

**GENERAL NOTICES**

**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. While our pledging barometer this month shows a marked improvement, 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.

**Confirmation applications for 2017:** Those wishing to be confirmed this year, are invited to complete a Confirmation Application Form (found at the back of the church or in the parish office) and hand it in to the Dean or one of the clergy. Classes will start in February 2017.

**Flower registry available for 2017.** Those who would wish to contribute flowers in memory of loved ones, etc.

**Revd Claire** will be on 'Compassionate leave' from 27 January-3 February. She will drive to Cape Town to offer post-operative support and practical help for her sister, Judith Duk, following her mastectomy.

**Children's Church:** During our 9.30am services, we offer a programme for our children. Revd Lunga Dongwana and team facilitates the isiXhosa group in St George's Hall. A student, Rosa Msweli facilitates the English group in the Choir Vestry. We are appealing for volunteers to assist particularly with the English group. Rosa is only available during university terms (she returns 19<sup>th</sup> Feb), and would value a team to share the responsibility. Teaching material and support is available! If you are willing to assist in this vital ministry, please contact Rev Claire or one of the clergy.

**Young Adults Connect Group:** If you're looking to deepen your faith with an academic background and understanding we're looking at starting a small bible study type group (Connect Group) to connect people, ideas, debates, difficult questions, study, reality and opinion. The idea is to bring and share a meal and dig into the nitty gritty of God as a reality. A space to ask questions and have them answered by passionate, well-studied people. Please contact Anna if you'd like to be part of it ([a.talbot@ru.ac.za](mailto:a.talbot@ru.ac.za)), or speak to Revd Claire.

**Readers for 2017:** if you would like to be part of the reading roster at 9.30am services during 2017 (young and old alike, previous and new readers welcome), please sign the list at the back of the church, or speak to Revd Claire. There will be training available for new readers.

**Series on Corinthians- Part 1:**

**15 Jan** – 1Cor 1:1-9, Interpreting the scriptures- The call to be Holy; - **Revd Claire**

**22 Jan** – 1Cor 1:10-17 & 3:1-9, 'Follow my leader! 'Divisions in the church; - **Revd Claire**

**29 Jan** – (07:30 only) 1Cor 1:18-31, Where is true wisdom to be found? ; - **Dean Andrew**

**5 Feb** – 1Cor 12:12-27, "But I'm just a baby toe!"; - **Dean Andrew**

One body, many parts: where do I fit in?

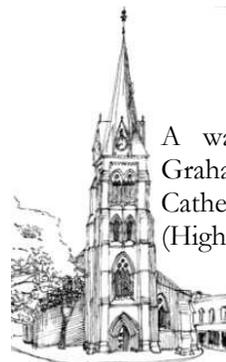
**12 Feb** – 1Cor 8:1-13, "Have you eaten food sacrificed to idols?"; - **Revd Claire**

“No, so what has this got to do with me?”

**19 Feb** – 1Cor 14:26-40, 'Women be silent in the churches! ; - **Revd Claire**

‘No place for women at worship?’

**Part 2 of series will resume from 16 July with more exciting topics to follow!**



**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.

**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017 Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion SAPB	Revd. Dr Claire Nye Hunter	Dean Andrew Hunter
09h30	Holy Communion AAPB	Revd. Dr Claire Nye Hunter	Sub Dean Mzinzi Dyantyi

**Today's meetings and events:**

Week 2 of our series from 1 Corinthians

Today's theme: "Follow my leader!" – Divisions in the church.

**This Week**

19 Jan	09h30	St Luke's Communion	Revd Dr Claire Nye Hunter
24 Jan	16h30	Exec Meeting in Cory Room	
25 Jan	10h00	Good Shepherd Opening Service	Sub Dean Mzinzi Dyantyi
25 Jan	17h30	PCC Meeting in Cory Room	

Evening Prayer	16h30	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays	
Holy Eucharist	07h00	Thursdays	

**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 Mzinzi 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@kingsleyemail.co.za <i>(day off: Friday)</i>

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

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

**Please join with us this week as we pray for:**

**OUR CHURCH:** We pray for the Christian community throughout the world, particularly the Anglican church of Southern Africa as we start a new year, for our diocesan clergy and their families, for the parish governance meetings this week. Help all in their own vocation to do your work more faithfully.

**OUR COUNTRY:** We pray for responsible and creative leadership particularly in all of our government departments. For the leaders of our land to promote social justice, true freedom and Peace for all people.

**OUR WORLD:** We pray for areas of unrest and conflict around the world. For the United States of America and the United Kingdom in times of transition. For amicable solutions in disputes between Russia and America, that you will direct the nations of the world in the way of justice and peace.

**OUR COMMUNITY:** We pray for all people in their daily life and work in our local community, for the young and elderly, for families, and all who are alone. We pray for your grace that we may serve Christ and love one another as he loves us.

**BIRTHDAYS:** 22<sup>nd</sup>, Avuyisiwe Mnandi, 23<sup>rd</sup> Singathwa Gqoboka, 24<sup>th</sup> Euline Bartis & Richard Brooks, 25<sup>th</sup> Kaede Bridger, 26<sup>th</sup> Anda Singanga, 27<sup>th</sup> Matthew Kellen, 28<sup>th</sup> Davidean Bridger.

**PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER:** Estrate Mandimika, Zoleka & Hlumela Maqwili, Lynette Marais, Melissa, Charlene, Veronique, Joan, Peter & Waldo Marcus.

**PARISHIONERS who are sick, or house bound:** Isabel and Ernest Bridger, Thelma Neville, Clive Whitford.

**FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill:** Jackie Shipster, Judith Duk (Rev Claire's sister), Michael Gainsborough.

*These names will remain for a month, unless requested otherwise.*

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

Mon	23	Mark 3:31-35	Thurs	26	Mark 4:21-25
Tues	24	Mark 4:1-9	Fri	27	Mark 4:26-34
Weds	25	Mark 10:46-52	Sat	28	Mark 4:35-41
Sun	29	Micah 6:1-8	Psalm 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12

**Services next Sunday – 29<sup>nd</sup> Jan – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	Holy Communion SAPB	Dean Andrew Hunter	
09h30	Back to school Sunday	Revd. David Stansbury	Dean Andrew Hunter

**Dean's Letter – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017:**

Dear Cathedral family,

Our love and prayers are with all Rhodes students who are in town this week, to write supps, or who chose to defer their exams from the end of last year. This is a demanding and stressful time. We welcome all returning students, and assure you all of our prayers for the months ahead. We also congratulate all those who were successful in their 2016 exams – school pupils, matrics, university and other tertiary level students – and wish you well in your plans for 2017. May the Lord be your strength and give you wisdom for all that lies ahead!

At a global level, our prayers are also with the people of the USA following the inauguration of Donald Trump as President. Unthinkable for many who are angry, filled with despair, and frightened by the rhetoric of division and rejection; welcomed by others who feel that the “American Dream” has passed them by. There has been intense debate and very strong opinions expressed on the decision by the Episcopal (Anglican) Cathedral in Washington, D.C., to allow their choir to sing at the inauguration this past Friday, and to host the inaugural prayer service yesterday.

Do we as a church stand for Gospel values of love, generosity, and care for the poor and the marginalized? Should we welcome someone (anyone) whose public life and statements are in direct rejection of these values and the faith we preach? Or do we have an open door policy, and use each and every opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and call all people to follow the Lord, and to be a community that shows and lives out the values of Jesus Christ?

What is our role as the church here in Grahamstown, in SA, as we continue to face national and regional challenges of governance, a ruling party in turmoil, and as the ANC begins the succession debate? The President of SA is not only the president of one or other party; he/she is the president for us all, and we all have a stake in who is elected. What is the role of the church in this debate? At this time?

Our Gospel reading for today (Matthew 4:12-23) is Jesus' call of his first disciples – Andrew and Peter, James and John – to follow him. In response to the Lord's call, they left their nets, their fishing, their livelihood, their families, and followed. The voice of the Lord who calls us into new paths, new life, new adventure, who invites us to be born again, to start afresh: this is God's call to you and me at the start of the New Year. The Collect for today says it all: “O God of new beginnings: give us courage to turn and joyfully follow you into new adventures of faithful service....” What might these new adventures be for you and me, in the months ahead? We wait and see with eager expectation! I believe that as we respond wholeheartedly to the Lord's call, He will lead us and open the doors.

My love to you all

*Andrew Hunter*