

DIOCESAN NEWS

Phone: 011 375 2700/Fax: 011 477 1337/Website: www.anglicanjoburg.org.za

06 August 2021

Dear People of God's love.

As we come out of another church lockdown, facing the continued strain on our financial and people resources, and with the ongoing loss or illness of family, friends, and colleagues to Covid, I have been encouraged by my readings in the book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah and his companions' demanding work warn us that trusting God does not equate to sitting on our hands waiting for miraculous solutions for our difficulties - we are called to rebuild what has broken down.

The Diocesan bodies, both clergy and lay, are working hard and putting in extra time and effort to ensure that we offer the best we can to assist in this process and I thank them most sincerely for that.

Not having a current Diocesan Executive Officer is hindering the cohesiveness of the administration of the Diocesan Office and we are not in a financial position right now to begin the search to appoint a new one.

I have, with the backing of the Exco Team, therefore asked Archdeacon Lynda Shimmin, who sits on many of the Diocesan Teams and has a good knowledge and understanding of the current issues we are facing, to come on board as an Interim DEO to assist in the Diocesan Administration Office to free me up to work with the implementation teams on the strategic rescue plans that need to be put in place. She will assist us in the Diocese in this way until we see a clearer path forward and I am grateful that her parish will release her from her parish duties so that she can start helping us almost immediately.

Diocesan Office Administration Staff

The Diocesan Office have been working from home as a precautionary measure as we hit the worst of 'the third wave' and some have needed to quarantine. However, from **Tuesday**, **10 August 2021**, staff members will be working from the office on a rotational basis. If you have urgent business to discuss with any of the Diocesan staff that cannot be done via phone, email, or virtual meeting, please contact the staff member to book an appointment. Unfortunately, walk-ins will not be able to be accommodated. The staff roster with email addresses is attached hereto for your assistance.

<u>Please use the following email address to correspond with Archdeacon Ven Lynda:</u> <u>deo1@anglicanjoburg.org.za</u>

Moves and Placements

- Revd. Paul Germond (Parkview) has taken early retirement with effect from 31st July. We thank him for his ministry in the parishes he has served in, as well as his ministry within the Diocese.
- Revd. Kamohelo Kotsi, Deacon, is transferring to the Parish of Meadowlands from this week.
- Congratulations to Revd Rakgadi Khobo who has been appointed as the Chaplain at St Mary's School with effect from 1st September.

Other News

Clergy Day

Our next Clergy Day, via Zoom, is scheduled for Tuesday 10 August 2021 at 10h00.

Prayer Requests

- We pray for our clergy who are ill, some hospitalised, and those who are thankfully recovering currently.
- We pray also for our parishioners and their families as we all navigate through this difficult time of illness and loss
- We remember all bereaved families in our Diocese, especially the Nhlapo family as they prepare to lay Revd Nombuyiselo to eternal rest.
- Please continue to pray intentionally for our country and for our Diocese. Thank you to those who have committed to a sustained prayer presence, as individuals and as parishes at this time.

Diocesan Synod: As per communication sent last month, we are holding our Sixty Sixth Session of Diocesan Synod in November from the 25 – 27 November 2021. This is going to be a Virtual Synod and we ask you to please continue to pray for the preparation team and that we will have a successful sitting.

Prayer for our Diocesan Synod

Gracious and loving God Pour your Spirit upon our Diocese, And grant us a new vision of Your glory, A new experience of Your power, A new faithfulness to Your word, And a new consecration to Your service, So that Your love may grow among us, And Your kingdom come: Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen**

I wish all our ladies young and old in the parishes, organisations, and schools a meaningful and restful Women's Day on Monday, and you all a blessed weekend.

Grace, strength, and courage in Christ,

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The Rt Revd Dr Steve Moreo

+Johannesburg