



DIOCESE OF THE HIGHVELD

DIOCESAN, PARISH AND CLERGY NEWS

for

WEDNESDAY 29th 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:

- Please remember in your prayers, Mlamuli Masondo's father, Humphrey, who died recently. No funeral arrangements yet known.
- **From the Bishop:** We woke up this morning, the 29 July 2020, with the numbers of the infection rate in the country standing at 459 761, with a recovery rate of 63% and a death rate of 7257. With that increase in the number of infections and deaths, and Gauteng being the epicentre, we will, as the Chapter and Trust Board, inform you when we will start with services.

We need to pray as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane as he faced Calvary, "Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will" Mark 14: 36. As people of faith, we are confident God will enable us to come through this.

I would like to assure all the clergy who have remained present and grounded in their communities during this pandemic, not that they are immune from the virus, but that they are serving and ministering with love. Most of our clergy are experiencing fatigue and exhaustion as they continue to work hard to stay centred and connected to God. I would like to thank all who continue to support the ministry of the diocese financially, prayerfully and giving to those who are in need in their communities.

I would urge and encourage organisations, groups and individuals in the Diocese to continue to pray in whatever means, be it on line or offline. I salute the GBV Portfolio as they continue to pray for the families of the victims of gender based violence. They have creatively organized 50 days of remembrance of women violently killed at the hands of their husbands, boyfriends and other men. I am grateful that you are not alone, we are in this together.

Let us pray in faith for God's healing for all those who have been infected who are either in hospital, isolation or quarantine; those who will be infected and their families. We also pray for the families of those who have lost loved ones due to the Coronavirus, that they should know the grace and comfort of God. We need to pray for God to deliver the world from this menace to human health and well-being.

Let us also continue to pray for our ongoing unity as a church family - bearing with one another in love as we step into the new normal. Let us not forget that: "Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth". I repeat what I said earlier, **AS PEOPLE OF FAITH, WE ARE CONFIDENT GOD WILL ENABLE US TO COME THROUGH THIS.**

- 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*

- **WOMEN'S DAY POSTER:** Attached
- **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:**

29th Mtr Lynne Coull

31st Fr Philip Moseki

Belated birthday wishes to : Mtr Nandipha Dudula (26th July)