

## Letter from the Revd Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter, 25 August 2019

Dear Cathedral family, Brothers and Sisters in Christ

These past few weeks following Andrew's total hip replacement operation in Cape Town have been a most extraordinary journey towards healing. We have experienced an abundance of God's grace shown to us in a multitude of ways.

It was a wonderful time of connecting with family, friends and colleagues. En route to Cape Town, we spent two special days with Rachel and Nicola in Stellenbosch, and enjoyed seeing their flat and meeting some of their university friends. We arrived in Pinelands in time for my brother David's birthday lunch with all the family, before taking Andrew to hospital later that afternoon. While in CT I stayed initially with my eldest brother David and his wife, Sandi, who live near Vincent Pallotti Hospital. After Andrew was discharged, we both moved in to my sister Judith's home with her family.

We had a highly competent orthopedic surgeon, Dr Rob Nicholas, who was ably assisted by my very own brother, Dr David Nye. The surgeon explained to us that Andrew's hip was genetically not fully aligned, resulting in his body not being ideally built to be a runner. Many marathons later (including Comrades and Two Oceans), the cartilage had worn right through hence the pain of bone rubbing against bone. Everything went according to plan, and it was a relief to receive a message from my brother immediately after the operation to let me know that all was well! Andrew's new hip is made of both porcelain and titanium, and should last for about 25 years providing he does not run again. We are hugely appreciative of the work of the surgeon, physiotherapist, medical practitioners, nursing and hospital staff that attended to him.

Our hearts are full of gratitude! In CT we were overwhelmed and deeply moved by all the love, care, support, prayer, visits, messages, gifts, TLC that were showered on us by family, friends and clergy colleagues. Mama Lungi Makgoba paid a pastoral visit representing the Archbishop, as well as Revd Nobuntu Mageza (former secretary to the Bishop of Grahamstown).

We felt embraced and carried by the love, prayer, messages we received from Bishop Ebenezer and Mama Noncedo, our Sub-Dean as well as many of you. Words cannot describe what a gift you as a Cathedral family are to us. On our return, we received such a warm welcome in the Deanery and were blessed with meals from kind friends. Many thanks to the Sub-Dean for 'holding the fort' during our time away.

Thanks be to God for the many people who in different ways have been instruments of God's healing. Most of our, we thank the Great Physician, the source of all healing, for all that has been and is still to come.

Andrew is making excellent progress and getting stronger by the day. Do pop in (late mornings best) to see him if you have a moment!

Every blessing

Claire