

Please join us in our intercessions this week as we pray for:
THE CHURCH: we pray for Anglicans all over the world. We pray for all clergy, and for those pursuing theological education; especially for the clergy of this diocese and the students at the College of the Transfiguration. May they serve God's people with humility and grace.
OUR COMMUNITY: We pray for the students and learners of this community. We pray especially for those young people who are unable to attend school, university, or who are unemployed. We pray that, in a town of great opportunity and great need, our children may and live to serve.
OUR WORLD: We pray for peace in all places of conflict in the world and for the safety of any African foreign nationals who may be subject to xenophobic attacks or other hate crimes
BIRTHDAYS (26 April – 03 May): Nicolena Peters (26 th), Donovan Bridger (27 th), Rose Buchner (28 th), Fiona Coyne (30 th), Isabel Bridger and Akona Gabavana (1 st), Paul Walters (2 nd) and Daphne Rink (2 nd).
PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Asavela, Buyelwa and Justice Mtuze, Lusanda and Zikhona Mtwa, Lorraine Mullins, Liniah Mumbengegwi, Mary Munatsi and Patricia Murowe.
PARISHIONERS who are sick or with long-term illnesses: Isabel Bridger, Fiona Coyne, Sr Dorianne and Paul Pillay.
FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill: Ronnie Burger, Michael Cassidy, Shona Domeris, Ant Fielding, Canon James Hoyle, Nolutho Mbolekwa, Thembeke Peter, Bishop Eric Pike, Marguerite Poland, Mary-Clare Tracey-Craigen, Mark Walker, Helen Wilson.
DECEASED: Beth Dickerson

<i>THIS WEEK; for your diary</i>				<i>Contact:</i>
29 April		Selection Committee – FOV.	Cory Room	Sub Dean
30 April	14h30	Funeral service for Beth Dickerson	Cathedral	Clergy
01 May	From 10h00	Mothers' Union Bazaar	Church Square	Thabisa Yili
06 May	18h00	Weekly Bible study group	Cory Room	Revd Claire
Please see http://www.grahamstowncathedral.org/ for more info				

Dean's letter *Sunday, 26 April 2015*

My dear friends,

Today in the life of the Cathedral is **St George's Day**. As part of our "prayer and parties" motto for 2015, we shall have an opportunity, during both morning services today, for testimonies and sharing. It will be a time to give thanks for God's goodness to us, to celebrate God's blessings, to thank God for all that is happening around us, to acknowledge the presence of God in our midst, to testify to all that God has done in our lives and in the life of the Cathedral, for all that is unfolding and taking shape, for signs of new life and hope. It will be a time to celebrate the presence of the Risen Christ. We did this last year on our Patronal Festival, the feast of St Michael & All Angels; the feast of St George is our "other" Patronal Festival, which we want to acknowledge and celebrate as well. The testimony and sharing time will follow the sermon, and will take the place of the Creed and the Prayers of the Church.

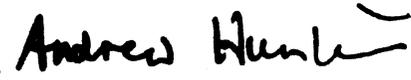
I was struck by a verse (John 3:8) which was read at a weekday Eucharist last week. It is part of the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus. Jesus says to Nicodemus: "The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." That speaks to me of creativity, thinking out of the box, being able to be spontaneous, expecting the unexpected, being open to change – so different from being predictable, rigid, rule-bound.

While rules and guide-lines are valuable and necessary (here the canon lawyer is speaking!), the gift of the Spirit makes space for things to shift and for all sorts of new and exciting possibilities to emerge. Certainly we have seen this in the life of the Cathedral over the years. And the uncertain, changing times in which we live are another opportunity. Let's be open to the wind and move of the Spirit in our dialogue and in our engagement.

Claire and I, together with the Cathedral Parish Council, invite all our newcomers to tea in the Deanery garden (or in the hall if it is raining), on Sunday 10th May. Please sign the list at the back of the church, and do come. We would love to meet you and to get to know you.

I am celebrating and preaching at the parish church of St Bernard Mizeki, Scenery Park, East London, this morning (Sunday 26th April) for the Admission of Church Officers, in my capacity as archdeacon to the archdeacons. I enjoy and value these opportunities to experience parish life in various parts of the diocese, but I do miss being at the Cathedral. See you next Sunday, all being well!

My love to you all,



Here are the Gospel Readings for the fourth week of Easter:					
Monday	27	John 10: 1-10	Thursday	30	John 13: 16-20
Tuesday	28	John 10: 22-30	Friday	01	John 14: 1-7
Wednesday	29	John 12: 44-50	Saturday	02	John 14: 7-14
Sunday	03	Acts 8: 26-40	Psalm 22: 25-32	1 John 4: 7:21	John 15: 1-8

<i>Services next Sunday, 3rd May – 5th Sunday of Easter</i>			
Time	Service	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Communion SAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	Dean Andrew Hunter
09h30	Communion AAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	Revd Claire Nye-Hunter
19h00	Student Eucharist		Mr Paul Daniels II

GENERAL NOTICES

ANSOC: Rhodes University Anglican Student Society: We give thanks to all the Cathedral members who opened their homes and provided meals for the Regional Committee meeting at which we were the host. Without the catering and the provision of places to sleep, RU ANSOC would have been deemed unfit to run or host events. That we have managed successfully to host the meeting is due to the overwhelming support that we have received from the Dean, the wardens and the amazing members of our church. Thank you so much for responding at such short notice.

Reader's Roster: The new Readers' Roster for May is on the glass-topped cabinet near the West Door. We are very dependent on our volunteer readers, whose contribution to our spiritual life is thoroughly appreciated! Please fill in your name/s and, if you'd like to discuss this form of ministry in advance, please see Jeanette Eve.

Lady Chapel Flowers: Similarly, the roster for the flowers in the lady chapel is open to your attention. This is a really rewarding way of remembering our own and varied personal anniversaries. See Peter and Ann Stockwell for more.

Children's Church is one of the formal ways in which one can minister to God's church. Our children's church is in desperate need of teachers who can lead Sunday school in isiXhosa. Support in preparation for lessons can be provided and so previous experience in leading Sunday School is not a necessity, but an advantage that can be. For further details, please contact Revds Monwabisi Peter or Claire Nye Hunter.

Book binding: Wayne Jayes has offered to teach anyone who feels so inclined how to mend the several prayer- and hymn-books and bibles which need attention each month. While learning something about bookbinding, you'll both enjoy it and render a vital service to our Cathedral. Contact Wayne at 078 348 9197 or by e-mail to: warden@grahamstowncathedral.com.

If you are a newcomer to the Cathedral, please fill in a pink form and an application to be placed on the parish roll (to be found near the west door) and hand them to one of the clergy or drop them off at the parish office.

Parish Visitors: Jane Bradshaw invites all parish visitors and any others who would like to join this group to a planning meeting (for the next round of visiting). Join her on Wednesday, 5th May, at 17h15 in the Cory Room.

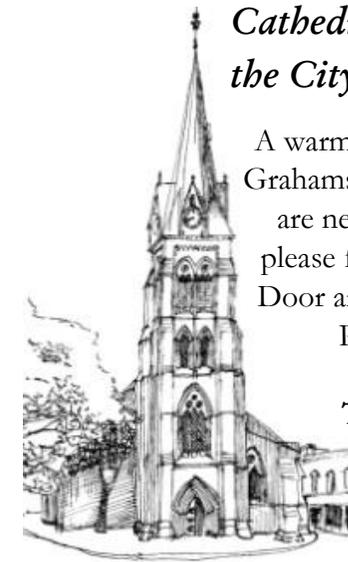
Feeding Friday: The Cathedral Student Ministry has started a feeding programme called "Feeding Friday" (FF). On FF the CSM students pass out sandwiches to whomever might be hungry and living on the streets here in Grahamstown. The students prepare sandwiches every Friday, and would love for the larger Cathedral community to take part. If you are willing and able to sacrifice your time and/or resources, we meet at 14h00 every Friday at the Cathedral Parish Office, and we are in need of brown bread, polony loaf, and spread. Any donation of time or resources would come as a huge blessing!

On Wednesday (23 April) was celebrated the Feast of our 'second' patron saint, St George the Martyr, the patron saint of England. There is some terrifying writing on the subject of his martyrdom to be read, courtesy of the University of Rochester (<http://goo.gl/b14HVO>), which will cause many of us a sleepless night!

The image of George most familiar to us today, the saint dressed in a white tunic bedecked with a red cross, astride his stallion and skewering a dragon as he rescues a fair maiden, depends more on a late medieval and Renaissance ideal than on his legend in its earlier forms, in which dragon and maiden play no part.

George was allegedly born in the region of Cappadocia and executed by the Persians or Romans (traditions differ) in Diospolis (Lydda), on the road from Jerusalem to Joppa (later Jaffa), in the early fourth century. Unlike many other saints, however, nothing truly historical is known of George and the figure in the legends may be a composite of more than one original saint; only the archaeological certainty of an early cult suggests that there probably was a martyr of this name, who was perhaps a soldier. This holds that George was a military leader under Dacian, "king of the Persians", who "inaugurates his seven years of torture" when George came boldly forward to confess his belief in Christ. This occurred as Dacian was preparing to persecute Christians in the area and he ordered the most horrific tortures imaginable. He failed three times, both to execute George and also to persuade him to sacrifice to Apollo. George finally feigned consent; the delighted king invited him to the palace for the night during which the saint surreptitiously converted Dacian's wife Alexandra; she was executed. George then went to the temple of Apollo, whose statue promptly leaves the temple and confesses his fraudulence. The saint stamps his foot, and the ground swallows up the false god. George, having survived seven years of torture and three deaths, was finally decapitated and ascended into Heaven.

OFFICE and CLERGY staff contact details:			
Cathedral Parish Office: 046 622 445			
The Dean*	082 308 8654	046 622 3976	dean@grahamstowncathedral.org
The Sub Dean *	073 604 5232	046 622 5633	angaavile@live.co.za
* Members of the Clergy are available for confessions and interviews by appointment – please feel free to contact us			
Please see our web page: www.grahamstowncathedral.org — or our FB page: facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral			



Cathedral of St Michael and St George in the City and Diocese of Grahamstown

A warm welcome to those visiting the Cathedral and Grahamstown. Please introduce yourself to us! If you are new to the Cathedral and would like follow up, please fill in the pink form at the West (High Street) Door and give it to one of the clergy or sidespeople.

Please turn off your cell phone and keep your valuables with you at all times.

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa seeks to be:

- *Anchored in the love of Christ* ●
- *Committed to God's Mission* ●
- *Transformed by the Holy Spirit* ●

26th April 2015 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter; St George's Day			
Today's services			
Time	Service	Preacher	Presider/Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion AAPB	Revd Monwabisi Peter	Revd Monwabisi Peter
09h30	Holy Communion AAPB and Baptism	Revd Monwabisi Peter	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi
17h00	Choral Evensong SAPB	Mr Lunga Dongwana	Revd Siphokazi Njokweni
19h00	Student Service	Revd Claire Nye-Hunter	Mr Paul Daniels II
Holy Communion is celebrated on weekdays at 07h00, in our Lady Chapel. Evening Prayer is presented in the same venue at 16h30 on weekdays.			

Today's meetings and events:	
07h20 & 09h20	Pre-service prayers for readers, prayer ministers and altar servers in the Chapter House.