gelvandale  
10 Confirmations – St. Augustine's Parish – 9.30 a.m.  
12 - 15 IMBISA meeting, Pretoria  
15 Aachen Cathedral Boys Choir, St. Augustine's Cathedral, Port Elizabeth  
16 Confirmations – Immaculate Conception Parish 6.00 p.m.  
17 Confirmations – St. Francis Xavier / St. Martin de Porres – 8.00 a.m.  
21 - 24 Aspirant Deacons Retreat, East London  
25 2011 Plenary Planning Meeting, East London – 3.00 p.m.  
26 Diocesan Priests Council Meeting, East London – 9.00 a.m.  
30 Diocesan Fete – Port Elizabeth
- NOVEMBER**  
1 SACBC Finance Meeting, Pretoria – 9.00 a.m.  
7 St. Peter's Parish, Tyusha 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**OUR PRIESTS**

**ORDINATIONS:**  
20<sup>th</sup> August Fr Gabriel Muyenga  
10<sup>th</sup> October Fr Vales Dania

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:  
CONGRATULATIONS TO FRs. GABRIEL MUYENGA AND FR TREVOR BUTTON WHO BOTH CELEBRATE THEIR 50<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAYS AT THIS TIME**

10<sup>th</sup> August Fr Peter Whitehead  
10<sup>th</sup> September Fr Gabriel Muyenga - 50  
17<sup>th</sup> September Fr G Griego  
18<sup>th</sup> September Fr Luvuyo Madikane  
11<sup>th</sup> October Fr Trevor Button - 50



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