

RECTOR'S REPORT TO ANNUAL VESTRY 2015

INTRODUCTION

In today's Gospel reading we hear this affirmation of God's relationship with Jesus, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy" (Mark 1:11b; NLTse). This relationship was affirmed in last Sunday's Gospel reading, "This is my dearly loved Son. Listen to him" (Mark 9:7b; NLTse). These words, first heard at Jesus' baptism and repeated at Jesus' transfiguration, are key: they draw us into the relationship of love that is God. We are reminded that it is from this base of stable, loving relationship that Jesus ministered to his world; and it is in sharing in this relationship that we are called to live and minister in our world. Perhaps the greatest challenge of Faith is to truly accept that we are loved by God, and then to live out of and into that space. God's words, "Listen to him" are spoken in this context: we listen lovingly and carefully to God; we listen lovingly and caringly to each other; and we repent mightily when we realise that our self-interest has undermined these interactions.

We are amazingly blessed as a Church community here at St Andrew's. We are good people, caring people, loving people. We look outwards, and we generously share our resources far beyond our own boundaries. If we are not caring, it is of ourselves rather than of others, which was the key learning we made at our Vision Workshop in August. Thank you to each one of you for who you are, and for what you contribute to our common life; for your love for God, and for the multitude of ways you live that out both within the boundaries of Church life, and beyond in the fullness and chaos of your lives and communities.

I have sought to use this first year as your Rector as an opportunity to observe, to get a feel for the ebb and flow of Parish life. I am, however, an active observer, which means that there have been some incremental changes along the way, largely pragmatic and practical in nature. Radical change is normally only required in times of crisis and

breakdown, and we are a healthy community. But just because we are a healthy community does not mean that there are not areas of concern, and these do need to be addressed.

PARTNERSHIPS

One major area of concern for me is that we hold lightly the responsibilities God has given us for our Bishop and his family, and for the Kildare Pre-Primary School; and it has taken the building project to highlight this. Both relationships go back close on fifty years, a lifetime for a person such as myself. Strangely, in a number of conversations over this last year the perception I get is that these two relationships are considered a hindrance - rather than a blessing - to us as a community. Instead of asking how we can be supportive of the Bishop of Table Bay, his ministry and family, we are praying for the return of the house to Parish use, with an underlying implication that Diocesan use of that facility is somehow illegitimate. Instead of seeing the school as a partner in mission, we appear to see them largely in transactional terms, somehow begrudging the fact that a facility built in the 1950's to house a school for a poorer community now houses a school for the wealthy, when in fact it still serves the community that surrounds it. In both cases I believe we are putting self-interest ahead of the Gospel. My only concern is in how we can nurture both these relationships, not end them.

It is important to note that living in Newlands gives the Bishop easy access to the Diocese as a whole, and with all the pressures of



From our Registers

DIED

5 February 2015

Edward Steyn Rivett-Carnac

MARRIED

28 February

Christoff de Wet &
Dominique Crabtree

BAPTISM

21 December 2014

Daniel Rode
Luke Costa

15 February 2015

Rebecca Cowie

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

29 MARCH PALM SUNDAY

8.30am Holy Eucharist followed by
shared breakfast

6.30pm Evening Eucharist

2 APRIL MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm Holy Eucharist, washing of feet

3 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY

10am Children's Service

12 noon Three hour devotions

5 APRIL EASTER DAY

6.30am Service of Light, Holy Eucharist

9.00am Holy Eucharist

Episcopal ministry this centrality is important and life-giving. The Diocese has recognised this and has substantially invested in the house over time. In terms of the school, church and school are interwoven in the wider Newlands community perception, and we under-appreciate this at our own risk! We have this link to thank for the involvement over the years of numerous families in our church life, of whom Debbie and Rob Coombes and their family, amongst others, are a present example.

ANNUAL VESTRY 2014: ACTIONS TAKEN

OUR BUILDING PROJECT

The Building Committee has worked hard to produce the results asked of them at our 2014 Annual Vestry Meeting, and we will receive a full report from them. I hope that their presentation and recommendations will receive our full support. What the committee will be proposing to us really is the only option if we are to take our responsibilities for our partnership with the Diocese and the School seriously, and still provide for our own needs as a Church community. A perennial question that arises in any Church community seeking to build often revolves around asking how we can possibly be considering spending money on ourselves when the needs "out there" are so pervasive and immense; and we are no different. However, there is a difference between self-interest and legitimate self-need, and sadly in the Christian community we often ignore legitimate self-need and in the process undermine our ability to meet the challenges of the Gospel.

We are not a community that suffers overly from self-interest when it comes to sharing our resources: through the Ministry to the Needy (MTN) we have given away R5,000,000 over the last ten years. That is not insignificant, and is substantially more than a tithe on what the Building Committee is proposing we spend on getting our facilities up to scratch for our needs as a Church community in this part of Cape Town. Our present facilities have served us well over the years, but our needs have changed and our commitments have grown; we need to spend substantial money to modernise, upgrade, and extend our facilities in order to make them more user-friendly and accessible to ourselves and to the wider community. The project is daunting on a number of levels, but that should not be our primary concern in moving forward on this project for which we already have a seed fund of R2,000,000 invested with the Diocese. We need to

draw on the example of our forebears in the 1890's who had the courage to build this church with no less daunting financial costs, comparatively, and with a far poorer community-base than we have today.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

At our Annual Vestry last year the ongoing use of the South African Book of Common Prayer (SAPB) was queried, and Parish Council was asked to reflect and make some decisions around this. Council made the decision to use the Anglican Prayer Book 1989 (APB '89) for the early morning Christmas Day Eucharist, but on my request has delayed a decision on possible changes to the Sunday 07:30 and Wednesday 09.30 Services. This is in part due to my needing time to get a feel for the worship life of the Parish, but also in needing this to be addressed in the broader frame-work of service times, hymn choices, and the purpose our various opportunities for worship offer. In the next short while you will receive a survey sheet in this regard, which I encourage you please to fill in and return. Additionally, Synod of Bishops' have indicated that experimental material will soon be made available as part of a revision of the APB '89, which will add further pressure to move away from the SAPB, and to begin to consider the APB '89 as the "Old Prayer Book".

YOUTH MINISTRY

Also at last year's Annual Vestry, concern was raised about our ministry in particular to Teenagers. It is a phenomenon in many Anglican Churches that a new Rector is expected to miraculously have answers to the chronic issue affecting many wealthy suburban Churches of traditional origin. There are no miraculous answers. Our young people, generally, are in schools that demand the bulk of our children's time, have parents that fill the rest of their time with extra (beneficial) activities, and whose options for entertainment are multitude; and they find the forms of more traditional worship we offer boring in the extreme. Despite these almost insurmountable obstacles we have made some headway to retain our small group of Grade 8 and 9's, largely though the efforts of William Tough in creating a "Teen Church" group that has some definition distinguishing them as different from the bigger Children's Church; and they are showing some interest in forming a Servers' Guild. We have also instituted a regular family-focused evening service that draws families with

teenagers and young adults together on an approximate monthly basis, which is valued, but still needs some work on the recipe. We must, however, be doing something right as the St Cyprian's School boarders have elected to join us on a weekly basis at our Sunday evening service. They will review this after Easter, but in the meantime they are a definite value-add in more than just the additional numbers they bring to our attendance figures!

MINISTRY

LAYMINISTRY

Our Layministers have recently undergone further training at Archdeaconry level and have been re-licensed by Bishop Garth at a joint service at St Paul's, Rondebosch. We welcome Dawn Long as a valuable new member of the team, and congratulate Jill, Edgar, Rosemary, Graham and Margie, William, Bev, Sheena, Denise, Ivor, Tony, and Jenny, on their re-licensing as Layministers. Alison's circumstances conspired to prohibit her from attending the training, but as her license is still valid for another year this was no problem. Daphne Myburgh and Steve Bethke have made the difficult decision not to renew their licenses; Daphne for health and family reasons, and Steve due to his studies and move to Brakenfell. We are thankful to them both for their contribution to our worship and pastoral life over an extended period of time. Edgar Ruiters and Bev Voigt have both asked for a period of Sabbatical, which Council has agreed to; please keep them both in prayer. Thank you to each of our Layministers for honouring the call on your lives, and for being of service to us all at St Andrew's. I also take this opportunity on behalf of Vestry to congratulate Denise Ackermann on her appointment and licensing as Canon Theologian of the Cathedral.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Despite a seemingly large group of Layministers, staffing three services a Sunday is proving difficult, and we are in need of additional members. If you feel called to this ministry, or perhaps to helping out with just the prayers, please speak up. This goes for other ministries, too: we are always needing to complement the present group of readers, sides-people, tea-makers and providers, Children's Church teachers, soup-makers, flower-arrangers, pray'ers, sacristans, servers, and youth, small groups, and our annual Morning Market. Please don't wait to be asked: offer! Please feel free to chat to me, to Bev-in-the-office, or to someone already involved in the area

you are interested in. And at this point my huge thanks to everyone already involved in facilitating or participating in these ministries.

WORSHIP

My thanks to Bishop Geoff for his ongoing commitment to be with us to preach and preside on the 1st Sunday of the month and his input into a number of our small groups, and to Denise for her willingness to preach on a regular basis; and to them both for their ongoing commitment to our Lent Course. There is great value in having more than just the Rector's voice speaking into our common life, and I am hugely appreciative of their contribution. My thanks, too, to Elizabeth Cherry in particular for being willing to step into the gap in my absence. It has also been good to have previous Rectors of this Parish, Keith Griffiths and Mike Keggie, take services during this last year. Our Sunday worship has been complemented by regular Quiet Mornings, and I am appreciative of Rosemary's continuing to champion these as part of our membership of the Quiet Garden movement. Sadly, our Taize Services have fallen away for 2015, but my huge thanks to Esther and Karin for giving leadership to this over a number of years. We are hoping to offer some form of more reflective worship at the Sunday evening service when there is a 5th Sunday in the month.

MISSION AND VISION

In our August "Vision Workshop" we took time to reflect on our purpose as a Christian and Anglican community here in Newlands. It was a useful morning, highlighting that we have been somewhat self-forgetting as a community, and that while we reach out meaningfully to the wider community of Cape Town through our MTN programme, we need to become more conscious of caring for and loving each other; and as mentioned above, a modernised, upgraded and extended hall and meeting facilities would enhance our ability to do this. Out of this meeting came the tag-line "Serving each other; serving the world." This is a first step towards renewing our mission and vision statements; and I am planning for us to explore this further on our Church Camp in March. We are also needing to explore how we can become more hands-on and personally involved in the projects and needs we support through the MTN programme.

CLOSURE

In closing, firstly my thanks to my wife, Dawn: being a clergy spouse is never an easy space for a variety of reasons, and it is often difficult to "belong" in the same way the average parishioner "belongs" in parish life; and being married to a community-owned person often makes sustained intimacy a distant goal. In addition, she has the added burden of being married to me, which is not quite as idyllic as you may suppose. I am an introvert by nature, and Dawn often has the daunting task of coping with me in my "down time", where I can be distant, uncommunicative, and grumpy. I greatly appreciate her ongoing and sacrificial support of my ministry.

Secondly, my thanks to Bev Shaw, our Parish secretary. Bev has an amazing supply of patience and friendliness. Particularly amazing is her inner-resources in coping with the impact of the Morning Market on her office space! Additionally, she has the challenge of coping with my often distracted attention and seeming indecision, not to mention the family dogs! And then of course, there is the small matter of the rest of the Parish ...

Thirdly, my thanks to our out-going Churchwardens, Simon, William and David, and our Council members: thank you so much for your time, your commitment, support, and wise advice, your gifts of insight and practical help, often at cost to your own pocket. Special thanks to Noël Peagam who steps down as Dedicated Giving Coordinator and Honorary Treasurer after over ten years of substantial service to the Parish in this capacity. It is noteworthy that Council is appointing three people in Noël's place! Thanks, too, to Raymond for his facilitation of our Youth activities; to Mark and Jos for our Sunday morning music; to Steve and Andrew and our Sunday evening music teams; to Margie Barnard for overseeing our beautiful gardens; and to our garden and domestic staff, Wanda and Mombelli.

Finally, thanks to you all. You are St Andrew's: without each one of you we would not be the vibrant and healthy community we are today. Thank you for "Listening to him" (Mark 9:7b; NLTse), for being available to God's purposes for God's kingdom as God continues to work out those purposes in us and through us here at St Andrew's in Newlands.

Mark Long

*You are sending us to Jerusalem,
Lord Jesus... To speak the truth.*

We live in the age of lies
deceitful leaders
whose falsehoods of avarice
lead to death and destruction
fabricators of beauty
whose charm is all shine
and no substance.

Give us courage to challenge
lies with truth
lessons of life and servant hood
humbleness and honor.

**You are sending us to Jerusalem, Lord Jesus
To love the poor.**

We live in a time of want
children without food
families without homes
abuse victims without shelters
prisoners without hope.

Give us the desire to fill empty bellies with food
provide shelters from the streets
and the violence
grant redemption and atonement
for detainees.

**You are sending us to Jerusalem, Lord Jesus
To work for peace.**

We live in an age of war
bombs falling and drones flying
over enemy and friend
soldiers marching off to combat
returning with missing limbs
and lost lives.

Give us the strength to be peacemakers
to turn guns into shovels
hatred of the enemy
into love for sisters and brothers
to care for the widows and orphans
comfort for Johnny and Jane
when they come marching home.

**You are sending us to Jerusalem, Lord Jesus
To help build the Kingdom of God.**

We live in the Empire of Man
Cities built on the dreams of the few
and the enslavement of the many
realms where tyranny and terror govern
unions defended behind walls
of greed and shame.

Give us the vision to build the Beloved Community
where we are judged
by the character of our mercy
a time of Shalom where everyone
will bathe in justice and harmony
moments of Anticipation
awaiting for the New Jerusalem
to descend upon us.

Hold our hand, Lord Jesus
As we march with you to Jerusalem.

AMEN.

Submitted by Daphne Myburgh

WHAT IS PSYCHOTHERAPY & HOW DOES IT WORK?

If one looks at the origin of the words psychotherapy and psychotherapist, one already has a good idea of what psychotherapy is all about. Taken from the Greek words psukhē (breath, life, soul), therapeia (service, treatment) and therapeuein (to take care of, to heal), psychotherapy involves developing a relationship between a psychotherapist (one who cares) and her/his client or patient (one who suffers). It is this relationship of growing trust, in which one feels unconditionally accepted and understood, which provides a safe space to be vulnerable and explore whatever it is that is causing distress, worry or anxiety.

A psychotherapist is a psychologist or social worker who has had extra training to work therapeutically with people; so one talks of a clinical or counselling psychologist and a clinical social worker. Clinical psychologists and social workers are not allowed to prescribe medicine, e.g. for depression or anxiety; for this one should be referred to a psychiatrist, who is a medical doctor specialising in psychiatry.

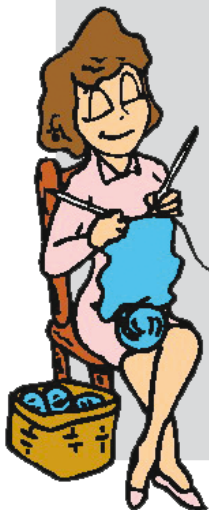
There are a number of different treatment methods used in psychotherapy, and psychotherapists will tend to use those in which they were trained or which feel most comfortable for them to use. Many psychotherapists are quite eclectic in their choice of method. At the risk of oversimplifying, these methods range from psychoanalytic psychotherapy (sometimes also spoken of as psychodynamic or depth psychotherapy) through

varying types of dynamic psychotherapy to gestalt and cognitive behavioural therapy and more supportive counselling. All seek at some level to understand why one thinks and behaves the way one does, particularly in relationships with the people in one's life. But psychodynamic psychotherapists are interested in the origins and development of one's thoughts and behaviour, which often stem from early childhood experiences, and so help their clients/patients understand themselves through an in depth exploration of their lives and relationship patterns, while cognitive behaviour therapists and other less psychodynamic therapists are more interested in the here and now and helping their clients change unhelpful or negative ways of thinking into more constructive ways and hence into more constructive ways of behaving. However, as we all probably realise, distressful situations do not usually change overnight, and regardless of the treatment method, the number of sessions can range from short-term (6 weeks to 6 months) to long-term (6 months and longer).

Unfortunately, there still seems to be some sort of stigma attached to going to see a psychologist, perhaps because there are those who think it's only for people with serious mental illnesses, or who are mentally and emotionally unsound or unstable, i.e. where the problem/illness lies within the person themselves. But psychotherapy is much more than that. It's never about blaming or

judging the individual, but seeing the person's difficulties within her or his context (family, community, society, etc.). It's about accepting and respecting the client, and the therapist and client working together to figure out what the difficulty or the unhappiness is all about.

Finally, some may feel that Christians should not need to go to a psychologist (God is the great healer), and that psychology anyway has been known to be anti-religion. But what fascinates me, as a psychologist and person of faith, are the similarities between psychotherapy (particularly depth psychology) and spirituality. Both believe in the wisdom of knowing yourself, of becoming aware of your strengths and vulnerabilities and of accepting yourself as lovable and loving. Both put an emphasis on healing relationships – learning how to be in right relationship with yourself, with others, and with the world. Spirituality of course adds, importantly, being in right relationship with God. Both see wholeness as the integration of mind (our rational self), body (our physical self), heart (our emotional self) and soul (our spiritual self/psyche). One might think of psychotherapy as a secular form of pastoral counselling or spiritual direction, rather than being in direct conflict with faith-based counselling. In fact, experiencing psychotherapy and spiritual direction together can be most amazing in one's development and growth towards wholeness. Try it!
Ilse Ahrends, 082 661 8415



JERSEY SUNDAY 22 MARCH

Years ago St Andrew's Ladies Guild started knitting warm jerseys for underprivileged children from the ages of 2yrs to 6 yrs. Since then this has grown to collecting clothes, knee rugs, jerseys, beanie hats etc which are distributed to different needy folk by the Mission to the Needy team. Over and above the St. Andrew's knitters have lovingly knitted V-necked school jerseys in various school colours. Each one knitted with love and a prayer for the child who will one day wear it. These jerseys will be distributed through the Care For Kids program of the Warehouse Trust.

Will all knitters please endeavour to deliver your jerseys before Sunday 22nd March and hand them to Bev in the office or you can bring them to church on a Sunday and hand them to the sidespeople on duty. On Saturday, 21st March all the jerseys etc both new and second-hand will be displayed in the Church so that they may be blessed on Sunday the 22nd March. With winter around the corner we look forward to your usual support for this worthwhile project.

Dawn Jager, 021-250 0526, 072 744 4056

LAY MINISTERS

TRAINING DAY & RE-LICENSING: 7 FEBRUARY 2015

Working as a Parish Lay Minister requires much commitment and brings great fulfillment as one assists the communication of public worship and the administration of the Chalice to many people.

However there are times when Lay Ministers can feel tired, harassed and a spent force.

So mindful of this knowledge the Diocese of Table Bay has instituted a programme of ongoing training for Lay ministers and an agreement that Lay Ministers are only licensed for three years at a time, and licences will have to be renewed accordingly. The programme also helps Lay Ministers recognize their vocation and provides standard training before licensing and ongoing training thereafter.

Consequently on the 7 February 2015, all Lay Ministers in the Archdeaconry of Rondebosch met at St Paul's Church for a day of Training followed by a Re-Licensing Service in the late afternoon with the Bishop of Table Bay.

On entering the very full and lively hall, it felt good to meet together with so many from the Archdiocese and one certainly got the feeling that one did not labour alone in the Lord's Vineyard.

The morning was given over to basic Christian counseling skills, with Rev. Terry Wilkie, the Chaplain of Bishops, and a practicing psychologist.

Listening compassionately with Christ's ears was the key, as well as being honest and knowing just what one can do is important, and being able to judge what constitutes one's Christian obligations.

The conduct of home and hospital visits was also discussed.

It is always good to be made to think about these things as much of this communication can take place at any time in our daily lives not just in a formal counseling session.

The very hot afternoon session (no air con in old church halls!) was given over to worship and the various components that go into making the worship service.

Viz. The Gathering rite, Praise, Penitence, the Word, Intercessions, the Eucharist, the Thanksgiving and the Departure.

We dealt with various practical issues of communication using the Prayer Book, the Lectionary and preparing oneself for services.

At the end of the session each group prepared a section of the Evening Prayer Service, which was then said as Bishop Garth re-licensed each of us for another three years of Service. Each Lay Minister was given a medallion to wear on duty, which marks our special status as Eucharistic Ministers. The Maroon Ribbon indicates the Diocese of Table Bay.

Rosemary Wallace

"We pray that we are faithful in the work we do, for through it the Lord saves his people."

FROM DOWN UNDER...

The container ship set sail from Sydney harbour on 7th October 2014, arriving in South Africa a short while ago, with a parcel of woollen booties, various sized jerseys and knitted caps from our kind "St Aloysius Knitting Friends" from Ballarat, Australia destined for distribution amongst our "under-privileged Littlies". What a heart-warming surprise for 2015 and much appreciated by us all.

"Jersey Sunday" is not far off & Dawn Jager (in charge of St Andrew's Knitting Group) is wanting again to include the Australian contributions with St Andrews display of jerseys, to enable parishioners and visitors to also see the generosity and capabilities of the Australian knitters. All the garments will be blessed by Rev'd Mark Long during the service and thereafter the "St Aloysius knitted garments" will be distributed by Beverley Hendricks to Fikelela HIV/AIDS for the Diocese of Cape Town.

Margi Barnard



THE ST ANDREWS AMBLERS

We usually meet on the last Sunday of the month, but there are exceptions, so please read the pew leaflet before showing up. We meet in the church car park, at 2.30. From there, we get into as few cars as possible and drive to park near the subway, which gets you out on the other side at the forest station. If we are feeling very energetic, we might walk from the church. The parking lot at the forest station is usually very full at that time, but if you prefer to meet us there, please let me know beforehand, so that we don't miss one another.

The walks last about two hours, and follow some of the many paths in the forest. The highest we may go is the contour path. I usually decide on which route to take only when we start. I also like to occasionally point out some of our indigenous trees or something about our surroundings which might be interesting. We have a very nice group of regulars, but always welcome new members.

The only thing that has changed lately is that you now need a permit from the Table Mountain National Park to walk your dog in the forest, and have to follow the rules about leashes etc. Failure to do so may result in a fine. We do allow dogs on our Ambles, but reserve the right to change our minds if there is a problem.

We are affiliated with the Christian Hiking Network, which organises hikes in various places, local and also further afield. Members from other churches regularly join us too. You can contact me for further details. I hope to see you on one of our walks soon.

Stephanie Saunders

ST PATRICK & THE CHURCH OF IRELAND



17TH MARCH is the day on which we and the Irish commemorate Patrick, bishop and patron saint of the fifth century Irish Church. He travelled widely in his very successful missionary efforts to convert the heathen of Ireland.

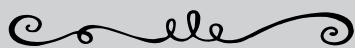
The Irish Church from Patrick's time remained independent for over 700 years, until the Pope commissioned Henry II to conquer Ireland and establish the jurisdiction of the Roman Church; so that in 1172 the Church of Ireland adapted a resolution that "all sacred offices be henceforth performed everywhere in Ireland according to the usages of Holy Church as observed by the Church of England."

At the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century most of the Church accepted the reformed faith, but owing to poor leadership and the political struggle against England, the Roman Catholic missionaries had little difficulty in winning back the allegiance of the vast majority of people. In the end the Church of Ireland became the church with only one eighth of the total population, and has apparently remained so ever since, at least in the Republic of Ireland. Once again then the Church of Ireland regained its independence, this time from the C of E but remaining within the fold of Canterbury rather than of Rome. The see of the Anglican Archbishop of All Ireland is based in Armagh, and probably founded by St Patrick. It is a city of great antiquity within the border of Northern Ireland.

Pray that we, and all people in Ireland descended in the faith as they all are from Patrick their founding bishop, might come to share this Easter vision from St Patrick's Breastplate:

I arise today through the strength of Christ's birth and baptism. I arise today through the strength of Christ's crucifixion and burial. I arise today through the strength of his resurrection and ascension.

Ivor Jardine



SOME INVITATIONS FROM THE QUIET GARDENS IN THE WESTERN CAPE, WHICH HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO ST ANDREW'S.

All are welcome to accept them.

The Cottage Garden of Prayer and Serenity in Bothasig

meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9.30 – 12.30.

Contact: Sandy Sieborger 021 559-2248 or 072 393 - 0628

The Church Haven Quiet Garden, West Coast National Park,

meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

From 10.00 – 14.30 when the Eucharist is celebrated.

If you notify them of your Vehicle registration Number you will get free entry to the park.

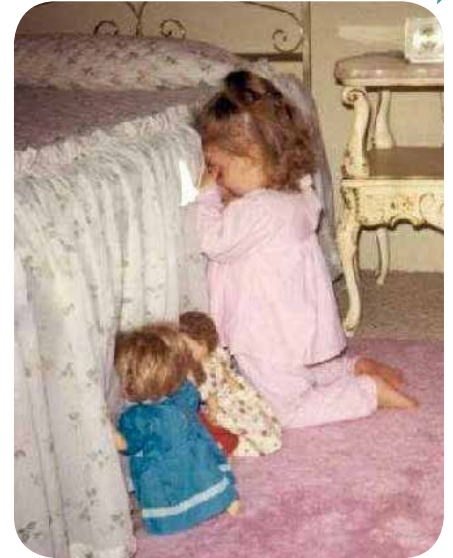
Contact: Rev. Ann Currie. ann@intaba-sa.co.za

Keep in mind for a Spring Flower Visit! Swimming in the Lagoon is also available



Matthew 18:20

FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM... DOES THIS COUNT?



Submitted by Moira le Cordeur

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, THE GLADE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The Gardens are now being tidied up with plants moved and others added, trying where possible, to grow more water-wise plants, yet still keeping the peaceful shades – pinks, blues, mauves & whites; as well as having plants to attract butterflies & God's other tiny creatures, these plants being the "scabiosa" species.

With the Glade established several years ago, one must thank John Bassett, who since then, is a familiar figure on Fridays, watering numerous pots in the Glade & in other areas when needed. His reliability over the years has been and is still much appreciated.

Similarly, Eric, a labourer/gardener, who with Yusuf (at nursery school) were involved with the late Graham van Litsenborgh (a parishioner and responsible for maintenance) in the building work of the Glade. Eric often helps wherever needed in the gardens and his quiet manner and the pride with which he works, makes him easy to work with.

Margi Barnard

THIS POEM WAS INSPIRED BY THE TALK GIVEN BY REV ERICA MURRAY AND TIME SPENT WITH GOD WHILE IN THE BEAUTIFUL CHURCH AND GROUNDS AT ST ANDREWS ON THE 14TH FEBRUARY 2015, MAY THIS ALWAYS BE A REMINDER OF THE QUIET GARDEN MORNING THAT WE SHARED TOGETHER.

A feather Lord in your hands
To blow freely all over the land
Where would you deposit me
If I accepted the freedom just to be

Sitting here in the grounds of this old church
Feeling your presence makes my heart lurch
How many people have walked on these grounds
What a place of worship they have found

I feel the wind on my face
Am I am in awe of your grace
Your beauty that surrounds us
It reminds me not to fuss

To find your peace and love
That can only come from above
Thank you Lord for your whisper in my ear
That I am your beloved and you are always near

We are all feathers held by the breath of God
Lord it's like we are still seeds in a pod
Waiting to be watered to grow and flourish
Going into the world by your word we are nourished

So let your wind blow Lord
And as feathers we shall live more
In the breeze of life with compassion and love
Much joy and kindness forever being adored

Natalie-Ann Cochrane



PARISH DIARY

MARCH

Tues 17	Lent Course Week 4 7.30pm
Thurs 19	Morning Market Convener's Meeting 7.30pm
Sat 21	HUMAN RIGHTS DAY Wedding – Winston Gliiddon & Vera-May Holland 2.00pm
Sun 22	JERSEY SUNDAY
Tues 24	Lent Course Week 5 7.30pm
Thurs 26	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Sun 29	PALM SUNDAY 8.30am & 6.30pm services St Andrew's Amble 2.30pm
Tues 31	Lent Course Week 6 7.30pm

APRIL

Thurs 2	MAUNDY THURSDAY
Fri 3	GOOD FRIDAY
Fri 10	Wedding – Alfred Mukudu & Tatenda Mutsekwa 1.30pm
Sat 11	Wedding – James de Knoop & Clare Watling 10.30am
Tues 14	Marriage Course Week 1 7.00pm
Sat 18	Wedding – Darren Robertson & Loren Sidman 4.00pm
Tues 21	Marriage Course Week 2 7.00pm
Sun 26	St Andrew's Amble 2.30pm
Mon 27	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - FREEDOM DAY
Tues 28	Marriage Course Week 3 7.00pm
Thurs 30	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

MAY

Fri 1	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – WORKER'S DAY
Tues 5	Marriage Course Week 4 7.00pm
Thurs 7	Lay Minister's Meeting 7.30pm
Thurs 14	Ascension Day 7.00pm
Sat 16	Quiet Morning 9.00/9.30am – 12.30pm
Tues 19	Marriage Course Week 6 7.00pm
Sun 24	PENTECOST SUNDAY
Tues 26	Marriage Course Week 7 7.00pm
Thurs 28	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Sun 31	St Andrew's Amble 2.30pm

JUNE

Thurs 4	Lay Minister's Meeting 7.30pm
Sat 6	Love Packs 10.00am
Tues 16	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - YOUTH DAY
Thurs 25	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Sun 28	St Andrew's Amble 2.30pm

WOULD YOU LIKE HELP TO RECOVER FROM AN UNPLEASANT OR TRAUMATIC EVENT?

Marion Nixon, a trained trauma recovery practitioner, can help you. There is no charge for the first consultation. Marion has twenty years' experience in natural health. Her passion is to help people put their lives back on track. She has a particular concern for those who have experienced trauma. Help your body restore its innate healing processes through Marion's skilled touch and compassionate listening. In addition to Cranio-Sacral Therapy she practises Aromatherapy, Emotional Freedom Technique, Mastertouch chair massage, and teaches Shiatsu. 021-6965857
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“Many folks want to serve God,
But only as advisers”

“The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.”

Holy Humor


Q: Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?


A: Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

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