

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 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: 31st January 2016.

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany; Back-to-School Sunday

| Time | Service | Preacher | Presider/Officiant |
|-------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 07h30 | Holy Communion (SAPB) | Ven Cynthia Webbstock | Dean Andrew Hunter |
| 09h30 | Back-to-School service | Dr Sizwe Mabizela | Revd Claire Nye Hunter |
| 19h00 | Taizé Service | Dr A-J Bethke | |

Today's meetings and events:

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| 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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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 -- Anet) and admin@grahamstowncathedral.org (Parish Secretary -- Chris).

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

| <i>Forthcoming events and THIS WEEK; for your diary</i> | | | <i>Contact:</i> |
|---|-------|---|------------------------|
| 01 Feb | 17h15 | Lay Ministers' meeting in the Cory Room | The Dean |
| 02 Feb | 07h45 | Cathedral Chapter meeting in St George's Hall | Sub-Dean |
| 04 Feb | 09h00 | Somerset Place service. | Revd Claire Nye Hunter |
| 05 Feb | 15h00 | Marimba practice in the Cathedral | Penny Whitford |

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* ●

We welcome **Archdeacon Cynthia Webbstock** as our preacher at the 07h30 service; and all who are here for our Back to School service (09h30) from schools in Grahamstown. In particular we welcome the **Vice Chancellor of Rhodes University, Dr Sizwe Mabizela**, as our guest speaker.

Please join with us this week as we pray for:

OUR CHURCH: We pray for the Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury; for Archbishop Thabo Makgoba of Cape Town; for the Community of the Cross of Nails at Coventry Cathedral; for all our Bishops; for preparations for the Synod of Bishops, to be held in February, in East London; for the gathering and commemorative march of Anglicans at Bhisho, also in February. May we be one as Christ is one.

OUR COMMUNITY: We pray for all our schools as the first term gets under way; for teachers and pupils, School Governing Bodies, the Department of Education; for all parents and families of school children. We pray also for all students returning to university at this time; for university Vice-Chancellors and management. May all know the presence and love of Christ.

OUR COUNTRY: We pray for places of conflict; for refugees; for countries where there is civil war. May we find peace.

BIRTHDAYS: 2nd Ezra Tisani, 4th Wayne Jayes and Sr Carol CR, 5th Matthew Jennings; 6th Tolani Adesina.

PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Eunice Ncwadi; Nomawethu Ndukwana; Thelma Neville; Samantha Niven; Siphokazi Njokweni; Alulutho and Nomfuneko Ntapane.

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

FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill: Steve Ashcroft, Revd Ruth Brandt, Ronnie Burger, Shona Domeris, Natasha Esau, Canon James Hoyle, Peter Ingwersen (Roswitha Hobson's brother), Nolutho Mbolekwa, Owen Pearce, Thembeke Peter, Mary-Clare Tracey-Craigen.

Services next Sunday, 7th February – Transfiguration Sunday

| Time | Services | Preacher | Presider / Officiant |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 07h30 | Holy Communion (SAPB) | Prof Michael Whisson | Revd Claire Nye Hunter |
| 09h30 | Holy Communion (AAPB) | Prof Michael Whisson | Dean Andrew Hunter |

Here are the Gospel readings for this week.

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|------|----|------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Mon | 01 | Mark 5: 1-20 | Thurs | 04 | Mark 6: 7-14 |
| Tues | 02 | Mark 5: 21-43 | Fri | 05 | Mark 6: 7-13 |
| Weds | 03 | Mark 6: 1-6 | Sat | 06 | Mark 4: 35-41 |
| Sun | 07 | Exodus 34: 29-35 | Psalm 99 | 2 Corinthians 3: 12-4:2 | Luke 4: 21-40 |

Please see our web and FB pages for more information:

www.grahamstowncathedral.org and facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral

Dean's letter, Sunday, 31st January 2016

Dear Cathedral family,

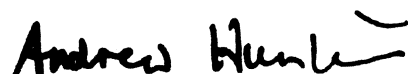
Our annual Back to School service being held today is an opportunity to pray for all our schools; for pupils, teachers, school governing bodies, the Department of Education, and the families and parents of our learners. Having just returned from annual holiday, Claire and I devoured the news in *Grocotts* of how last year's Grahamstown matrics had done – and we all know just how much is at stake, and how vital a sound schooling is for our young people. We thank God for dedicated teachers, and for all who make our schools work and function. We thank the Vice Chancellor of Rhodes University, Dr Sizwe Mabizela, for being our guest speaker at the 9.30 service this morning, and welcome him and the representatives of our various schools, to the Cathedral today.

Returning to Grahamstown was also a return to email and news – I don't have email access on holiday, and we have been completely out of touch, apart from occasional glimpses of the newspaper. There have been some early rumblings at universities elsewhere, as students began to arrive, and I was concerned to read of students being prevented from registering for the academic year. We hope very much indeed that university education will not be disrupted again this year. We respect the right to peaceful protest and freedom of speech. How best can this happen, without overriding and trampling on the rights and freedoms of others? I do not see anything positive being achieved when formal teaching and learning is stopped, or buildings are destroyed, or lecturers and students are intimidated.

This year, 2016, sees the 40th anniversary of the June 16th uprising of 1976. The uprising began as a widespread rebellion against Bantu education, and rapidly spread to be a ground-swell of resistance against apartheid in general. There was the slogan "liberation before education" as children and students stayed out of school, took to the streets, flung themselves into the struggle for change. Liberation was finally achieved in 1994. But the cost to that generation of learners, in terms of lost school and university years, was immense. Would we support the use of that slogan today? Our country is in a very different place to what it was then. We want all in our country to have the opportunity for good education, regardless of financial circumstances and background. Let's do all we can to enable this to become a reality.

It was very good to have the Revd Canon Dr Sarah Hills preach at the Cathedral, last Sunday, as part of our membership of the Community of the Cross of Nails. Hopefully we can pick up some of her ideas soon. Also in my emails was news regarding the special meeting of Anglican Primates (senior Archbishops), held in January. I shall try and write a bit about that, in the next week or so.

My love to you all



GENERAL NOTICES

Lent begins on 10 February (Ash Wednesday). with a Eucharist at 18h00. Thereafter, our house groups will be having their own Lenten focus. In addition, there will be a Wednesday evening teaching series during Lent, conducted by the Revd Claire Nye Hunter. Her theme: Jewels from John. Venue: Chapter House. Time: 18h30 – 19h30. Furthermore, the regular Wednesday meditation group (09h00 – 10h15) will be focussing on “The art of prayer” (Based on Richard Rohr’s book “Immortal Diamond”).

We invite people to be part of our **Sunday School/Children’s Church** ministry team for the months ahead. Please speak to one of the clergy if you are interested.

Weekly Meditation Group: “Be still and know that I am God” (Ps 46:10). You are invited to come to the Deanery (garden) for a peaceful time of guided meditation and silent prayer each Wednesday from 09h00 (sharp) to 10h15. The group resumes on 3 February, and new people are most welcome to join us. Contact Revd. Claire for more details

Our Annual Vestry Meeting will be held on Sunday 13th March 2016, in St George’s Hall, after a combined 08h30 service. Please could all Vestry reports be in at the office by noon on Thursday 11th February, preferably emailed to: office@grahamsgtowntncathedral.org) for Anet Peter’s attention.

Confirmation: If you would like to be prepared for confirmation this year (Grade 10 or older) please speak to the Dean.

Colleen Rippon wishes to thank you all for your prayers. She writes: “I have made a slow recovery but it now looks as though I am over it all. Thank you!”

Choir practices have recommenced. Anyone wishing to join the choir should contact the Director of Music, Dr A-J Bethke, who will gladly explain how to go about it. Phone him at 074 457 3491 or send him an e-mail at: ajbethke@gmail.com

Niels & Charis Vandereyken, will be leaving the Community of the Resurrection after enjoying its hospitality for nearly a year. At the end of the month they are moving to a semi-furnished house. They seek one or two beds (or a bunk-bed), single and double beds, a table and chairs and a sofa. If you have something you no longer need, it could help them a lot. Contact Niels at 079 475 5850 or niels.vandereyken@gmail.com

Our annual Pancake Supper is on Shrove Tuesday (February 9th) and is a fun evening of fellowship which raises funds for the Bishops Lenten Appeal; everybody is encouraged to be part of this event. Please sign up (the list is at the back of the Cathedral) to help making pancake mix, cooking the fillers and cooking and serving on the day. Donations towards the cost of ingredients may be dropped, in a marked envelope, into the collection box or plate or at the parish office. On the evening, come and buy a pancake take-away supper!

Palm crosses, February 10th marks the start of Lent this year which means it’s time to return your palm cross from a year ago so it may be turned into ash in good time for this year’s Ash Wednesday services. Please bring the palm crosses to church with you next Sunday and place them in the receptacle provided at the West Door. Contact June Venn if you’ve any queries.

All Altar Servers: Anyone interested in joining the team please contact Sally Terry 083 413 0234. or Lunga Dongwana 078 741 9164. There will be training sessions during February.