

GENERAL NOTICES

Pledge: The office staff would like to apologise for incorrect figures sent to parishioners. The system did not update correctly and they are working on fixing the problem. Correct letters will be sent out shortly.

Service rhythm, December and January: The schedule of services for the rest of December, including Christmas, and early January, is in the pew leaflet. As you can see, we are moving to a single morning service from mid-December (16th), and shall return to two morning services on Sunday 20th January. This is partly due to the fact that many people are out of town during this holiday period, our attendance numbers are significantly down as a result, and our wonderful teams of volunteers who assist with various aspects of Sunday services, are depleted. So it makes life a little bit easier for everyone! But a large part of the reason for moving to one morning service during this time is at the recommendation of PCC, following a number of requests in our Cathedral questionnaire and survey, earlier this year, for combined acts of worship. So let's enjoy being together as the Cathedral family during the weeks ahead. We shall be using the APB liturgy for our Sunday and Christmas services, apart from Sunday 23 December, when we shall use the SAPB liturgy.

Staff Matters: We are looking for a temporary replacement for the role of **Parish Secretary** effective 01 January 2019 from Monday to Friday, 08:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. This will be a paid position for 6 months. Please contact the parish office for more information regarding the role and responsibilities of the position on 046 622 2445 or admin@grahamstowncathedral.org or office@grahamstowncathedral.org

Bishop Eric Pike has written and published two books in recent times: **"Who do you say I am?"** and **"Waymarks for the Way"**. Copies of these are available for sale at the Cathedral office at **R150.00** each. We encourage people to buy and read them.

Christmas Grocery Basket: Every year, we make up special Christmas parcels for those who benefit from our monthly Grocery Basket. Lists of required items are available in your pew leaflet or at the back of the Cathedral on the glass cabinet. Lets' bring some Christmas cheer to those less fortunate than ourselves. Contributions can either be brought to church on Sunday and placed in the basket or delivered to the office weekday mornings. Final date is the **10th December 2018**.

Rehearsals for the following services will take place on Tuesday 18th December. We invite clergy, altar servers, lay ministers, organists and sacristans to be part of the rehearsal:

10:30 p.m: Midnight Mass - will be at 3 p.m.

08:30 a.m: Christmas Day -will be at 4 p.m

Advent, Christmas and New Year Services are as follow:

Sunday, 09th December: 07:30 Holy Communion (SAHB) & 09:30 Sung Eucharist (AAPB); **6 p.m** Lucernarium

Sunday, 16th December: 8:30 am Sung Eucharist (AAPB); **6 p.m** TBC

Sunday, 23rd December: 8:30am Holy Communion (SAPB); **6 p.m** Advent Carol Service

Monday, 24th December: Children's Crib Service: 4 pm

Midnight Mass: 10:30 pm Sung Eucharist (AAPB)

Christmas Day, 25th December: 8:30 am Sung Eucharist (AAPB)

Sunday 30th December: 8:30 am Eucharist (AAPB)

Sunday 6th January: 8:30 am Eucharist (AAPB)

Sunday, 13th January: 8:30 am Eucharist (AAPB) & 6pm **Epiphany – Service of Lights**



Cathedral of St Michael and St George Grahamstown – Grahamstad – iRhini - Makhanda

A warm welcome to those who are visiting the Cathedral. Please introduce yourself to us! If you are new to the Cathedral and would like follow up, please fill in the form at the west (High Street) door and give it to one of the clergy or sides people.

2nd December 2018 - First Sunday of Advent

**16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence- 25th Nov – 10th Dec
AIDS Awareness Sunday**

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	SAPB Holy Communion	Revd Dr Mary-Ellen Ashcroft	Dean Andrew Hunter
09h30	AAPB Sung Eucharist	Revd Dr Mary-Ellen Ashcroft	Revd Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter
18h00	Advent Taize	Revd Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter	

Today's meetings and events:

07h20 & 09h20	Pre-service prayers for service leaders and participants
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This Week

Thurs	06 Dec	09h00	Somerset Place Communion	Revd Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter
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Stipendiary clergy contact details and Cathedral Parish Office (046 622 2445):

*Dean of Grahamstown The Very Rev Andrew Hunter.	082 308 8654	046 622 3976	dean@grahamstowncathedral.org <i>(day off Friday)</i>
*The Sub Dean and Archdeacon of Grahamstown The Ven. Mzinzisi Dyantyi	073 604 5232	046 622 5633	subdean@grahamstowncathedral.org <i>(day off: Monday)</i>
*Senior Assistant Priest and Cathedral Chancellor The Rev Canon Dr. Claire Nye Hunter	046 622 2445	046 622 3976	claire@grahamstowncathedral.org <i>(day off: Friday)</i>

Clergy Assisting at Cathedral

Revd Luthando Madiba (Diocesan Media officer & CR Chaplain); Revd Idowu Akinloye (PhD student @ RU); Revd Lunga Dongwana (Deacon & Youth Chaplain); Revd Siphokazi Njokweni (Deacon & Choir Chaplain); Revd Percy Chinganga (COTT)

To contact the Parish Office staff by email, use: office@grahamstowncathedral.org (Administrator - Chantel) and admin@grahamstowncathedral.org (Parish Secretary – Lou-Anne).

*Members of the Clergy are available for confessions and interviews by appointment.

Vision of the Diocese of Grahamstown:

That all people in the Diocese should know God's love in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us.

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU!

Please join in prayer this week for:

OUR CHURCH: We give thanks for the season of Advent, with God's assurance of new beginnings and new possibilities. May we have the grace to wait and trust, and to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that something new may be birthed in us. We pray for preparations for Christmas services, giving thanks for our admin staff and music ministry teams. We pray for the Elective Assembly for the diocese of Port Elizabeth this week, and for the Elective Assembly of the diocese of Mzimvubu, next week. May the Lord bind us together in faith and love.

OUR WORLD: We continue to pray for all who serve in public office, especially Makana Municipality officials, Mayor Nomhle Gaga and all Ward Councillors; for all writing and marking exams at this time; for boys who are attending initiation school. During the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, we pray for all victims of sexual abuse. We continue to pray for places of conflict, violence and suffering in the world. May God bring us all to live in peace.

BIRTHDAYS: 04th Bubele Mvula; 05th Sinaye Sijadu, Paul Pillay.

PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Roger & Roslind Embling; Jeanette Eve; Keith, Kieran & Seth Faltain; Siyabulela Fobosi; Saul, Lesley-Ann, Tyler, Travis & Torris Fourie.

PARISHIONERS who are sick, or house bound: Ernest Bridger, Melanie Appollis, Jeanette Hodgson, Nomathemba Magwa, Fiona Coyne, Danielle Christian.

FRIENDS and FAMILY who are ill: Jackie Shipster.

These names will remain here for a month, unless requested otherwise.

Here are the Gospel readings for the coming week:

Mon	03	Matthew 8:5-13	Thurs	06	Matthew 07: 21-27
Tues	04	Luke 10:21-24	Fri	07	Matthew 9:27-31
Weds	05	Matthew 15:29-39	Sat	08	Matthew 9:35-10:1,5-8
Sun	09	2 Samuel 23:1-7	Psalms	Revelation	John 18:33-37
		132:1-12		1:4b-8	

Services next Sunday – 09th December – Second Advent Sunday

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
07h30	SAPB Holy Communion	Rev'd Percy Chinganga	
09h30	AAPB Sung Eucharist	Rev'd Percy Chinganga	Rev'd Idowu Akinloye
18h00	Lucernarium Service	Mr Kutlwano Kepadisa	

Dean's Letter - Sunday 02nd December 2018

Dear Cathedral family, brothers and sisters in Christ

Claire and I are delighted to be hosting our guest preacher for today, Advent Sunday: The Revd Dr Mary Ellen Ashcroft. She is an old friend from Cape Town days, now based in the USA, and is with us for a visit.

The season of Advent, which we begin today, is a time of waiting, preparation, expectation. It marks the beginning of the church's Liturgical Year. All our anxieties of what is happening around us, all our uncertainties of what next year might hold, our hopes and dreams and longings, are given expression in the rhythm and themes of Advent. They are joined with the great Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, and all that this means: fulfilment of God's plan for the world, and the new age of hope and restoration and healing and salvation, which Jesus brings. The season of Advent has as its central theme the Christian hope of the Coming of Christ.

The introduction to the Season of Advent, contained in our Lectionary, tells us: "Bernard of Clairvaux [d. 1153] summarises the theology of the season of Advent as the three comings of Christ, past, present and future. 'In the first coming [his birth], Christ was our redemption; in the last coming, he will appear as our life; in this middle coming, he is our rest and our consolation.'"

"The first two Sundays of Advent focus our attention on the second coming of Jesus as our hope, and in the prophecies of the First Covenant. The second two Sundays remind us of the preparations God made for Jesus' birth at Bethlehem in fulfilment of those prophecies. We are reminded that we live in the between times, the 'now' of our salvation and the 'not yet' of its complete fulfilment. The themes are those of hope and expectation for both the first and second comings of Christ. They challenge us to reconsider and engage with Word and Liturgy the revelation of Christ's time in the midst of our time. We begin the year praying together about the end of all history."

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, I am among those nominated for the forthcoming Elective Assembly, diocese of Port Elizabeth, which gathers this week, 5th – 7th December. However, at this stage, no-one from within the Assembly itself has been found who is willing to propose or second me (my original nominees were both retired clergy, who do not form part of the Elective Assembly). Nomination from within the Assembly itself must be done either by active clergy (not yet retired) or lay people who have been elected to represent their parish. If no-one comes forward in the next few days to do so, I am effectively out of the picture. Let's continue to hold the Assembly and the diocese of PE in our prayers; and let's pray also the diocese of Mzimvubu, whose Elective Assembly is 10th – 12th December 2018.

My love to you all

Andrew Hunter