



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

ST MICHAEL'S SWORD

JULY 2014

**ST MICHAEL'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH**
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



Address:
73 Mount Street,
(Cnr Bryanston Drive & Mount
Street),
Bryanston

P O Box 67184, Bryanston, 2021
Tel: 011-706-6050/1/6
Fax: 011-706-4709

RECTOR: FR GODFREY HENWOOD
godfrey.henwood@stmichaelschurch.co.za
Administrator: Darryl Prangley
darryl.prangley@stmichaelschurch.co.za
Secretary: Barbara Freer
office@stmichaelschurch.co.za

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday: 08:30 to 17:00

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF
HIS HOLINESS" Psalm 96:9.

I am delighted that this issue of The Sword is given mainly to the theme of worship. For worship is surely the living heart of any religion and certainly plays an important role in the practise of The Christian faith. Worship in our Anglican Tradition is firmly centred in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist and gives expression to our adoration, praise and thanksgiving for what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. In our Eucharistic worship we not only give thanks to God, but also participate in the life of the risen Lord Jesus as he is made present to us in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the wine. Christian worship is sacramental worship in which there is an encounter of the living Lord Jesus with all who come to his table.

Eucharistic worship is the moment of *re-membering* of the "body of Christ" and is therefore made up of several different moods of emotion and feelings. In Liturgical Worship expression is given to the loud and joyous language of praise and adoration, to the humble penitential language of confession and forgiveness, to the deep heartfelt solemn language of pleas for God's help, to the silent language of standing in awe of him who is made known and present to us in the worship.

In order to give expression to all these languages of worship so that all who come, no matter their need, may be transformed by the encounter with the living Lord Jesus, much preparation needs to be given to planning and the act of worship. God has also given us many gifts to enable us to worship. Gifts such as music and song, ritual and movement, language and expression of words in poetry, prose and lament. This is why, within our Anglican worship, there is much opportunity for people to share in the leading of worship. There is opportunity for ordained and lay people to share in the leading of the celebration of worship. There are musicians and choirs, servers and parish ministers, readers and sides people, flower arrangers and sacristans, sound engineers and maintenance people and the hospitality team. Please read more about these opportunities for ministry in worship in the rest of the magazine.

May we continue to be faithful in participating in the worship of God in the community of St. Michael and may our worship always be worthy of Him who we worship, even Jesus Christ our Lord and The One who sent him. *Fr Godfrey*



FROM THE EDITOR

In his message on the front page, Fr Godfrey impressed upon us the importance of worship in the practice of our Christian Faith. It is no wonder that there are so many elements that make up our regular worship, particularly on Sundays.

We trust that this edition of the St Michael's Sword will do justice to these many facets of worship. A huge thank you to all those who have sent in their contributions. Our hope is also for you, the readers, to get to know more about the Worship Portfolio and perhaps to consider becoming part of one of the ministries therein.

Please take note of the Treasurer's report on Pages 12 & 13, which gives an up to date account of how we stand financially.

On page 6 you can read about an opportunity to contribute to the missionary work of SOMA. And on the lighter side, test your knowledge of the books of the Bible by tackling the interesting puzzle on page 11. Enjoy the hilarious one-liners on our fun page.

We look forward to receiving some contributions from other sections of the parish such as Mothers' Union, the Small Group Leaders and Social Outreach.

Any stories, photos and/or information you would like to share with others in our community will be (more than!!) gladly welcomed for the St Michael's Sword.

Barbara Freer

THE WORSHIP PORTFOLIO

The Worship Portfolio is one of nine activity "portfolios" which are represented on St Michael's Parish Church Council. The activities of this portfolio are related to the St Michael's Church services and they are sustained by groups of dedicated parishioners who are supported and encouraged in all they do by the Ministry Support Team.

The diversity of talents and the general level of capability and commitment of parishioners engaged in one or more of the Worship Portfolio activities is extraordinary. The challenge for many of us is to open our minds and our eyes and ears sufficiently to appreciate all that is being done, day after day and year after year, in the service of our Lord. *Frank Delaney*

IN THIS EDITION PAGE

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR	1
THE WORSHIP PORTFOLIO	2
MUSIC	3
SERVERS	3
THE BAND	4
FLOWER ARRANGING	5
SACRISTY	6
SOMA APPEAL	6
SIDES PERSONS	7
READERS	7
PARISH MINISTERS	8
YOUTH	9
HEIRLOOM BAPTISMAL GOWN	10
FUN PAGE	11
TREASURER'S REPORT	12 & 13



MUSIC

Our parish is very fortunate to have a diverse set of music groups supporting worship. These include adult and junior choirs, the worship band and a marimba group. The adult choir sings on Sunday mornings, the band supports the evening Eucharist, and the Junior Choir and marimba group also play or sing regularly in Worship Services. A lot of rehearsal time and other preparation goes into Sunday musical worship, but the result is very rewarding for the musicians.

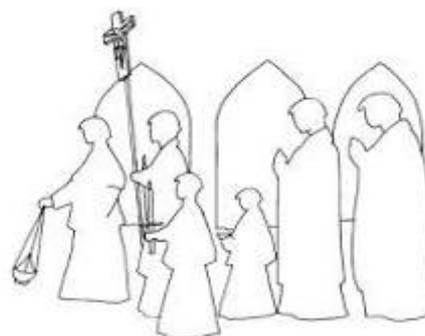
If you are interested in joining any of the groups, you are most welcome! Just talk to one of the members, contact the parish office or contact Andreas Beutel on 072-267-1650 or andreas.beutel@gmail.com.



On Saturday 12 July at 2pm Anastasia Bukashe and Sam Hermanus facilitated an Appreciative Inquiry for anyone who wanted to give their views and dreams for music in our church. Twenty-one members of the congregation, choir and band came together and had conversations around the way forward for music at St Michael's. One of our young band members was unable to be present and organised a time to have a conversation with Sam prior to Saturday. Anastasia and Sam have taken all the information gathered and will review it and present the outcome. It was quite clear from all the people present that music is an important part of our worship and that commitment, passion and acceptance of diversity are important. For some it was also an opportunity to get to know people from different services and also to learn more about people they thought they knew.

SERVERS

We are in the process of expanding our team of servers at St Michael's. Training of existing servers, as well as for those interested in becoming servers, will be taking place within the next week or two. Please contact Emily Dingle on 072 141 7171 or Pumi Miti on 072 562 9740 to find out more.



WHAT HAPPENS AT BAND PRACTICE?

"Chris what do you want me to do now?"



"See these drums Rose - I need them set up for me."



I can do this, and will do it perfectly



"Hey guys, I am taking a picture of the presentation."



While the setup is being done the singers are having a serious discussion.



"Set up complete BUT not quite perfect. Chris is quite fussy at times."



"As the drummer AND sound engineer I am entitled to be fussy!"



READY TO PRACTICE!!!!!!



"The Band"

Back

Kabelo - worship leader & bongo drums

Middle

Gary - worship leader & singer

Rose - singer & trainee drummer

Chris - drummer & sound engineer

Tarryn - singer

Front

Carla - guitarist, singer & worship leader

Tebogo - singer & keyboardist

Submitted by

Darryl Prangley

At the time of taking the photos, Peter, our second guitarist and singer is away on business for 6 weeks. We welcome Tebogo, who joined us for the first time on Friday 27 June, and Emily who joined us as a keyboardist in the middle of July.

BEHIND THE SCENES—FLOWER ARRANGING



Flower arrangement for Simon Eastoe's funeral in the colours of St Andrew's College, Bloemfontein



Rugby ball flower arrangement for Simon Eastoe's funeral

Flowers - The Oldest Tribute

Throughout history, flowers have been used to represent every aspect of the life cycle, from birth through death where they attest to transitory human life. As surely as a flower is cut from the stem, so it is with human life.

It is often difficult for those mourning a death to put sympathetic feelings into words and so flowers become a means of sharing the burden of grief and represent community support for the bereaved. No words need be spoken as flowers can say it for you.

It is particularly rewarding to be able to create an arrangement that fits the deceased's personality or that has special significance in your relationship with that person. There could be an arrangement of wild flowers for someone who loved the outdoors or, a recent example, was a floral tribute representing a rugby ball for dearly loved sports enthusiast.

Flowers have an enormous spiritual significance and represent not only love and sympathy, but eternity and immortality. Their colours, too, have a specific symbolism in religious thought where purple is a symbol of penitence and royalty, white is the symbol of joyous celebration and shining light, and green symbolizes nature and the freshness of growth.

On any occasion flowers create a background of warmth and beauty as can be seen every week in the wonderful displays created by the skilled volunteers of St Michael's flower arranging team who have been decorating our church with selfless dedication for so many years.

It has been a humbling and incredibly rewarding experience to be part of this talented group of people and I look forward to many more opportunities of expressing the love of everyone in the St Michael's family of congregants during our many religious and spiritual celebrations.

Fiona Hutcheon



Denise Hollis-Martin (left) oversees our dedicated flower arrangers with enthusiasm and commitment.

The team are:

Judith Lloyd	Val Stockden
David Ramsey	Linda Moss
Sue du Plessis	Fiona Hutcheon
Lucy Wiseman	

BEHIND THE SCENES—SACRISTY

Have you ever wondered who puts the wine in the “glass jugs” (cruets), or how the wafers are in the “silver cups” (ciboria). Who puts the covers on the altar and over the chalices? This is the work of our Sacristans.

Sandy O'Brien has been the head sacristan for about seven years. Becoming head sacristan was not a choice, it happened out of a need when the previous head left. Jenny Thiselton, who works with Sandy, said that she is a very patient and easy person to work with. Sandy is always willing to step in when teams are short of a sacristan.

Sandy became a sacristan when she retired and felt that she had more time and wanted to do something for God, other than being a Sidesperson on a Sunday. Jenny became a sacristan once she had given up being a Parish Minister for seventeen years, and felt that she wanted to continue to work for God.

Sacristans and their work are probably the least visible of all the ministries but are very important for the smooth running of the services. Sandy describes it as “housekeeping for God.” Jenny says it is minimal house-keeping, just a bit of washing up and dishing up – NO DUSTING, so even those who don't like house work will be able to be a sacristan.

Sandy either trains new sacristans personally or makes sure they are in a team where there are good teachers. No one ever does the work on their own. There are six team who work only a few hours twice a week every six weeks. All volunteers to this ministry will be very welcome.



Sandy dressing a chalice.



Jenny putting a dressed chalice away for Sunday service.



Jenny & Sandy taking a break from 'housekeeping' for 'photo shoot'. *“A photo shoot is more difficult than being a sacristan!”*

SOMA (Sharing Of Ministries Abroad) is giving thanks to God and celebrating 20 years since its first Mission with SOMA Australia to the Diocese of Luwero in Uganda.

SOMA is a mission agency called by God to serve the Anglican Communion and the worldwide Church:

- by building up and equipping the Body of Jesus Christ;
- through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit;
- principally through short-term, cross-cultural missions;
- for the transformation of individuals, churches and communities

SOMA SA has served in almost all of the Dioceses of ACSA and has sent teams into Africa, Asia, Australasia, United States and Canada, UK and Northern Ireland. They have shared in joint teams, notably the International Team that ministered in Rwanda after the Genocide in 1996.

Submitted by Revd Chris Viljoen - SOMA

Support SOMA: Purchase a commemorative travel mug for R100 from the Parish office.



SIDES PERSONS

Would you like to be a Sidesperson? Do you know what it entails? Is it arduous?

Let me tell you about the Ministry of Sidespersons.

First of all the duty is only every 4th Sunday and you are in Teams of 4 – not too onerous!!! It is a vital part of the Church's ministry. We represent the Parish in a very visible way and we help to set the tone in preparation for Worship. This enables the service to run in an orderly fashion.

The role of a Sidesperson is often underestimated for its importance. Sidespersons make people coming into the Church feel welcome and appreciated. When you attend a new Church do the Sidespersons have any impact on you and your family? A positive experience could lead you to joining the Parish.

Sidespersons arrive approximately 20 minutes before the start of the Service. They welcome arriving parishioners and visitors to the service, hand out Pew leaflets and any other notices and if need be show you to a pew. They count the attendance, arrange for bearers for the elements, collect the offering and present it at the altar. They direct the orderly flow of communicants to the altar, help in emergencies and aid the clergy if needed. Finally we count the collection!

Being a Sidesperson is a wonderful way to begin to grow and to continue to serve in a very important role in the Church. AND we do have fun! Besides training sessions, we enjoy fellowship usually over a glass of wine.

Anyone interested?

Jane Lewis

READERS

On two Sunday mornings of each month the first and second scripture readings at the 8.15 and 10.15 services are undertaken by members of the Readers' Group, those readings on other Sunday mornings being the responsibility of Parish Ministers.

There are at present 30 members of the Readers' Group. All have undergone a course of training with a view to ensuring a clear recognition of the objectives of the readings and a familiarity with the appropriate procedure. Parishioners have frequently commented upon a generally high level of capability of members of the Readers' Group to convey, to the congregation, an understanding of the prescribed texts. Each of us, however, strives to improve with each reading.

We need additional readers on our roster for both the 8.15 service and the 10.15 service. The only qualification is that any parishioner should be prepared to attend a course of training before undertaking a reading in Church during a service.

A "Reader's Workshop" is to be held at St Michael's on Saturday morning 27th September and all interested parishioners, including existing readers, are invited to attend. Please contact me, or notify the Church office, of an intention to attend. There will be no obligation to undertake a Sunday morning reading, following attendance at the workshop, if a prospective reader prefers not to do so.

Frank Delaney
011 787 4856
083 307 8594

frankdel@iafrica.com

PARISH MINISTERS

GOING IT ALONE ? (INCLUDING PARISH MINISTERS.)

Some time ago, during the late Fr Jimmy Mc Connell's rectorship, he made the following statement : "Don't expect us (the clergy) to always be around". A time may come when you might have to go it alone ". Maybe a little over the top remark, however, he was right to focus us on taking on a developing ministry (Parish Ministers and laity alike!)

As early as during the late Bishop Duncan's episcopate, our Diocese promoted a model of "servant" leadership - "enabling the laity to go out and take Christ to the world." This, coupled to our Diocesan vision of "a ministry of all believers," forms a powerful "charge" to us - especially today!

It is a source of joy therefore, to see the results of this need being implemented so successfully in our Parish, particularly by our PM's, where, year by year, more responsibility is passed on to all of us, to take the initiative / leadership. We continue to be blessed, not only through our large team of dedicated "Sunday PM's", but wonderfully also by those who are also highly active during the week. Some take the Eucharist to the home-bound and Retirement Villages. Some three are now trained Anglicare counsellors, ten are able to assist at funerals and most are able to administer the Second Ciborium.

Ongoing training and development is essential for this and is offered at Diocesan (at St Luke's) and Parish levels. All joining PM's now undergo an eight part Diocesan training programme .Here we meet monthly to learn and share - and for wonderful fellowship . (See the photograph taken during a tea break!)

Becoming a PM continues to be by invitation and for those currently serving, this ministry forms a vital part of their respective spiritual journeys. This, through adopting "servant" leadership and exercising an "everyperson ministry," to which we are all called *Bob Hornsby.*



Ahh come on everyone gimme a break, I can preach just as well as Thelma.



Hmmm, that's what you think kiddo!

YOUTH

Boipelo, one of our youth leaders, writes:

I am very involved in SMACYA (St Michael's Anglican Church Young Adults). I am responsible for the co-ordination of group activities. I have a heart that is on fire for God because He is love, and also for people because they are His creation. Having been at St Michael's for just over a year I was awarded an opportunity to serve at G₂O and Teen church this year. I just assist with leading when Kabz and Sibongile are busy and mostly just play "big sister" with them. On Friday nights at G₂O we play games to make the Word of God more exciting. We have music practice, share an Agape Meal with our energetic young people. On Sunday mornings I help at Teen Church during the 10:15 service and talk about the bible and how it relates to our everyday crazy lives. Beautiful lessons always come out of it. I have also been tasked to assist with events such as the Confirmation Camp.



The Youth Sleep-over was great fun and we could even go to church in our jaamies!!



JUNIOR CHURCH PENTECOST CELEBRATION

If you had passed through the church hall during the morning of June 8, you would have seen a hive of activity: busy teachers hanging red, yellow and orange decorations; a huge fan decorated with strips of crepe paper of the same colours; nicely decorated tables also with red, yellow and orange drinks and foods and most of all, three cakes iced in yellow and orange. In case you are wondering what this was all about – it was the Junior Church's annual Pentecost Party. Like all parties, there was singing, dancing, games and food. Yet, this was no ordinary party but a birthday party celebrating the birth of the Christian Church when the Holy Spirit descended on the believers in tongues of fire and they began to speak in different languages.

What made this party even more special was the presence of Kabelo and some members of Teen Church who were there to celebrate with us. They also played games with the children which they thoroughly enjoyed. The children could be seen arriving for communion and blessings with one leg tied with a balloon, to a partner's. It was quite a feat and an exercise in teamwork!

After cutting the cake and singing Happy Birthday to the Church, the children were each given a party pack on which was tied either a red, yellow or orange balloon.

Jeanette la Fleur



HEIRLOOM BAPTISMAL GOWN - LOUISE BRAMLEY

The gown dates back to 1892 when it was worn by my great grandmother. It has since been worn by:

- My grandfather John Pitcher in 1918
- My father James Pitcher in 1947
- My uncle Graeme Pitcher in 1961 – see attached pic. The lady on the left in blue floral dress is my great grandmother Winifred, baptised in 1892
- My sister Katherine Chambers (nee Pitcher) in 1977
- Myself, Louise Bramley (nee Pitcher) in 1979
- My sister Caroline Pitcher in 1986
- My son Adam Bramley in 2010
- My daughter Gemma Bramley in 2014 at St Michael's Bryanston



Uncle Graham—1961



Gemma—2014

PUZZLE—FIND 30 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE IN THIS PARAGRAPH

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the book in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, the books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight. Those able to find all of them will hear lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind that punctuation and spacers in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in the paragraph waiting to be found.

Submitted by Sally Penaluna

SMILE A WHILE

Some signs in various parts of the world

Cocktail lounge - Norway: "Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar".

Dry Cleaners - Bangkok: "Drop your trousers for the best results".

On the Nairobi/Mombasa road: "Take notice. When this sign is underwater, this road is impassable".

Hotel in Japan: "You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid".

Airline ticket office - Copenhagen: "We take your bags and send them in all directions".

Submitted by Fr Wilfred Pohl

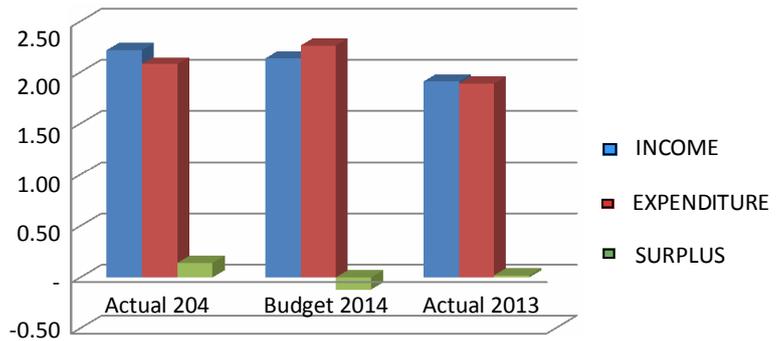
**THOUGHT FOR TODAY**

People are like stained glass windows: they sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light within. *Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, psychiatrist and author (1926-2004)*

TREASURER'S REPORT

On behalf of the Parish Council, I am pleased to report that the Parish realized a surplus of R139k compared to the budgeted deficit of R123k during the period under review. This surplus represents an increase of R125k when compared with the surplus realized in the previous year (June 2013).

It is also important to note that the main contributor to this surplus is the total income and the saving on expenses which exceeded the budget by R80k and R181k respectively.



Income - Actual R2.2m vs Budget R2.1

The Parishioner's Contributions increased by 18% from R1.9m during the same period last year (30 June 2013) to R2.2m during the six months ending June 2014. The budgeted amount of R2.1m was also exceeded by R80k. It should be noted that this includes the amount deferred from 2013 of R87k, which leaves us very close to budget.

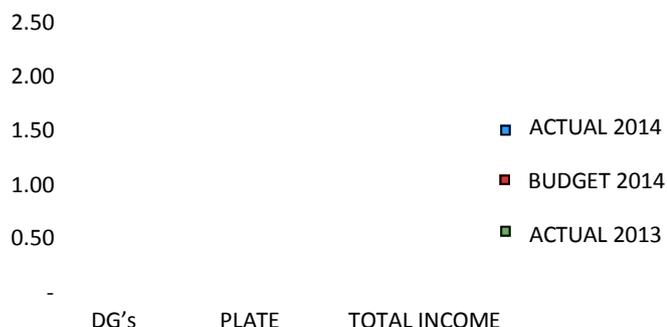
Dedicated Giving - Actual R1.87m vs Budget R1.77m

Income from the DG, which increased by R290k, represents an 18% increase compared to the same period in the previous year and is in excess of the budgeted amount by R94k. This is again after the inclusion of R 87k deferred last year and brought to account in this period.

Plate Collection - Actual R313k vs Budget R315k

Although the Plate Collections were below the budget by R2k, it is pleasing to note that there is an increase of 8% when comparing the results of the plate collection in the previous year.

Overall the good performance of these two main income drivers is an indication of the generous contributions made by parishioners which enables the parish to sustain its mission and vision.

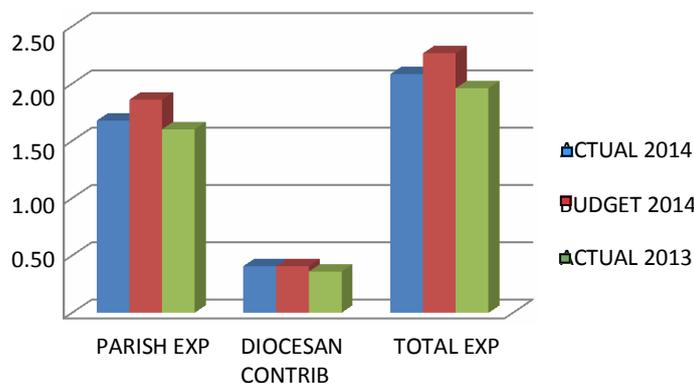


Expenditure Actual – R1.65m vs Budget R1.86m

Total expenditure (excluding special funds expenditure) was under spent by R181k, largely due to timing differences during the six months under review. It is anticipated that this saving will be spent during the next six months.

Generally, expenditure grew by 9% compared to the same period last year. Although this is a slight increase over the inflation rate, the Parish Council continues to monitor all the expenditure items to ensure that any unbudgeted expenditure is contained, especially on general maintenance and improvements.

Social outreach programmes amounted to R132k, whilst expenditure on general maintenance and improvements to property incurred was R90k compared to R196k spent during the same period last year.



Diocesan Contribution - Actual R407k vs Budget R407k

I am also pleased to report that our contribution to the Diocese is on track and has increased by 13% from R358k in 2013 to R407k this year. This contribution is in line with the budget and represents 18% of our total income and 19% of our total expenditure respectively.

The Diocesan Finance Board has conveyed its appreciation to the Parish for the contribution which is always paid on time to support the ministry of the whole Diocese.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet, which is supported by healthy cash reserves of R6.97m, is stronger than the previous year and the cash reserves are sufficient to cover all the special purpose funds set aside for development and other projects, as well as to settle all current liabilities.

The increase in the cash reserves was mainly due to the proceeds of R3.4m realized from the sale of the three houses in Kensington B, often referred as the “Holy Land.”

It is important for the Parish to remember that the Diocesan Trustees approved the sale of the three houses on the basis that the proceeds will only be utilized for the development of the new houses which will be built for the Parish priests at St Michael’s, and other developments to the property held by St Michael’s. These reserves must not be used as general income and cannot be spent on the day to day running expenses of the Parish.

Way forward

The Parish Council has reviewed the projections for the next six months which indicates a surplus of R207k if the current trend continues. The Parish Council will continue to exercise its stewardship of the finances of the Parish and seek to improve the collection of DGs and the plate collection.

Conclusion

The Parish Council wishes to convey its appreciation and thanks to all those who continuously honour their DG pledge. You are all encouraged to continue in this spirit during the next six months so that the Parish can implement its plans as approved by Vestry in March this year.

May the Lord bless you abundantly.

Joel Dikgole