

## GENERAL NOTICES

**Dean Andrew Hunter and Dr. A-J Bethke** will be out of the parish this week, returning on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2016.

**Grocery Basket Donations:** We would hereby like to thank all the parishioners who have been donating to the Grocery Baskets weekly. Without you this would not be possible. We would like to give our families a CHRISTMAS bonus grocery hamper, take a shopping list with when you do your groceries to add a little extra to your basket. We currently supply 8 desperate families forth nightly with a grocery hamper, but we are currently only getting on average R50 a week in monetary donations and the hampers costs us on average R2400 a month

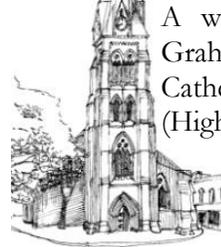
**Pledging update:** A special thanks and acknowledgement is extended to all parishioners of the Cathedral who have responded so positively to the new year of pledging. Our pledging barometer this month shows a marked improvement of pledges recorded and we are almost break-even with last year's pledge statistics. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. We are hoping to improve on last year's pledge statistics and want to encourage those members of the Parish who have not done so yet to please pray about your pledging and commit to contributing to the financial needs of the Cathedral.

**New Readers:** If you would like to join the reader's team for Sunday services, please give your names to either Revd. Dr Claire Nye Hunter or Mrs Jeanette Eve.

Please see our web and FB pages for more information:  
[www.grahamstowncathedral.org](http://www.grahamstowncathedral.org) and [facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral](https://www.facebook.com/grahamstown.cathedral)



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

**27<sup>th</sup> November 2016 Advent Sunday**

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion SAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	
09h30	Holy Communion AAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	Sub Dean Mzinzisi Dyantyi
19h00	Advent Carol Service	Dr. A-J Bethke	

### Today's meetings and events:

07h20 & 09h20	Pre-service prayers for service leaders and participants.
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### This Week

29 Nov	18h00	Combined Bible study celebration	Geoff Antrobus
01 Dec	09h00	Somerset Place Communion	Revd. Dr Claire Nye Hunter

### Stipendiary clergy contact details and Cathedral Parish Office (046 622 2445):

*Dean of Grahamstown Very Rev Andrew Hunter.	082 308 8654	046 622 3976	dean@grahamstowncathedral.org <i>(day off Friday)</i>
*The Sub Dean Ven Mzinzisi Dyantyi	073 604 5232	046 622 5633	angaavile@live.co.za <i>(day off: Monday)</i>
*Senior Assistant Priest Rev Dr Claire Nye Hunter	046 622 2445	046 622 3976	claire@kingsleymail.co.za <i>(day off: Friday)</i>

To contact the Parish Office staff by email, use: [office@grahamstowncathedral.org](mailto:office@grahamstowncathedral.org) (Administrator - Chantel) and [admin@grahamstowncathedral.org](mailto: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:**

**OUR CHURCH** We pray for Christians throughout the world as we enter into this season of Advent. May we be bold to witness the truth of the Gospel in the face of increasing opposition.

**OUR COUNTRY:** We pray for the six schools In Gauteng and Western Cape who will appear in the Supreme Court in Johannesburg this week on charges of practicing the Christian faith in their schools. We pray for the Judge and the Christian attorneys who will be representing them, that they may be guided through Godly intervention and wisdom. We pray that Christian teaching with its values and principles will not be allowed to be eliminated from our schools.

**OUR COMMUNITY:** As we begin these 16 days of activism against violence towards women and children, we pray for all who suffer abuse of any kind, and for those who live in fear of their lives. We pray for the evils of rape to be exposed; for courage to report these crimes; for police, medics, counsellors and all who care for survivors of abuse; and we pray that perpetrators will be brought to justice. We pray for our Rhodes students and all matriculants who will be leaving Grahamstown shortly.

**BIRTHDAYS:** 27<sup>th</sup> Dennis Mutesasira, 29<sup>th</sup> Leela Pienaar, 1<sup>st</sup> Tristyn Pienaar.

**PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER:** Nomakwezi, Kutala, Ziyanda, Akhona, Tandiwe, Nikilitha Gabavana; Singathwa Gqoboka; David Greybe and Kerry Jane Guttridge

**PARISHIONERS who are sick, convalescing, or with long-term illnesses:** Isabel and Ernest Bridger, Celia Jameson, Kerry-Jane Guttridge, Thelma Neville, Paul Pillay, Roger Embling Jane Bradshaw and Clive Whitford.

**FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill:** Steve Ashcroft, Cebisa, Michael Gainsborough, Jonty Nye (Claire's nephew), Jackie Shipster, Iviwe Tshabe, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Leah Tutu, Chris Walwyn, Wilber Burger Mpilo Nxingo, Judith Duk (Rev Claire's sister) and Mary Clare Tracey Craigen.

**Here are the Gospel readings for the coming week:**

Mon	28	Matthew 8:5-13	Thurs	01	Matthew 7:21-27
Tues	29	Luke 10:21-24	Fri	02	Matthew 9:27-31
Weds	30	Matthew 15:29-39	Sat	03	Matthew 9:35-10:1,5-8
Sun	04	Matthew 3:1-12	Psalm 72:1-7	Rom 15:4-13	Matthew 3: 1-12

**Services next Sunday – 04<sup>th</sup> Dec – Second Sunday Of Advent**

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion SAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	
09h30	Holy Communion AAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	
19h00	Taize Service		

**Dean's Letter – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

Dear Cathedral family,

I so enjoy this time of year, with the vivid and bright green leaves, watching the jacarandas starting to blossom and anticipating the purple-covered pavements and garden in a few weeks' time. I take such delight in simply watching the purple rain of flowers in the deanery garden!

Today is Advent Sunday, the start of the Church's liturgical year, a time of new beginnings, new possibilities – just like the season of spring. The season of Advent consists of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The word "Advent" means "coming", and the season is one in which we prepare ourselves not only for the coming of Christ at Bethlehem – we look backward to that event over 2000 years ago - but also a time to look forward to his promised coming again in power and glory at the end of time – and to be ready.

St John, in his vision of the last things, saw Christ "who is and who was and who is to come" (Revelation 1:8). *Saints and Seasons* puts it like this: "At Advent, the Church holds before our eyes the vision of him who has come, who will come, and who is coming, in the here and now, to individuals and nations in their moments of decision, to judge and to save." (pg 11).

Those are key words and key concepts for me. Not only do we look backward to the birth of Jesus, and forward to his coming; we also look around us with expectancy and open-ness to the coming of Christ in our daily lives, into our life as a nation, as a community. We are invited to look and see "with the eyes of our heart" to see and discern the move of the Holy Spirit, the presence of Christ, the gift of each moment – God present with us, inviting us into a place of opportunity, an attitude of hope, and new beginning. "It shall come to pass...that the mountain of the Lord shall be established... the people shall beat their swords into ploughshares... nation shall not lift up sword against nation..." (Isaiah 2:2-4). A vision of harmony and peace.

It means that in the face of despair and desolation, we are invited to have hope, to be hopeful, and to have the courage to stand up again and rebuild. That seems to be something that people do: when there has been a fire, or an earthquake, when our lives have been turned upside down by tragedy or change of circumstances, we do rally round and help one another to start afresh. It is also a God-given promise of God's grace and new beginnings.

Please pray for the right person (or combination of people) to be found to take our ministry of music and worship forward, in the position of Director of Music.

My love to you all

