

Dean's Letter, 7 July 2019

Dear Cathedral family, brothers and sisters in Christ

Today marks the end of another Festival, and another season of Spiritfest. Thank you to our wonderful team here at the Cathedral, and to the wider community, and all who help to make these 11 amazing days what they are. We trust that visitors and locals alike have enjoyed this time. It is particularly good to meet people who return year after year, and come to the Cathedral to see how we are, and to share in the worship and life here. We value these relationships, very much indeed.

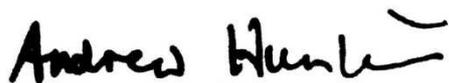
The Cathedral, together with the College of the Transfiguration (COTT), will be receiving a placement student, Sarah Mortimer, from Sarum College, Salisbury, UK, for a few weeks, 13th July – 4th August. Sarah is a theological student at Sarum. She will be staying at COTT but will be attending worship and other events at the Cathedral during this time. We look forward to welcoming her here. Luvuyo Mvaphantsi will also be returning to the Cathedral for the 2nd block of his time with us on Parish Placement (15th July – 30th August).

Let's hold in prayer the diocese of St Mark the Evangelist, as they hold their Elective Assembly this week, 9th – 11th July, for the purpose of electing their next bishop. And later this month (25th – 27th July) is the Elective Assembly for the Bishop of Table Bay (effectively he/she is the Suffragan-Bishop of Cape Town, but with added responsibilities for the life of the diocese, under the authority of the Archbishop.)

Claire and I shall be away for a couple of weeks holiday, from tomorrow (8th July), returning 18th July. Then, as some of you may have heard, I am very probably heading for a hip replacement in early August. The op will most likely be done in Cape Town. So we shall be heading off there, and shall be away for a bit over that time (dates will follow once these have been finalised).

I continue to think and pray about our ministry and life here at the Cathedral. A helpful author for me, for many years, has been the late Eugene Peterson. He speaks and writes of the stability of the pastor or priest, offering and providing an ongoing ministry of faithful service, doing what needs to be done, praying, reading scripture, study, caring for the people of God, ensuring that the Christian faith is taught, leading worship, discerning God's voice and call – the "still small voice" of a few weeks' ago (in our reading from 1 Kings), building relationships, building community. For me, this means being an enabler, creating a safe space for ministry so that our shared life in Christ can flourish and grow. I value, immensely, the sense of continuity and stability that we have. And I thank God for all who have made this possible, over the years, with faithfulness and love.

My love to you all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.