



# Diocesan News

THE PUBLICATION OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORT ELIZABETH

www.catholic-pe.co.za

VOL.12 No.6 DECEMBER 2011

PRICE: R2-00

## Essay Competition Result

Recently all Catholic High School learners were invited to enter an essay competition describing their family's own faith experiences within their local Catholic Church community in the Port Elizabeth Diocese.

After careful deliberation the judges decided that the first prize of R1000 should be shared between the two top essays as both were deemed equally deserving.

The top essays were written by: Sivive Jack of Victoria Park High School and Jessica Ilunga of Clarendon Girls' High School, East London. Congratulations to both girls!

Consolation prizes of a copy each of The African Community Bible are awarded to Ziva Isaacs of Riebeeck College in Uitenhage and Jonathan Leyland of Grey High School. Well done to both of them!

One of the top essays appears in this issue of the Diocesan News and the second one will appear in the February 2012 issue.

The essay competition will be repeated early in 2012. Look out for the advertisement in the February issue.

St Michael's Library, Cathedral Bookshop and the Diocesan Archives

## MY FAMILY'S OWN FAITH EXPERIENCE

### We walk by Faith, not by sight

By Jessica Ilunga

*"The purpose is to prove that your faith is genuine. Even gold, which can be destroyed, is tested by fire; and so your faith, which is much more precious than gold, must also be tested, so that it may endure." 1 Peter 1:7*

I wish I could tell you a heart-rending experience about my family in which God valiantly strengthened our faith but I cannot because the faith which my family shares today was gradually refined by one simple factor pertaining to how we lived: We were emigrants.

God involuntarily became a dominant feature of our existence during our unstable life in the Congo. My mother was born Catholic, being baptised very young as a Catholic by her grandmother. My mother is the epitome of serenity and patience. Her great sense of humour, love and imagination easily helped us detach ourselves from the harsh reality and laugh at the many stories she told us. It was her unwavering, concrete faith which comforted and guided us to cope with the everyday anxieties, challenges and expectations of our Congo experiences: the fear of Cholera, the uncertainty of being issued with vital documents; the ever-worrying economy; the small tremor of the heart at the sight of soldiers, or the panic caused by the assassination of the president, and what doomed future awaited us?



#### 2001: DR Congo President Kabila shot

The President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Laurent Kabila, is reported to be fighting for his life after being shot and seriously wounded by one of his own bodyguards.

Eyewitnesses said they had heard gunfire for about an hour around the president's hilltop home in Kinshasa, known as the Marble Palace and



There has been growing discontent within the Congolese army for a year.

My father grew up in a small, remote village near a military base. About the time he was ready for school he moved to the "The big City" and this saw the start of his outstanding education. Born with an inner sense of adventure, his silence and slight timidity were mothers of the dreams which he formed during his youth. It was also during that time that my father was baptised a Catholic at the age of 18. It was his own understanding of faith being that he has "the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives"\* him which drove him to succeed through his tertiary education and win a scholarship to do his PhD in Medicine in Japan. He once told

me that at that time he believed more in God than the ability he had of deserving that scholarship. So we moved to Japan and became emigrants. Life in Japan was stable but a bit lonely at times because we were not home, we had to meet new people, learn a new language and learn a new way of living. The Catholic church, Tsu Catholic Church, in Japan was a place my parents recall as being a sanctuary and that besides the language barrier, the Catholic church welcomed them and made them feel at home without bombarding them with their curiosity. It was decent the life which we lived in Japan but my parents were conflicted by the fact that our life, as children, would be difficult to live with the complexity of the Japanese education system and society and so go back to our battle-scarred homeland, Congo, which seemed to promise a brighter future for us after all. So the ultimate decision was made and we returned to Congo where life met us with the many anxieties which I mentioned before.

The Congo instead greeted us with another war. It was this period, during which time the president of the DRC was also assassinated. This brought great fear and relentless anxiety among all of us. Not to mention our wavering economy and the perpetual insecurity of my father finding a job, coming from Japan to work in the DRC. Prayer was the only thing which kept us going. War was very much at our doorstep and as a child I will never forget the phone calls from my uncle hidden and caught up in the midst of all the "real action".

We often wildly imagined if we would be ok or if we would have to pack our bags and start seeking refugee camps. Amidst

all the fear, we watched as some men and women around us who had fallen through the cracks of our economy were withered away by poverty. For a better future and security, we then moved to prospering South Africa.

Life did not spare us from its obstacles when we began our life in South Africa. We saw ourselves depending more on our faith, as South Africa presented us with new struggles: Xenophobia is a fact of life here but we chose to ignore it...

Nevertheless, it was a fear, the fear of the unknown. Out of all the things in South Africa, Xenophobia and the story of Ernesto Nhamuave was to have the biggest impact on our lives. Thanks to Christ only that we were surrounded by great South African friends but the question still arose: Would God keep us safe? Why would God let such a thing happen?

It was clear from that moment faith wasn't as easy as ABC:

Always Believe Christ. No.

On top of that, the documents and legalities still haunted us, a trip to the embassy in Pretoria was an annual one because: No visa meant no study permits or work permits which meant no study which meant no future which, in short, meant that my father's plans for a better life for us becomes redundant.

As adolescents, my siblings and I, have always felt the need to feel that we belong and it did not help things when we were constantly made to stand out because you were emigrants: that you were the only one who had to fill in a strange passport number and then proceed to explain it to a confused teachers; or that even when you learn the indigenous language and commit to learning the culture, you will still not be accepted. Being an emigrant was like a stain on a white cloth which one could not get rid of.

The answer though was just simple as the question: "The Lord Himself will lead you and be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid".

It was with this reading that our fears began to dissipate, it was time to let go of the fears in our lives and live freely. It was time to let go and let God. It is in the house of God only where we should need to feel a sense of belonging. Our Church, our Immaculate Conception community lead by Father Peter Whitehead is a place where all people put their differences aside and where we need not fear. Catholic means Universal and that has never meant more to my family for we know that means "us too". We have never felt so at home in South Africa than in the Catholic church.

Our faith in the power of God means the world to us. Our faith is our life and our life is our faith. We need not fear if our faith is there to help us trust in the Lord.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."\*

Proverbs 3:5

2001 DR Congo President Shot: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/january/16/newsid\\_4555000/4555690.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/january/16/newsid_4555000/4555690.stm)

South Africa's Xenophobic Attacks:

<http://6000.co.za/south-africas-xenophobic-attacks/>

Bibliography:

Good News Bible

ISBN 978-0 7982-1503-9

\*Philippians 4:13



PRIZE WINNER - J. LEYLAND



**St Patrick's Celebrates Christ The King with style**

**NOLA MONTEITH**

St Patrick's Parish, Sydenham, Port Elizabeth celebrated this year's Feast of Christ the King with a Eucharistic Procession led by the Parish Priest Fr Henry Ezenwanne, C.O. The procession ended with a solemn Benediction in the grounds of the Parish House.



St Patrick's Parish is looked after by the Priests and Brothers of St Philip Neri Oratory, Port Elizabeth. The Parish has been growing from strength to strength since Oratory took over the Parish last year.

This can be judged by the number of babies Baptised, (we had 5 on one Sunday alone!) as well as the number of couples married and blessed, the number of converts received and currently undergoing instruction, to date in 2011, and the number of marriages that will be solemnised between December 2011 and June 2012, all are welcomed into the Parish family.

It is envisaged that a new Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes will be built and dedicated on 7th

October, 2012. Yes, St Patrick's is fully alive; thanks to God!

On 28th August, 2011, St Patrick's Parish celebrated its 75th anniversary. To mark this occasion, the Provost of the Oratory, Very Rev. Fr Johnny Johnson presided over a concelebrated Mass with the Parish priest, Fr Henry Ezenwanne, C.O., Fr Ignatius Ou. Te Lung., and Fr Anthony Spencer. Others present at the altar for this great and memorable occasion were Deacon's Ted Burke (the Parish Deacon), John Slim, Lius Berry, C.O. and Brother Andrew Lyons, C.O.

Under the Chairmanship of Mr Graham Fisher and the PPC, the St. Patrick's laity through the various Church sodalities active in St Patrick's, work very effectively as a team to build community and serve their fellow parishioners.

**St. Martin De Porres Parish, Gelvandale, Port Elizabeth ROSARY WEEK**

The month of October began with the Parish preparing for Rosary Week introduced by our Parish Priest Fr. Davis a year ago. October being the month of the Rosary the last week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> was set aside for praying the Rosary at 18H00 each evening.



The Rosary prayers took place in front of the grotto of Our Lady where the different Wards and Parish groups gathered and led the various mysteries of the Rosary each evening. The evenings were well attended by parishioners who ensured that they set aside time to attend the Rosary week.

On the last evening Sunday 30 October after the Rosary parishioners met for a bring and share in the Meeting rooms to conclude a very meaningful week. We look forward to our next Rosary week in 2012.

**50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY – JOSEPH & MONICA SWART**



Once again our Parish has been blessed to have another couple celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Joseph and Monica Swart were married on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 1961. The day was made very special for them when they renewed their marriage vows and received a special blessing from Fr. Davis. Family and friends were present at the Mass to congratulate the couple. We wish them many more happy years together.

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November St. Martin's parishioners celebrated the Parish feast day with a beautiful Mass and a gathering where tea was served and lots of sharing of the 'old' days took place.

**ST. MARTIN DE PORRES FEAST DAY**



On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November St. Martin's parishioners continued the Feast day celebrations by gathering on the Parish grounds after Mass. Picnic baskets, braai stands, music and the smells of braivleis was the order of the day. We were blessed with beautiful weather and a large number of parishioners took part in all in fun activities arranged by the Parish Youth group- from sports to a potjiekos competition. The turn-out and the fun and games will be remembered by all for a long time. A Family Day trophy was awarded to the Ward who scored the most points in the various activities.

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 34 children received the Holy Eucharist for the first time. Our sincere thanks and congratulations to Fr. Davis and the Catechists for a beautiful liturgy well prepared. The Junior Choir led the congregation in song and we are very proud of our young parishioners. After receiving the Eucharist the new Communicants sang a hymn of thanksgiving for a beautiful day celebrated with family and friends. The Junior Choir has extended an invitation to our young communicants to join them.

We take this opportunity in wishing everyone especially our parishioners a Blessed and Holy Christmas and may the New Year be filled with peace, joy and happiness.



**News from St Patrick's**

**ANN KENT**

Sr Nobulali recently visited St Patrick's with a group of children who are fed and clothed by the sisters at the St Peter Claver Convent in Duncan Village. The St Patrick's CWL supports the Masiphuhlisane Project by means of regular donations of cash and clothing.

The children enjoyed the party we arranged for them in the hall, after which they gave us a very joyful performance of cultural dance.

Christmas parcels for the 35 babies that are cared for at the project's crèche were given to Sr Nobulali during this get together.



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## News from Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Parish in Cambridge, East London

**Yard Sale - the Catechism Group held a very successful Yard Sale on Saturday 29 October 2011 under the guidance of Hazel Mopp.**

It was a pleasant surprise as they only had the use of the Church Hall for an hour and a half and they made R20,000.00. All the catechists brought goods that they don't use anymore which was displayed and sold 80% of it. The left over stuff was donated to the CWL. Father Varghese's mother, Rosa Kannanaikkal, died, in India, on 30 October 2011 after a long illness. Father Varghese was able to be at her bedside which was a blessing for her and him. May her dear soul rest in peace.

The Catechism Concert and Parish Dinner was held in the Cambridge Catholic Centre Hall on Friday 2 December 2011. Holy Mass was at 17:30 followed by Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The concert commenced at 18:30.

Father Varghese opened with a prayer and thanked Hazel Mopp and her team for their hard work in organising the function. The children practised for weeks prior to the event which resulted in a well organised show, based on the nativity of our Lord, interspersed by Carol singing. The costumes were outstanding as were the backdrops and props. After the concert the children were given gifts from their respective teachers and a lovely tray of snacks as their meal. The others were served a lovely meal of Breyani, rice and salads followed up ice cream and strawberries. The tables were set in a Christmas theme and the function

was well-attended by parishioners, interested family members and the nuns from Emmaus Convent. All in all a good time was had by everyone.

Phyllis Stewart - This remarkable lady celebrates her 94th Birthday on the 6 December 2011. Her daughter, Gloria Deutschmann, who is a parishioner of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Parish, gave me a resumé of her mom which follows :-

"Amelia Dorothy Phyllis Stewart, known as Phyllis, was born in Idutywa in 1917. At the age of 17 her family moved to Butterworth. In 1937 she married George Stewart in Butterworth.

They moved to the Sterkspruit District and later to Herschel. They had 5 children, all born at the Umlumli Mission Hospital. They moved back to Butterworth in 1955 and started their own general Dealer business.

She was always involved with duties for the Church, flowers, bazaar or whatever was needed. This continued even once she had retired to East London in the 1970's. She made the "magic" Bran muffins known to the Cambridge congregation.

She still does her code words everyday and reads a little. She has 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. She is now at the Emmaus Convent and very happy."

Incidentally, Gloria has recently become a granny. Her youngest son, Andrew and his wife Shaundre, have just been blessed with a son Joshua. Our congratulations to you all.

## Marriage and Family Ministry

KAYE HENRICK

This has been a great year in Marriage and Family Ministry! Thanks to the efforts of Fr Jerry, as co-ordinator, and the members of the forum Retrouvaille Programme was successfully launched in the diocese. The weekend programme was presented at the end of July and the post sessions at regular intervals until Sunday 2nd October.

A Retrouvaille Team is now in place with Monique and Graham as coordinators, Kenny and Lynette as secretariat, Freddy and Felicity as weekend host couple and Berylene and Saigram Moodley will co-ordinate the ongoing support meetings. These are for couples who have completed the weekend. These meetings are known as C.O.R.E. Meetings, meaning Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience. The next programme will take place over the weekend of 16th - 18th March 2012. The Retrouvaille programme is an incredibly powerful tool for strengthening marriages and is a powerful tool for couples whose marriage seems to be crumbling. There was general consensus among those who attended last year's programme that even good marriages can really benefit a lot from following this programme.

Bookings for the March weekend are already open and further details and registration forms can be obtained from Sheila or Fr Jerry at the PDO.

The annual one day retreat was held at Mater Dei on Saturday 1st October. Participants expressed great appreciation for the inputs and reflections. The celebration mass on Sunday 2nd, coincided with the conclusion of the Retrouvaille programme and this added to the occasion. Mater Dei church was packed and almost all were there for renewal of marriage vows. Next year we would like to see all those intending to renew their marriage vows attend the day of prayer on the Saturday, in preparation for this. Here is really good advance notice! The retreat day is scheduled for Saturday 6th October, and the celebratory Mass will be on the 7th.

## Immaculate Conception Youth (ICY)

2011 has been an exploring year for us based on building our group, ourselves, and reaching out to other Youth groups.

ICY is made of vibrant young people brought together to share our weekly educational, spiritual and social indoors and outdoors activities, as well as trips outside East London.

Our educational activities are based around guest speakers visiting, or discussions on matters affecting our youth today.

Spiritual programs are usually in the form of Scriptures sharing, Gospel singing, and reflection and meditation.

For more fun, our social activities include indoor activities such as games/icebreakers; we had our first Valentine's Day function with exchange of presents. The outing activities include visiting other Youth groups, movie nights and socials at the mall one of us residence.

## St Augustine's Parish

KAYE HENRICK

The parishioners are accompanying our bishop on his painful journey through his illness with ongoing prayers and love. We pray that he may remain aware of God's loving presence in these difficult days.

With Monsignor Brendan as apostolic administrator of the diocese we were conscious of all the confirmations and other diocesan events. Monsignor Brendan seemed to be on "the road" many times. We have every confidence in his ability to manage the affairs of the diocese wisely, while Rome deliberates about an appointment, and we pray that God will bless him with continued good health and energy.

The annual parish dinner took place on Saturday 5th November, at the Royal Delhi. This annual event also gives the parish an opportunity for a community celebration of Fr Brendan's birthday! Sheryll and Krish Pillay are wonderful hosts and the dinner was superb!

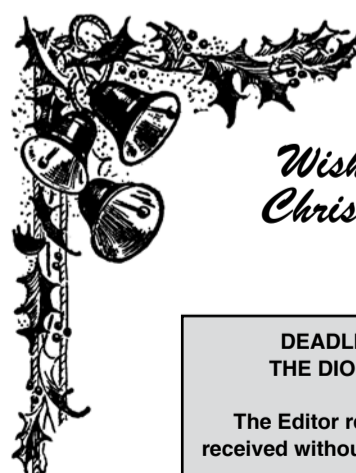
The only downside is that we are accustomed to having Bishop Coleman, our actual parish priest of the cathedral, with us at the annual celebration, and many were conscious of his absence.

We are very happy that the stone cancer in the walls of the cathedral has been successfully treated. While that work was in progress the deteriorating state of the stain glass windows came to light. They now also have been successfully repaired and are really beautiful! Generous parishioners, friends and dedicated fund-raisers have ensured that the work was completed without incurring any debt!

We look forward to welcoming many visitors over the Christmas Season and wish all readers of the diocesan news a blessed Christmas, enriched by awareness of God among us!



Hazel Mopp and Fr Varghese



*Wishing you a blessed  
Christmas and a happy  
New Year*

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF  
THE DIOCESAN NEWS IS WEDNESDAY  
1st FEBRUARY 2012**

The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles  
received without permission from those contributing  
towards this.

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**News From Sacred Heart, King William's Town**

**TERRY KINGSTON**

Congratulations to our 19 First Communicants. After many days the rain abated and the sun emerged.



A lot of planning, rehearsals & arrangements took place over many weeks which culminated in a successful day. Thanks to all who lent a helping hand especially to Leonie Casper, Nicci Taai and Dee Changfoot who were acknowledged by the parents and children in their vote of thanks. Fr John Pullokaran's homily dealt with that lovely play "The Happy Prince". It was most appropriate when he encouraged the children to take on the role of the swallow and be the "practical" side of the Mystical Body of Christ. Jesus hears the prayers of the needy and we then on earth attend to that need.

Our International evening fund-raiser was once again a successful event with all tickets being sold out and additional tickets being printed at the last moment. Leftovers were easily sold the next day after mass.

The Confirmation candidates have now completed the deepening of their faith part of their journey ie mystagogic programme ,which included visiting the Kingsholme Old Age home, the Children's home and sick members of our parish. Teachers Inel Starkey, Candice and Roy Cassells have done a great job and take a well earned brief rest before embarking on the 2012 journey.

SVP has once again prepared well stocked Christmas food parcels for the needy from the many fundraising activities throughout the year.

On the 22 November our parish held a very successful 2012 year planning meeting attended by representatives from societies , Liturgy, fund raising , catechetics etc. Don't complain if you did not book various dates for your activities next year.

The seniors annual Christmas party co-hosted by CWL and the Knights went off well. The

Knights assisted with funds, transport of parishioners from outlying areas and as waitrons. The CWL stalwarts with the assistance of relatives and friends did a sterling job with the food and decor. Second and third helpings were the order of the day.

The Knights of Da Gama had a very successful Golf Day with many charities/Sodalities benefitting. Among the beneficiaries of their annual fundraising projects was Marian Villa in PE which received R10000. In total over R30000 was earmarked to be distributed.

Our Rosary Rally in October went off well thanks mainly to the absence of the rain that was around in the previous 2 rallies. This enabled the procession of the statue of our Blessed Mother through the streets to take place. Fr John Pullokaran has now reached the "S" families in our parish rosary which must now be in its 3rd year. We all look forward to the final parish Rosary to be held at Father's house which will mark the end of the Parish Rosary crusade.

Congratulations to PPC chairperson Shain Jurie who completed his inaugural K to K ( King to Kidds Beach) bicycle race of 52 km. After completing the race he had to rush back to King to transport and entertain the seniors at their Christmas party.

Big congratulations to our extremely well qualified organist , Ashley Taai, who amongst the Gospel music fraternity was nominated for an "Award of the Best Pianist in the Eastern Cape". Ashley regularly accompanies various choirs in competitions, concerts etc and is greatly sought after. His latest accomplishment attests to his musical abilities. We observe that usually by doing things for the church e.g in this case sharing your musical talents, you will somehow be blessed in ways that you never imagined.

**Snippets from the Archives No 3  
Conserving and Preserving our Catholic Heritage - the Catholic Library**

In 2006 St. Michael's Library records show that there were +/-14,000 books listed; 101 paid up subscription members and a total of 1040 books loaned out that year. These statistics stirred my interest on the availability of reading material in the 19th century Cape Colony.

Our earliest correspondence shows the concern of the Bishops and priests in the lack of Catholic understanding among the early settlers. In Volume 1 (1891) of the S.A. Catholic Magazine there is this appeal: BOOKS!! ... The Rev. Fr. J. Troy of Queenstown, 'trying to work a mission about the size of Scotland' wants to establish a Catholic Lending Library there. Few things are of more importance in a mission, and I (ed. Fr. Kolbe) gladly trumpet out his appeal. His cry to all is, 'Send me a book, or the price of one.' The response was so great that this library was up and running by June 1891.

A 1906 index book has 172 books listed with 356 books loaned out in the first six months of that year. St. Patrick's circulating library, Grahamstown opened on 7th July 1906 with a small subscription fee. Its purpose was to provide Catholics with suitable Catholic reading material at an affordable price.

The books listed covered titles from the lives of the saints, Our Lord, Mary, novels and non fiction by the era's great Catholic authors, sacred liturgy, bound copies of the South African Catholic Magazine, Irish and English Catholic History, the duties of parents, catechisms, general world history, geography and culture and a variety of other spiritual matters.

Bishop Aidan Devereux (1847-1854) brought a small printing press to South Africa , which was set up at St. Patrick's Pro-cathedral in Grahamstown. There are a number of first accredited to his name: as founder of St. Aidan's College which provided Catholic education for the first time in the colonies; for this purpose he brought the first group of nuns, the Assumption Sister to the Eastern Cape; he was also founder the first Catholic newspaper "The Colonist"; and was the first Catholic Bishop to be ordained and die in South Africa. His efforts set the pace for Catholic involvement in the education of Catholic settlers, which reached beyond the church to her Protestant neighbours.

Fr. James David Ricards (later Bishop: 1871-1891) was The Colonist's second editor from 1851 - 1859. He was at the same time principal of little St. Aidan's, High School and during the 1850 Border Wars was appointed military chaplain to the Catholic troops stationed in the Grahamstown area. The last edition of The Colonist was published on 16th April 1859, due mainly to the over-extended duties of the priests during this time.

This printing press was taken by Mr. John Quinn to Fort Beaufort, where the Fort Beaufort Advocate was established. Many of Bishop Ricards' lectures and sermons were printed on this press to facilitate their distribution among Catholics in the Eastern Vicariate.

We are thankful to records of Assumption Sister Gertrude, also known as Notre Mere, and Count A. Wilmot's The life and time of Bishop J. Ricards for much of this information, as well as the archivists who preserved most of these publications.

This raises the question of the importance of a Catholic Library, or the local Catholic Archives for that matter.

Concerning the latter, the activities of preservation and conservation of our past and present is imperative to the continuity of our East Cape church history, and to the building up of our local heritage and local church culture of which all Catholics are part. The Archives has documentation going back to the first clergy landing on our shores. The correct regular and detailed entries in church registers are vital to the faithful and are indispensable when tracing family records for future celebrations.

Of libraries, J.J. Redgrave tells us in "Port Elizabeth in Bygone Days" that the "straggling village" of Port Elizabeth in 1844 had a scanty population of 2000, of which about 30 were professed Catholics (Bishop Griffith lists these in his diary), and that "it possessed its quota of serious intellectual persons".

Many of these early settlers made their way to Jetty Street to a room where books were hired out. As numbers grew they were obliged to move to bigger premises in Market Square (1846) and then to North End. The public library was founded by a group of interested people in association with William Ring - this made books, whose prices in those days were beyond the pockets of most settlers, available to the general public. The Port Elizabeth Public Library opened its doors on 2nd October 1848 with 700 volumes. The present building was opened officially by Mayor Mr. J.C. Kemsley in 1902.

**News from Holy Name, New Brighton**

It was joy and happiness when we began our 60<sup>th</sup> silver jubilee ( 1951 - 2011) at the Holy Name Catholic Church in New Brighton.

This event with the theme "Wenawabalikhayakuthi"(Psalm 90:1) started with a banquet which was held at the NangozaJebe Hall (Centenary Hall) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2011. The hall was beautifully decorated with a draping in purple and white.

This was marked by the presence of our honorable guest speaker, Prof. Zide. In his topic "A KNOCK AT MIDNIGHT "He put an emphasis on the role of the Catholic Church in the struggle for liberation and community development.

His marvelous speech left us asking ourselves questions whether are we doing the best in developing our communities, and what role are we taking in our church?

In the midst we had a jazz band which kept us on our feet. The young and the old were doing what they know best on the stage. The band also played some golden oldies, which brought memories to older people. The Priests as well could not resist the music. The hall was filled with joy and fun. The food was so delicious, prepared by our own Chefs of the day in Holy Name. Well done ladies!!! The day ended with a vote of thanks which was done by the PPC chairperson Mr. George Luse.

This day was followed by the big day which was the 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2011. This day started with the Holy Mass at 9h00 in the morning. Just before the start of the Mass, our PPC Chairperson, George Luse welcomed everyone who had come to celebrate the occasion with us.

The Mass was presided by Fr.L.L. Madikane with the assistance of Fr. L. Mguda. In his homily Fr. Mguda reminded us that Holy Name is a home to us, and how should we keep the home warm.

We can never leave behind our honorable Monsignor Deenihan for his presence, as well as his words of support and encouragement. He blessed the plaque.

We also had Fr, Mnyaka, Fr. Davis, Fr. Mafu and not forgetting of course our own old longest Priest that served in Holy Name, Fr Ted Molyneaux and the Deacons who were present as well.

After Mass there was a second session. In this session the program director was Mr. Zolani Gaxamba. In this session we had Mrs Nchela who gave the historical background of the church. She started from when it was previously called St. Francis Xavier, in the White location up to where it is today. Here people were being entertained by the church choir with Marimba's, the Sunday school and the youth. The talent that was presented on the day left people amazed.

People enjoyed food which was cooked by the well organized team of women from the church. Keep up the good spirit bomama!!! There was also a cake which was cut by the 60 year olds of the church.

The program director gave a vote of thanks to all who were present on the day. The event was made possible by the Steering committee which was led by Lifukazi Ngcwangu. Fr. Madikane closed the session with a short prayer. Halala!!! Holy Name.

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### CWL Ireland Tour

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**CWL IRELAND TOUR OF HOLY SITES, INCLUDING EUCHARIST CONGRESS  
JUNE 10 TO JUNE 21, 2012**

Have you booked your place for the CWL Ireland Tour? Come join this trip of a lifetime and experience the hospitality and welcome of the people of Ireland as we explore the beauty of the landscape, the history and spirituality that formed a people, and the songs and music that shaped a nation.

The tour begins on the 10th June 2012 when we leave South Africa for Ireland. The first 3 days will be spent in Dublin where we take part in some sessions of the Eucharistic Congress. Our time in Dublin will also include a Panoramic tour of Dublin City, a visit to Trinity College; a visit to St Patrick's Cathedral; a tour of the Wicklow Mountains including Glendalough where St. Kevin, son of the king of Leinster, founded a monastery in the 6th century. We will stay at All Hallows College, Dumcondra for the first 3 nights.

On Day 4 we will travel to Kerry, visiting the Rock of Cashel en route. The Rock of Cashel was once the seat of the Kings of Munster. St. Patrick visited the rock in 450, while Brian Boru was crowned the 1st high King of Ireland here in the tenth century. We will spend night 4 in Listowel at the Listowel Arms Hotel.

On Day 5 we will take in a tour of the Dingle Peninsula, some of the finest coastal scenery in Ireland. This peninsula is famous for its Celtic, pre-Christian monuments and Christian churches. The day includes a visit to Gallarus Oratory an impressive early Christian monument which has withstood the passage of time for over 1200 years. We will overnight at the Dingle Benners Hotel

On Day 6 we enjoy a full day on the Ring of Kerry before checking into the Eviston House Hotel in Killarney. The ring of Kerry is the most famous and panoramic route in Ireland. The astonishing beauty of this large peninsula, Iveragh, comes from the great diversity of its scenery, which offers incessant contrasts.

On Day 7 we will take a ferry across the River Shannon from Tarbert to Kilimer. En route to Galway we will visit the Cliffs of Moher and take in the majestic Burren region. The Burren is a strange and unique region in Europe. "Burren" means "large stones": in fact its name describes this impressive scenery perfectly well. Often described as lunar, the Burren is a high plateau of porous limestone situated in Northern Clare between Ballyvaughan and Kilfenora. We will be staying at the Jurys Inn Galway tonight and tomorrow night.

On Day 8 we will visit Galway Cathedral & Knock Shrine: The story of Knock began

on the 21st August 1879 when Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist appeared at the south gable of Knock Parish Church. Fifteen people, young and old witnessed the apparition. From this miraculous occurrence Knock has grown to the status of an internationally recognised Marian Shrine. We will travel back to Galway via Connemara Region with a stop at Croagh Patrick. Croagh Patrick, 'Ireland's Holy Mountain', is where St. Patrick is said to have spent forty days and nights on the summit fasting and praying for the people of Ireland around the middle of the fifth century.

Day 9, we return to Dublin visiting Clonmacnoise on the way. This great monastery was founded by St. Ciaran in 548-9. Clonmacnoise became a great centre of learning, and many manuscripts, including the Annals of Tigermach (11th century) and the Book of the Dun Cow (12th century), were written here. From Clonmacnoise we continue to Dublin and enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure. In the evening we will enjoy an Irish farewell of "Ceol & Craic" at Johnnie Foxes Pub, said to be the highest pub in Ireland. Excellent seafood, together with lively music makes for a great night out! Overnight at the Jury's Inn Christchurch

Day 10: After a final Irish breakfast, some last minute shopping or sightseeing transfer to Dublin Airport for your departure flight home

A detailed itinerary of the tour can be requested. While the tour is being organized by the CWL it is open to everyone. The tour will include Holy Mass daily. **The total cost of the tour, including Dinner, Bed and Breakfast, is R23,000 (Including airport taxes) (This figure is based on 40 participants on the tour and may vary).**

There are a few seats left on this tour. If you are interested in joining us please contact Fr Jerry Browne at pdo@isat.co.za or Jenny Hammond at Jenniferh@axcess.co.za for an application form, along with the terms and conditions as soon as possible.

Completed application forms, together with a copy of your passport and a R2000 non-refundable deposit will need to be returned to the Pastoral Development Office (detail above)

### Care Ministry News

SIOBHAN DOOLEY

A spiritual retreat was facilitated on the 19th November by the Sisters of Mercy from ADDO with 38 Care Ministry volunteers attending. This was a wonderful day and provided a valuable opportunity for the participants to spend time in silence and reflection.

Feedback given from the volunteers included such comments as "I experienced so many things, I say thank you to the Lord for making me a part of this retreat", "the bible and God's word revived me because God loves us all and we are created by Him". These retreat experiences provide much needed stress relief and spiritual nourishment that sustain the Care Ministry volunteer care givers in their work within the communities.



Spiritual Retreat 19th November 2011

The Care Ministry Closing Ceremony was led by Fr Luvuyo on the 26th November for 40 volunteer caregivers. This was held in the Mater Dei Catholic Church hall and was a chance to take time to reconnect with the source of all love and care. Xolelwa Ngeni welcomed everyone to the service and Fr Luvuyo began the ceremony with a moment of silence for all deceased volunteers and patients of the past year. The message was very inspiring and called on those present to consider their motivations for caring; do we care as a free gift of love or as a trade for something in return? Fr Luvuyo reminded everyone of the need for self care and called attention and focus to the Lord and His almighty compassion.

Volunteers were then encouraged to share with one another their hopes and burdens and, with laying on of hands, prayed for each other in silence. Elizabeth Hendricks thanked all for attending and all volunteers left feeling invigorated and strengthened by the service.



Closing Ceremony 26th November 2011

A number of events were held in Port Elizabeth on the 1st December to commemorate World AIDS day. The main Metropole event was held at the Wolfson Stadium in Kwazakhele and was attended by the Premier of the Eastern Cape, Noxolo Kiviet, Deputy President, Honourable Kgalema Motlanthe and the President, Honourable Jacob Zuma, who announced his 5 year HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan at this event.

The stadium was filled with a wide range of organisations from across the Eastern Cape and resources were available for TB screening, HIV testing and many other support services. Many Port Elizabeth residents were able to access food parcels and SAASA officials were on hand to assist with accessing grants. A number of Care Ministry volunteer caregivers supported this event and, even with a downpouring of rain, spirits were high throughout the day.

#### CARE SKILLS TRAINING COURSE

The Care Ministry will be offering the Care Skills Training Course early in 2012 for anyone interested especially new members of the Parish Care Groups. The course has been divided into 4 modules and completion of the course requires attendance at all 4 modules. It is not necessary to attend all four modules, however, in order to progress through the course each module is a prerequisite for the next module.

The cost of each module is R130 per person and teas and a light lunch will be served.

The dates and times of the workshops, which will be held at the Catholic Centre, 335 Cape Road, Newton Park, are:

Module 1	Self awareness and Personal Growth	21 February	9am- 3pm
Module 2	Basic skills in Listening and Empathy	27 March	9am - 3pm
Module 3	Skills in dealing with death and dying	17 April	9am - 3pm
Module 4	Endings and Evaluation	22 May	9am - 3pm

Places are limited and so bookings are essential.  
Please phone 041 3651135 to book.

The Care Ministry would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, blessed and peace filled Christmas season.

Anybody wishing to access further information or 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 or Maureen Krige: 041 581 5341.

### A Tribute to John Jakob 1944 – 2011

Mr John Jakob, known affectionately by many as Mr J who taught at Central Primary School in King William's Town from 1965, until shortly before his death, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011. He was diagnosed with a terminal illness and was in hospital for three weeks prior to his death.

He was married to Jill for 42 happy years and they were blessed with daughters, Klara Webb who lives in King William's Town, Ingrid Olivier who lives in Bethlehem and Suzette and adopted daughter who is in Grade 4 at Central primary School.

John was born in Queenstown in 1944 and spent happy childhood years in Keiskammahoek. In 1956 the family moved to King and John proudly related how he had been in the first Matric class to matriculate from the present Dale College Building.

Teaching was John's life and he had a passion to help children. He not only did teaching in the classroom, and he had the patience of Job, with children suffering from learning disabilities. He also taught many skills e.g. woodwork, handwork, and related subjects even to repairing sewing machines for the needlework classes.

He was very aware of children in need and we were often host to children who needed to be care for in a special way. He also gave attention to the Christian formation and upliftment of children in catechism classes he taught.

At a memorial service at the Central Primary School a former school Principal share the following "Many children have been influenced by the teaching and guidance of John and King has lost a legend".

Another former colleague shares the following sentiments "Mr J was firm but loving, a man known for his quiet yet dignified spirit and his lifelong dedication to Central was an outstanding characteristic. He remembered former learners long after they left the school and the love these learners had for John was reflected by the number of past pupils that kept ties with him for years after they had left school. For many years he remained a mentor into their adult lives".

She also shared that John was resorted to unnecessary pomp and ceremony..... but deep within him there existed a continuously youthful and vibrant heart dedicated to young people in all spheres of education.

As his family we humbly thank Our Lord for His Blessing and having given us a husband, father, and grandfather who left us a shining example of Christian love and tolerance of the persons who need special care.

We were humbled by the love and support of our priest Fr John, and Deacon Helmut Muller and fellow parishioners of the Sacred Heart Catholic church and the King William's Town community as a whole.

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**KWT NEWS**

**SONWABO**

**First Holy Communion Ramnyiba**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2011 on the feast of Christ the King 8 learners received their First Holy Communion at Ramnyiba.

**Umthendeleko wokuqala eRamnyiba**

Ngomhla wama-20 kweyeNkanga kulo umiyo unyaka ngomsitho kaKrestu ukumKani isibhozo sabafundi sihe safumana okokuqala umthendeleko. Umsitho lo wawusandulelwa yimvula eyatsho kakuhle kakhulu ngoMgqibelo, kodwa kwathi kusisa labe lizole nasebukhweni bezinja. Oko kuthetha ukuba le mini yaba bafundi yayisikelelekile.

**Food for thought: Lk 21, 28**

When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

Rather than being bewildered with what is happening around us let us confidently submit ourselves to Christ, for him alone has the power to lead his flock!

**Amazwi okwetyisa: Lk 21, 28**

Zisakwehla ezi zinto, sukumani nizophakamise iintloko zenu, kuba usindiso lwenu lusemnyango.

Kunokuba sibe simangalisiwe koko kwenzekayo phakathi kwethu, masizinikele ngokuqinisekileyo kuKrestu, kuba nguye yedwa onamandla okuwukhokela umhlambi wakhe!

**Spiritual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Paray Le Monial & Parish.**

*Come and join a spiritual Experience with a Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Paray le Monial, led by Fr Selwyn Francis.*

**FEATURES:**

- Guided walking tour of Lourdes visiting Grotto, Bernadette's house etc..
- Guided visit: Rocamadour has attracted visitors for its setting in a gorge above a tributary of the River Dordogne.
- Guided visit: Located near Lyon, the Sanctuary of St John Vianney contains several sites of interest to pilgrims and tourists alike.
- Visit, Paray Le Monial.
- Sightseeing of Nevers: the Cathedrale of Saint Cyr-Sainte Julitte
- Visit Notre Dame Cathedral, Louvre Museum, Opera Garnier, Place de la Concorde, Champs Elysees, Arc de Triomphe, Trocadero, Tour Eiffel...

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Return Economy flights on Air France;
- Transfers as per Itinerary;
- Accommodation as per Itinerary;
- Meals as per itinerary;
- Ticketing Fee as per itinerary;
- Sight Seeing as per itinerary

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**Report on Catechetical Festival East London Deanery: 9th October 2011**

**SR. AGNES KREUZBERG O.P. CATECHETICAL COORDINATOR OF**

**EAST LONDON DEANERY**

On Sunday 9th October catechists from different parishes of EL Deanery gathered at Holy Spirit Church, Nahoon, to share and celebrate their ministry together.

Mrs. Juliana Yazbek, the parish catechetical coordinator, thanked all the catechists for participating in the parish celebration. Before the final blessing the celebrant, Fr. Dania, asked the catechists to come forward and he gave each one a special blessing.

The parish hall looked very inviting with a lovely center piece and the CWL ladies had prepared delicious snacks which were enjoyed by all. Sr. Agnes, deanery coordinator, extended a warm welcome to everyone.

After a time of praise and worship catechists enjoyed watching a thought-provoking DVD with the title 'For the love of it'. The presenter, Dewitt Jones, a photographer of National Geographic, shared some touching insights about real people who did their job not because they had to, but because they fell in love with what

they were doing and this made all the difference! During a lively discussion catechists shared some remarkable insights and the personal message they had received while watching the DVD.

Some catechists had prepared a short presentation about a special catechetical event in their parish, e.g. one catechist shared on the experience of attending a 'Good Shepherd Course' and learning about a different approach of catechising children from an early age onwards.

After a delicious Bring-and-Share-Lunch we came together for the closing liturgy prepared by Sr. Agnes and Sr. Dolorosa. When looking back on the day, catechists remarked that the festival had been an enriching experience and there was a general request to celebrate this event annually.



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**St Don Bosco Parish**

The following parishioners recently received their First Holy communion at St Don Bosco Parish – Front Row: Sinesipho Nduneni, Phozisa Mambane, Sesam Zuzile, Chwayita Dlepu, Avuyile Moss, Asemahle Peteni and Sikelelwa Mbeki.



**Back Row: Father X Mafu (Parish Priest), Anelisa Kleinbooi, Siphokazi Mhlanga.**

The group of First Holy Communicants have become the formidable Junior Marimba Band of the Parish, and we are grateful to God for Such a Gift.



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### The Christian Life Community

The Christian life community SA held their national assembly in Schoenies from 30th November to 4th December.

We felt very privileged to be in such a beautiful spot.. Our sincere thanks to the Sisters of Nazareth and the Missionary Sisters of the Assumption who allowed us to rent their houses there. Our apostolic administrator opened the Assembly on the Wednesday pm and shared some very encouraging words with the members present. We had some rainy days but that did not dampen the spirit and on the clear days we were able to fly our banner outside!

Sr Bernadette, of the Loreto Congregation, facilitated the gathering, especially the progress of deciding on the way forward towards our long-term goal of stabling an educational facility in some form. The strong influence of the Holy Spirit was evident, even in the way the mundane items regional and finance reports etc were presented and received. We were all impressed with the way in which young and old joined in the hard work and the fun.

One member, who was at a CLC assembly for the first time, remarked that she had never thought that something so important and constructive could be such fun.

A highlight for many was the commitment service during the Mass on Saturday 3rd December, feast of St Francis Xavier, one of the first Jesuits, and dear friend of St Ignatius. Congratulations to Kaye on permanent commitment, and to Tixsie, Rami, and Lyn on their temporary commitment.

A highlight for many was the commitment service during the Mass on Saturday 3rd December, feast of St Francis Xavier, one of the first Jesuits, and dear friend of St Ignatius. Congratulations to Kaye on permanent commitment, and to Tixsie, Rami, and Lyn on their temporary commitment.



Top:

Rami from the Nazareth Group, is congratulated by Sonia, Monica and Shreekant from Kolbe Group Cape Town after making her commitment.

Bottom:

Kaye, Rami, Lyn, and Tixsie with Fr Graham pugin, sj, on the occasion of their commitments to CLC on 3rd Dec 2011



### SOMERSET EAST

The community at Our Lady of Assumption Church in Somerset East were pleased to have Fathers Button, and Fr Elridge Davids filling in while Father Trymos was on leave.

Grateful thanks to both Priests.



Amy, Fr Elridge, Caroldene and Dawn.

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**Monty and Val shared milestone celebrations on 24<sup>th</sup> October**



Monty and Val Brown celebrated their 49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on the 24 October.

It was a joyful double celebration for Val; she was 70 years young on the same day.

Msgr Brendan Deenihan has been part of Monty and Val's journey for many years; he gave the couple a special blessing on their special day of Celebrations. The couple are parishioners at Sacred Heart in Kabega.

**OUR PRIEST'S BIRTHDAYS & ORDINATIONS: ORDINATION - CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

<b>DECEMBER</b>		<b>JANUARY 2012</b>	
7th	Fr William Barnes Fr Martin Brennan	2nd	Fr Davis Mekkatukkulan
10th	Fr Elridge Davids Fr John Clarke Fr Simon Gavu	<b>DECEMBER</b>	
16th	Fr Lyndon Bagley Fr Peter Shitima Fr Christopher Slater	22nd	Fr John Clarke
23rd	Fr Max Salsone	<b>JANUARY</b>	
		18th	Fr William Barnes
		20th	Fr Elridge Davids
		31st	Fr Peter Shitima

**OUR DEACONS ORDINATIONS: - DECEMBER/JANUARY 2011**

Ted Burke	14th December 1980
John Slim	14th December, 1980

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Vernon Walters	10th January 1946
Ted Burke	2nd February 1953
Phindile Banjwa	31st December, 1964
Vernon Walters	13th February 1933
John Vorster	12th February 1942
Martin Naithan	28th December, 1959
Anthony Venter	

**St Joseph's - Youth**



**2012 leaders**

Left: Deputy head girl - Arantxa Krige from Sancto High  
Middle: Head prefect - Shanice Ellie from Cillié High

Right: Deputy head boy - Robin de Kock from Chatty High

The youth parents are very proud of their youth members, and especially these three youth members, who will take up these leadership positions next year. All three of them said that credit for their achievement must also go to what they have been exposed to at the youth gatherings which gave them the courage to step forward and volunteer for leadership positions at school and in the community.



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FROM  
Granny Undene



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