

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

A warm welcome to those who are 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.

Today's services: 6th September 2015 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Time	Service	Preacher	Presider/Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion SAPB	Prof Paul Walters	Dean Andrew Hunter
09h30	Holy Communion AAPB and Confirmation	Bishop Ebenezer Ntlali	Bishop Ebenezer Ntlali
19h00	Taizé service	Dr A-J Bethke	
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, Children's Church teacher/s and altar servers in the Chapter House.
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THIS WEEK; for your diary

<i>THIS WEEK; for your diary</i>			<i>Contact:</i>
12 Sept	14h00	Quiet afternoon at the Monastery	The Dean
12 Sept	14h00	Altar servers (09h30 only) meet with Namso	Namso (073 351 8697)
Please see our web and FB pages for more information: www.grahamstowncathedral.org and facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral			

OFFICE and CLERGY staff contact details Cathedral Parish Office: (046 622 2445):

*Dean of Grahamstown	082 308 8654	046 622 3976	dean@grahamstowncathedral.org
*The Sub Dean	073 604 5232	046 622 5633	angaavile@live.co.za

To contact the Parish Office staff by email, use: office@grahamstowncathedral.org (Administrator) and admin@grahamstowncathedral.org (Parish Secretary).

*Members of the Clergy are available for confessions and interviews by appointment.

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* •

Please join with us this week as we pray for:

THE CHURCH: Church: We pray for all from the Cathedral who are being confirmed at this time: **Noluthando Yandisa Ncaca, Muchemwa Sinkala, Brittany Chelsea Jonklaas, Waldo Peter Marcus, Khanya Simamkele Tokota, and Kaylyn Karla Bartis;** for preparations for Provincial Standing Committee later this month; for Charles May, Bishop-elect of the diocese of the Highveld, as he prepares for his consecration on Saturday; for those preparing for ordination. May we all be filled and strengthened with the Holy Spirit.

OUR COMMUNITY: We pray for our matrices writing prelims; all in our community who have lost loved ones recently; all suffering from stress or depression. May all know God's presence in the times of darkness.

THE WORLD: We pray for South and North Korea; for their leaders and armed forces; for all refugees; for countries in turmoil and despair; for Christians in places of tragedy and disaster. May all find peace and a way forward.

BIRTHDAYS: 12th: Marié Tarr.

PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Anne Watkins, Michael and Adrienneb Whisson, Clive and Penny Whitford, Timothy Williams, Amila and Thabisa Yili, Siphokazi Zama.

PARISHIONERS who are sick or with long-term illnesses: Isabel Bridger, Roger Embling, Jeanette Eve, Kerry Jane Gutridge, Heather Haggard, David Hodgson, Celia Jameson, Thelma Neville, Paul Pillay and Tim Williams.

FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill: Bishop Charles and Bernice Albertyn (in Cape Town), Michael Alden, Steve Ashcroft, Ronnie Burger, Canon James Hoyle, Nolutho Mbolekwa, Lihle Njokweni, Owen Pearce, Thembeke Peter, Bishop Eric Pike, Marguerite Poland, Angela Stuurman, Mary-Claire Tracey-Craigen, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Graham Whitford.

DECEASED: Nan Sheppard (Chris Walwyn's aunt, in Gauteng); the 38 Swazi girls who died in the truck accident two weeks back and those who died in the bus accident near Butterworth last week.

Services next Sunday, 13th September – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Eucharist (SAPB)	Dean Andrew Hunter	Revd Claire Nye Hunter
09h30	Sung Eucharist (AAPB)	Dean Andrew Hunter	Revd Monwabisi Peter
17h00	Choral Evensong	Revd Siphokazi Njokweni	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi
19h00	Student Eucharist	Revd Monwabisi Peter	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi

Here are the Gospel Readings for the sixteenth week after Pentecost

Mon	07	Luke 6: 6-11	Thurs	10	Luke 6: 20-26
Tues	08	Luke 6: 12-19	Fri	11	Luke 6: 39-42
Weds	09	Luke 6: 20-26	Sat	12	Luke 6: 43-49
Sun	13	Proverbs 1: 20-23	Psalm 19	James 3: 1-2	Mark 8: 27-38

Dean's letter, Sunday, 6th September 2015

Dear Cathedral family,

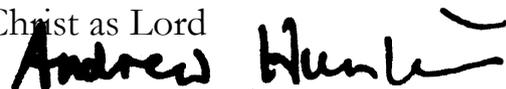
Our annual service of Confirmation today is a very special occasion, not only for those being confirmed, but also for their families, their godparents, friends – and each one of us as fellow Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ. Confirmation is, historically, one of the seven Sacraments of the Church, now understood within our Anglican framework of faith as a Sacramental Rite: a particular work of God in our lives, which has (as our Catechism puts it) “evolved in the Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit” (AAPB pg 440). Again, from our Catechism, Confirmation “is the rite in which we express mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.” (AAPB pg 441).

Confirmation confirms and completes our baptism: those being confirmed make for themselves the promises made on their behalf at their baptism; they receive the power of the Holy Spirit for the Christian life of worship, witness and service. It is a rite of passage for many teenagers, and the months of preparation leading up to the service of Confirmation are a vital and very important opportunity for young people to reflect on and grapple with the big questions of faith and belief. We see Confirmation preparation as being very important, which is why we try to start it quite early on each year, giving us at least six months of preparation time. The class meets weekly, during school and university term times, and for these past two years has been led by the Dean. Certainly it is something I value and enjoy, and find it life-giving. The groups over the past two years have been quite diverse – teenagers at high school, a couple of students, the occasional adult. We meet each week, for an hour; we take a bible passage (usually one of the Gospel stories) and use that to explore a given theme. I find the Serendipity Bible so helpful, with questions to get people thinking and sharing.

The syllabus for Confirmation preparation is given in the rubrics found in the SAPB which introduce the Order of Confirmation (SAPB pg 432):

“To the end that Confirmation may be ministered to the more edifying of such as shall receive it, the Church has thought good to order, that those who come to be confirmed by the Bishop shall have been instructed in the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, as well as the law of Christian life, and the two Sacraments of the Gospel....” What does this mean? It means that we examine what we believe (the Creed), how we pray (the Lord's Prayer), how we are to live (the Ten Commandments and the law of Christian life), and how we experience and encounter the living Lord (the Sacraments). It might sound dry and formal; in reality it is an exciting discovery, helping us all to draw closer to God. The Confirmation service itself, like that of Baptism, is a chance for us all to be renewed in our own promises and commitment to Christ as Lord

My love to you all,



GENERAL NOTICES

We welcome Bishop Ebenezer Ntlali to the Cathedral for the service of Confirmation, together with all from our archdeaconry who are with us in worship today, in particular those who are to be confirmed, with their families, godparents and friends.

Now is that time: September is our annual stewardship, pledge and dedication month, culminating in our Patronal Festival on Sunday 27th September 2015. What does this mean? **Firstly, it is a time to thank and acknowledge** all of us who support the life of the church – the Cathedral, the Diocese, the Province, and beyond – with faithful, regular giving. **Secondly, it is a time to ask** all Cathedral parishioners and members, all who worship here, to commit or recommit ourselves to faithful giving and pledging for the year ahead. We do expect all our members and parishioners to pledge and to give, so that the life and work of the church may continue. Pledge forms are available. **Thirdly, it is a time to offer and rededicate** ourselves, all that we are, to Christ as Lord – to offer our lives to God, to be embraced in God’s love and grace, seeking and asking for God’s perfect will to be done in and through us.

Editor of *The Spire*: this task and responsibility has been wonderfully and faithfully carried out, over the last few years, by Dr Claire Cordell. She is, however, no longer able to continue as Editor and we seek someone willing to pick this up. Ideally, *The Spire* – our Cathedral newsletter – should come out once a month, or once every second month. It is a greatly-valued and important means of communication within the Cathedral and amongst many who over the years have been part of the Cathedral life and family. Is this something that you would like to explore? If so, please speak to the Dean, or leave a message for him at the Parish Office.

Don’t miss a **Festival of Music** at St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Port Alfred featuring Dr. Noël-Jean Creille (organ and piano) and Daniel Brodie (piano, flute and clarinet), at 15h00 on each of Saturday and Sunday, 19th and 20th September. A different programme will be played at each recital. Dr Creille may well be remembered by those of us Grahamstonians who prefer to travel to the Southern and Western Cape along Route 62, overnighting in Calitzdorp, where he was the resident organist at the DR Church for about ten years, presenting an organ recital every evening. Tickets cost R80,00 (from the Kowie News Agency) and include refreshments. Contact David Foulkes at 083 634 5478 for more.

St George’s Fair please put a ring around this date 31st October in your diary.

Our **Patronal Festival** is on Sunday 27th September, on which day we are all asked to hand in our pledge and dedication forms at either of our morning services. It is also Heritage Sunday – our 09h30 worshippers are asked to please come dressed up accordingly.

Quiet Afternoon on Saturday 12th September. Meet at 13h00 at the Cathedral to share transport. The afternoon starts at 14h00 and is held at uMariya uMama weThemba monastery.

A very big **Thank You** to all who supported the Bring and Buy Cake Sale. Especially to all who baked and bought! It was well supported and went off very happily. We raised about R1075.00! God bless you all.

Bishop’s Appeal: Marked envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to make a monetary donation or commitment.