



DIOCESE OF THE HIGHVELD

DIOCESAN, PARISH AND CLERGY NEWS

for

WEDNESDAY – 24th APRIL 2019

Mission of the Diocese of the Highveld

To be a unified Diocese where the spiritual growth of an increasing number of people is fulfilled through experiencing the fullness of God

BISHOP'S DIARY

Day	Date	Time		Venue
	23-28		Bishop on leave	
Sat	4th	08h30	Ekurhuleni training	St Phillips Thokoza
Sun	5th	08h30 15h30	St Andrew's (C) Synod Adv Committee	Kwa Thema
Mon	6th	14h00 17h30	Opening Eucharist HABSR BOD	SDC
Tues	7th	10h30	Theological Board Diocesan Counselling Board	
Frid	10th	10h00	JIF meeting	
Sat	11th	09h00 14h30	St Agnes Guild Eucharist Institution of Fr Khanye	Delmas Kempton Park
Sun	12th	08h00	St Vincent p/v	Reiger Park

Gazette:

- **Ekurhuleni Training:** All Clergy, Churchwardens and Council members are expected to attend the training on Saturday 4th May at St Phillips, Thokoza beginning at 08h30 with morning prayer and finishing at about 13h00. Please let the office have numbers by Thursday 2nd May for catering purposes.
- As we bid farewell to Fr Malcolm Chalmers, we give thanks to God for the contribution Fr Malcolm made to the Diocese especially with regard to music. We wish you and Janet well and hope you will find much joy in your new Diocese in England.
- **Food Bank:** Just a reminder to parishes of the ongoing collection of non-perishable food for the food bank at the Diocese, especially when the Bishop visits the parish for Confirmation or for a pastoral visit.
- **The College of Human Sciences at UNISA** which houses the biggest departments of theology in the Southern Hemisphere hereby invite you to a one day summit to reflect on:
 1. theological training today and
 2. the prophetic voice in South Africa today.We would appreciate it if you would accept our invitation and take part in the summit.
See attached invitation and please let Bishop know if you would like to attend.

- **Happening/Vocare AGM** will be taking place in the Happening/Vocare Room at the Cathedral. The meeting will be at 12:00 on the 12th of May. See attached notices re Vocare weekend 28-30th June.
- **Week of prayer for Christian Unity:** 30th May – 9th June
- **The College of Transfiguration** will be hosting a Clergy and Lay person's spring school from the 11th – 14th Sept 2019. See attached notices.
- **Diocesan Counselling Board:** there are no counselling courses scheduled for 2019. However, interested persons can give their names to the Bishop's secretary and, should there be enough people to warrant a course, then such courses will be arranged and advertised accordingly. Names can be submitted with immediate effect.
- The Cathedral Music Foundation is very pleased to announce **Sing for Joy 2019**. The theme this year is 'Egypt'. All singers from the whole Diocese are warmly invited to take part in this annual musical event which this year will be directed jointly by **Japhta Luphuzi** and **Robert Strijdom**. Rehearsals at the Cathedral:
Saturday 13 and 27 April 09h00-12h00 Saturday 4 and 11 May 09h00-12h00
Saturday 18 and 25 May 09h00-12h00 Friday 31 May 18h00-20h30
Saturday 1 June afternoon & evening performances
- **Ministerial Practice Declaration:** all those in the parish who hold office should fill in the form to be kept on file in the parish
- **Diocesan Youth Indemnity Form:** All people in charge of young people's ministry, groups or organisations, are reminded by the PYC and the Diocese to:
 - get the permission of the Rector/Priest in Charge to transport youth especially those 18 years and under
 - complete the Diocesan Indemnity forms and hand over to Churchwardens; and
 - send a list of those young people to the Bishop's office prior to the trip/journey. This is to protect all those in youth ministry. Failure to do so becomes your own liability.
- **From the Administrator's desk:**
- **Unidentified Items:**
The following deposit has been made with no proper reference:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reference</u>
23/10/2018	R660.00	CHURCH CHOIR
26/10/2018	R700.00	CASH
02/03/2019	R250.00	CASH - LUNGISWAMGEDLE

- **Bookings for Diocesan Venues:** Please note that the Diocesan Administration Offices and facilities are normally open from 08:30am until 16:00pm from Monday to Thursday and from 08:30am until 13:00pm on a Friday. **For security reasons, no access to the property or the facilities will be allowed outside of these times unless proper arrangements have been made.**

Please note that **all** after hour's use of the Diocesan facilities for meetings must be booked through the **Administrator's Office**. Please use the correct booking forms for this purpose.

- Saturday meetings must please be completed by **3pm** and any car-guard must be arranged privately at your own cost.
- Access will not be granted if proper bookings are not done.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

N.B. – no bookings on a Sunday as the campus is closed on Sundays

➤ **From the Library:** Andrew Greeley wrote: *The Persistence of Religion* and it was published in 1973 which is over fifty years ago but it is an interesting read.

Against the widespread and fashionable statements about the secular nature of the present religious situation, Dr Greeley argues that man's basic religious needs and basic religious functions have not changed very notably since the late Ice Age; what changes have occurred make religious questions more critical rather than less critical. He examines the sources of the conventional wisdom about our 'secular world' and sets out to show that its errors are rooted in inadequate assumptions about modern society; in subsequent chapters he looks at the connection between religion and basic human needs: sex, ethics, the community, the sacred. He is no dyed-in-the-wool reactionary: he believes that if religion has survived it is not because of the churches but despite them; but he refuses to take as normative the experiences of the most highly educated, leaving aside the rest of society.

Harvey Cox writes: 'A very readable, ambitious, persuasive and telling book. What it does is to provide a wider, more comprehensive and therefore more adequate and sensible picture into which to place a lot of undeniable facts that fashionable theories don't take into consideration. The book shows that a sociologist doesn't have to confine his reading to graphs and interviews, that good empirical field studies and good history and philosophy can be woven together'. [260 GRE]

As a deacon or a priest counselling needs to be done prayerfully. Nancy Kohner and Alix Henley have written *When a Baby dies: The Experience of Late Miscarriages, Still and Neonatal Death*. The two authors are from the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society (SANDS) and are experienced counsellors for the parents who have gone through this experience. About 66% of the book covers the emotional feelings about the death of their baby, whether in the uterus, or a live birth or a baby who died a few days later. They concluded in the majority of cases this is a lifetime of suffering. In fact, this is from the stories given years after the infant's death. This compassionate book offers insight and information for all parents whose babies have died, their families and friends, and professionals who care for them. The book contains valuable information about:

- Why a baby dies
- Hospital practices
- The process of grieving
- Sources of support
- The care parents need in future pregnancies.

[253 KOH]

➤ **Birthdays:** Happy birthday to:

24 th	Vatiswa Ndaba	24 th	Zamokuhle Sithole
30 th	Nomawushe Barnabas		