



DIOCESE OF THE HIGHVELD

DIOCESAN, PARISH AND CLERGY NEWS

for

WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY 2020

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

Gazette:

- **A Requiem Mass** for the late Fr John Futter will be celebrated on Thursday 23rd July at 11.30 at Holy Trinity Church in Hillcrest, KZN and when Anne is able to return safely to Germiston a memorial service will be held at St Boniface Germiston.
- **From the Bishop:** We have seen the increase in people who are infected and dying of COVID-19 related illness. I encourage you to stand alongside the families. We are all vulnerable and totally dependent on the will of God and other people.

We need as a Church to share God's love with one another in this crisis, especially those in need. The church is not a building - it's a community of people who love Jesus and love one another. The questions are: How can we help those who have been unable to comfort their dying relatives? What can we do to accompany them through their grief?

I would like to thank clergy who have been present to families during their difficult time and exercising their pastoral ministry. We know that none of us is immune to COVID-19, including the clergy. Thank you very much for the ministry you are doing in the communities.

This is a time to continue to be fervent in prayer and to fast. We thank all who have been praying for the diocese and for all those infected and the families of those who succumb to COVID-19. There are people in quarantine and isolation. There is an abnormal fear, panic, anxiety and sense of hopelessness. This is a time of untold pain and suffering, we need to be united in prayer and support for each other.

As Christians, we turn to God in times of fear and uncertainty as we do in times of joy and celebration. If there are people who would like to share prayers that we can use as a diocese to be connected at this time, they are welcome. This is one that I have prepared:

"Lord Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth, You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and situations of physical, mental and spiritual ailments.

Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors, nurses and family members.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feeling of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Protect their families and friends and bring comfort to all who love them. Amen”

We will give information on the date of opening of churches. It will not be sudden as we observe the surge of the COVID 19, especially in Gauteng.

- The Archbishop and the Service Committee urges everyone to use the following special Collect for PSC in the months leading up to the meeting:

*Almighty God, our refuge and strength,
As we face the realities of the Covid-19 pandemic
Keep us faithful to you,
Strengthen us to care for one another and your planet,
For you led your people out of exile,
You walked the road to Calvary,
And you continue to equip us for ministry with your Holy Spirit,
One God, world without end.
Amen*

- **MANCHE MASEMOLA PILRIMAGE 2020:** See attached
- **TEAC RESOURCE BULLETIN:** See attached
- News of ACSA publications.
The Constitution and Canons revised to include changes arising from Synod September 2019.
A5 Blue lever arch file with contents @ R130
Full set of inserts @ R100 (you will need to replace ALL the pages this time!)

NEW PUBLICATION FROM CANON JOHN SUGGIT:
Fifty Gobbets from The New Testament and Some Nuggets
by John N Suggit @ R70 ISBN - 978-0-620-88016-9

- HABSR: non-perishables for the food bank are welcome
- From the Administrator: Unidentified items:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reference</u>
25/06/2020	R1689.00	MONICA BANTOM

- **Happy birthday to:**

22 nd	Mtr Sharron Dinnie	23 rd	Nontebeko Msengana
27 th	Fr Tom Amoore	27 th	Fr Elisha Mkaronda
27 th	Fr Vusi Maseko	27 th	Fr Patrick Sikhakhane