

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 is Bible Sunday

Today's services: 25th October 2015 – Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost			
Time	Service	Preacher	Presider/Officiant
07h30	Holy Eucharist (SAPB)	Dean Andrew Hunter	Dean Andrew Hunter
09h30	Sung Eucharist (AAPB)	Dean Andrew Hunter	Revd Monwabisi Peter
17h00	Choral Evensong SAPB	Revd Isaias Chachine	Sub Dean Mzinzi Dyantyi
<p>Holy Communion or Morning Prayer is celebrated on weekdays (excluding Tuesdays), at 07h00, in our Lady Chapel. Evening Prayer (Eucharist on Tuesdays) is presented in the same venue at 16h30 on weekdays</p>			

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.
±11h00	All 09h30 altar servers to meet with Sally Terry at the Eastern end of the Nave.
14h00	Mothers' Union prayer service in St George's Hall. Contact: Nolusapho Gumenge 073 406 5230

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
<p>To contact the Parish Office staff by email, use: office@grahamstowncathedral.org (Administrator -- Anet) and admin@grahamstowncathedral.org (Parish Secretary -- Chris). *Members of the Clergy are available for confessions and interviews by appointment.</p>			

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: We pray for the life and witness of our various parishes in the archdeaconry; for PCCs in their work of oversight, management and governance; for the ministry of word and sacrament; for our life of worship in communion with the saints. On Bible Sunday, we give thanks for the gift of the Holy Scriptures, pointing us to the living Word, Jesus Christ.

OUR COMMUNITY: We continue to pray for our matrices as they write their finals; for all our students as end of year exams approach; for the Rhodes University leadership, Vice-Chancellor, Council, academic and support staff; for the East Cape Midlands College staff and students; all our university campuses at this time; security and law enforcement officers; the Minister of Higher Education, Blade Nzimande; for all victims of xenophobic attack.

OUR COUNTRY: We pray for all who are unemployed; all who are homeless; all victims of violence and abuse.

THE WORLD: We continue to pray for all refugees; for places of conflict, especially Syria, and Israel/Palestine.

BIRTHDAYS: 28th Mandy Bridger, Liqhame Beja & Geoff Antrobus; 30th: Asiphile Soxywa.

PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Theodore Duxbury, Lilitha, Mzinzisi and Sambesiwe Dyantyi, Kholeka, Siyanda and Vuyani Dyasi, Elizabeth Effiong, Roger and Roslind Embling, Jeanette Eve.

PARISHIONERS who are sick, convalescing, or with long-term illnesses: Isabel Bridger, Roger Embling, Kerry Jane Gutridge, Celia Jameson, Thelma Neville and Paul Pillay.

FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill: Steve Ashcroft, Revd Ruth Brandt, Ronnie Burger, Canon James Hoyle, Nolutho Mbolekwa, Lihle Njokweni, Owen Pearce, David Peter, Thembeke Peter, Bishop Eric Pike, Marguerite Poland, Angela Stuurman, Mary-Claire Tracey-Craigen, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and Graham Whitford.

The **LADY CHAPEL FLOWERS** this week are from Margie Antrobus to commemorate all the family anniversaries and birthdays.

Services next Sunday, 1st November – All Saints’ Day

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Eucharist (SAPB)	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi
09h30	Sung Eucharist (AAPB)	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi	
19h00	All Souls’ service	Revd Vic Graham	Revd Claire Nye Hunter

Here are the Gospel readings for the twenty-third week after Pentecost

Mon	26	Romans 8: 12-17	Thurs	29	Romans 8: 31-39
Tues	27	Romans 8: 18-25	Fri	30	Romans 9: 1-5
Weds	28	Romans 8: 26-30	Sat	31	Romans 11: 1-6, 11-12
Sun	01	Isaiah 25: 6-9	Psalm 24	Revelation 21: 1-6a	John 11: 32-34

Dean's letter, *Sunday, 25th October 2015*

Dear Cathedral family,

Today is Bible Sunday (moved, a few years ago, from its traditional position on the 2nd Sunday in Advent). The Collect for today says a great deal: “Blessed Lord, you gave us the Scriptures to point the way to salvation: teach us to hear them, read them and study them with love and prayer, and strengthen us by their inspiration to hold firm the hope of eternal life...”

The scriptures have been described as being safe enough for a child to wade in, and deep enough for an elephant to swim in. We read them to encounter and see the living Word, Jesus Christ – as the blind beggar Bartimaeus did in our Gospel reading for this morning (Mark 10:46-52); we are strengthened by the spiritual food we receive; we are taught and grow in our knowledge and understanding of God and God's ways. St Jerome, a Church father who lived in the 5th century, wrote that “ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.” Bible reading, soaking ourselves in the scriptures, is a necessity, not a luxury.

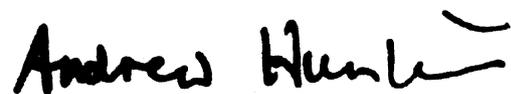
The recent decision by the General Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church (NGK) to fully include those in same sex relationships in the life of the church, is highly significant, given that this is the first “main-line” church in SA to take such a step. And, given their deep commitment, as a church that emerged from the Reformation, to scripture as a key basis for their decisions, it is of double significance. What is the standpoint of their Synod?

They have declared that both hetero- and homosexual church members may participate fully in the life of the church; that the same Christian ethical standards apply to all. They have reaffirmed their belief that marriage is between one man and one woman, but they have recognised civil unions between people of the same sex, marked by love and faithfulness; and they have made provision for civil unions to be conducted by ministers of the NGK. Local NGK councils will have the freedom to choose on this matter.

This is not a matter on which all agree. For some, to go this route is a denial of a central Christian belief; for others, this is a step in the right direction for human dignity. And I am fairly certain that this matter will be discussed at the ACSA Provincial Synod, scheduled for September 2016. It is quite possible that our Provincial Synod will take a similar decision. Let's continue the discussion.

Our prayers are very much with all at Rhodes University, East Cape Midlands College, and campuses all over our country, at this time of conflict and protest around fees for 2016. There is a great deal at stake: exams, degrees, careers, the stability and sustainability of our universities; our life together. Our prayers for us all - our students, academic and support staff, university leadership, families, the Minister of Higher Education; and also for security and law enforcement officers - is that we find the way forward together. Our prayers are also with the victims of xenophobic attacks here in Grahamstown; and with all victims of violent crime

My love to you all,



GENERAL NOTICES

The **Sub Dean is away** this morning, conducting the service at St Paul's, Port Alfred.

The **Mothers Union** is leading a Clergy Prayer Service in St George's Hall at 14h00 today, to pray for the clergy of our archdeaconry.

There is an **Archdeaconry Council meeting** this week. This is attended by clergy and lay representatives of each parish in the Grahamstown and Albany archdeaconries.

The Sub Dean will be accompanying the Bishop to a service of thanksgiving in honour of Premier Phumulo Mausele, to be held at Mpheko Location, Mthatha, on Saturday 31st October.

Student tea: On behalf of our Cathedral Student Ministry, I wish to convey a very big THANK YOU to all those who so kindly provided eats for our end of year celebration tea on 18 October. Forty-five students attended, and a great feast was enjoyed by all. Every last tasty morsel was enthusiastically eaten! Your generosity was greatly appreciated - *Rev'd Claire*.

Pledge forms: Our churchwarden and treasurer has prepared pre-filled pledge forms for our existing pledge givers. These can be found on the glass cabinet near the West Door (main entrance). Blank pledge forms are also available for new pledgers.

All Souls' Day. This service: this will be held on Sunday 1st November, at 19h00. This is a time when we remember loved ones who have died. If you would like someone remembered by name at the service, please send their name and surname to the parish office, *before noon on Wednesday 28th October*. This is a very special service and time of remembering, and we encourage people to attend. The service will be a Sung Eucharist, and will be held in the chancel, using the High Altar

Students from the WHITWORTH UNIVERSITY, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, USA are again to visit Grahamstown on Sunday 17th and Monday 18th January 2016. They need accommodation for their students for those two nights. Please phone or email Anet if you are able to help with accommodation (office@grahamstowncathedral.org). As before, Whitworth University will make a donation towards any costs you incur. The letter we received from Prof Gordon Jackson is on the notice board at the back of the church.

Confirmation 2016: if you have not been confirmed, and would like to be prepared for Confirmation next year, please speak to the Dean. If you are still at school, you need to be in Grade 10, or older, in 2016. Students and adults are also very warmly welcome. Classes will start towards the end of February. We meet regularly, once a week, during school and university term time, for an hour each a week. The Confirmation is normally at the end of August.

See you at **St George's Fair** on Saturday 31st October! Bring your wallets and purses!

Please see our web and FB pages for more information:

www.grahamstowncathedral.org and [facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral](https://www.facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral)

<i>Forthcoming events and THIS WEEK; for your diary</i>			<i>Contact:</i>
28 Oct	17h30	Parish Council meeting in St George's Hall	The Dean
29 Oct	17h00	Archdeaconry Council meeting in St George's Hall	The Dean
30 Oct	18h00	Cathedral Choir in concert	Dr A-J Bethke
31 Oct	18h00	St George's Fair in the Hall and Deanery surrounds	Marian Jayes