

GENERAL NOTICES

Cathedral and Diocesan offices are closed for the Christmas break and will reopen on Monday 7th January 2019.

Cathedral will close on the 22nd December as the **Verger** will be on a Christmas break and re-open on Monday, 07th January 2019. During this time the Cathedral will be open for worship only.

A special thanks to the **Mother's Union** and the following families for their generous donation of lectionaries; **Gabavana, Mlombile, Matomane, Myolwa families**. These serve as a great reading tool to deepen the life of prayer and spiritual growth through the reading of daily scriptures.

Special pledge appeal: Many thanks to our faithful pledgers who sustain the Cathedral through regular giving. However, there is a shortfall and the Cathedral is ending the year without being able to pay its creditors. We appeal to people to assist where possible.

Calling for Altar Servers during the Christmas season. Many of our regular Altar Servers have gone on holiday and we are looking for people willing to offer their services for December and early January. Please contact Sally Terry either after the 9.30 service or phone 083 413 0234.

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:

Midnight Mass rehearsal will be at 3 p.m.

Christmas Day rehearsal will be at 4 p.m

Advent, Christmas and New Year Services are as follow:

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 (SAPB)

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.

16th December 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
08h30	AAPB Holy Communion		Sub Dean Mzinzi Dyantyi
18h00	Contemplative Advent Service		Mr Kutlwano Kepadisa

Today's meetings and events:

08h20	Pre-service prayers for service leaders and participants
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This Week

Thurs	20 Dec	09h30	St Luke's 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. Mzinzi 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 Percy Chinganga (COTT); Revd Lunga Dongwana (Deacon & Youth Chaplain);
Revd Siphokazi Njokweni (Deacon & Choir Chaplain).

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. On this Day of Reconciliation, we pray that we may be signs and instruments of reconciliation and peace. We pray for the Bishop-elect of the diocese of Port Elizabeth. 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 our country and all in authority; for our Eluxolweni boys at home with families, that they may be kept strong and safe and enfolded in love; for all going on holiday; for travelling mercies; for all boys who are attending initiation school at this time; for the State Capture Commission, and Judge Raymond Zondo; for places of conflict, violence and suffering in the world. May God bring us to live in peace.

BIRTHDAYS: 16th Yoliswa Dongwana, Qaqamba Myolwa; 17th Ovayo & Uvile Mvaphantsi, Andrew Meiklejohn; 18th Ann Watkins; John Jackson; 21st Lynette Marais.

PARISH CYCLE of PRAYER: Heather Haggard; Di Harvey; Roswitha Hobson; Jeanette Hodgson; Audrey Holmes; Dean Andrew, Revd Claire, Rachel & Nicola Hunter.

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	17	Matthew 1:1-6a, 17	Thurs	20	John 3:31-36
Tues	18	Matthew 1:18-25	Fri	21	John 4:39-42
Weds	19	John 1:29-34	Sat	22	John 6:35-40
Sun	23	Micah 5:2-5a	Luke 1:47-55	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45

Services next Sunday – 23rd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Time	Services	Preacher	Presider / Officiant
08h30	SAPB Holy Communion	Revd Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter	
18h00	Advent Carol Service	Mr Kutlwano Kepadisa	

Dean's Letter - Sunday 16th December 2018

Dear Cathedral family, brothers and sisters in Christ

These past weeks have seen two Elective Assemblies for two of our neighbouring dioceses. For the diocese of Port Elizabeth, The Revd Dr Eddie Daniels was elected as their next bishop. However, the Elective Assembly for the diocese of Mzimvubu reached deadlock – no candidate received 2/3 majority of votes cast – and so the choice of the next bishop for that diocese has been referred to the Synod of Bishops. We hold Bishop-elect Eddie and his family in our love and prayers, and we pray for both those two dioceses during this time of change and transition.

I am genuinely delighted that Eddie Daniels has been chosen for Port Elizabeth; he and I were contemporaries at St Paul's College, here in Grahamstown, in the early '80s; he is very able, a clear thinker, articulate and bold, relates very well to people, with a strong faith and commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord. An outstanding choice!

The season of Advent is a time of waiting, expectation, hoping; longing for justice, for transformed communities. Advent is a time which reflects and gives expression to those times in our lives when we ask "now what?" – whether for ourselves, for our families, for our community or for our world. Of course, we do these things at other times of the year, but Advent is the liturgical season which gives biblical and prophetic expression to our longings and hopes and dreams, our longings for justice and a transformed society, and roots them into the expectancy of the coming of Christ. The Old Testament prophets which we read during these weeks speak of a new heaven and a new earth; they call us to justice and mercy; they speak of the coming of the day of the Lord as a day of judgement and terror, when God will come to cleanse and purify and judge.

Listening to the scripture readings last Sunday, the unfolding story of John the Baptist – and we continue with his story today – I was struck by the great prophecies and God-sent visions of a new heaven and a new earth and the promise of the one who is to come; and the amazing reality that these great purposes of God are rooted in the lives and faith responses of ordinary people – Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph. Babies are born and given their names. Families rejoice. Communities celebrate. People retire as they reach that age. But within and through these delightful, personal events that you and I experience, God's purpose and will is being worked out and unfolds. The answers to our "now what?" questions begin to emerge, in a way that we had least expected. Advent!

My love to you all

Andrew Hunter