



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF PRETORIA

✉ PO Box 8149
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

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Registration No. : 191-349 NPO

DITABA 29 – 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

1. The **SACBC Plenary Session** took place at Mariannhill 1st August to 8th August.

The **Priests of the Archdiocese** on their Tuesday's meeting had excellent inputs from Fr Hugh Lagan on priestly spirituality and Fr. Anthony Egan on the history of the South African church.

The Diocese hopes to **have 4 days workshop** for all our priests in pastoral ministry at St John Vianney Seminary in December.

2. Please remember the **Annual Priestly Retreat** from the 24th September to 29th September at Good Shepherd Center. Preacher is Fr Molewe Machingoane. It is absolutely essential that all Priests attend an annual retreat. Most religious priests have their retreats with their congregations.
3. We welcome the Congregation of the **Missionaries of St Francis de Sales** to our Archdiocese. Fr Thomas Vanderkunnel of the congregation will be Parish Priest of Midrand from September 30th. He was for years parish priest of Ermelo.
4. We welcome the Community **Koinonia St John the Baptist** to the Sanctuary near Cullinan. Through the kind offices of Mr. Tony Munro, they have been able to settle there and will offer spiritual and pastoral work in our Diocese. I do hope that people looking for quiet prayer and days of retreat will avail of their services. We will have a special welcome for them at the Sanctuary at the 18th of November.
5. A national meeting of the **Catholic Women's League (CWL)** took place at the St George Hotel in Pretoria in August. This year's annual meeting was presided over by our Pretoria Members and Fr Amos Masemola acting as National Executive.
6. A **New Archdiocesan Pastoral Council** was elected on Saturday, the 12th of August. The Chairperson is Mr Pat Rakau; the Vice Chairperson is Ms Girly Kgoetego; the Secretary is Ms Yvonne Lekati; and the Vice Secretary is Ms. Colleen Naidoo. We congratulate them and wish them every blessing. We need also take this opportunity to thank the outgoing council led by Mr Itumoleng Bogatsu. The next special meeting of the Council will be on 21st October. We are now preparing to elect a Diocesan Laity Council.
7. The **Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Jonathan for the Feast of the Assumption of Mary** was again a great success. Between 7,000 and 8,000 people attended. Congratulations to Fr Molapo and the excellent organizing committee from the Northwest Deanery. Thanks, in particular to the Priests and Deacons who attended, who preached, heard confessions, and conducted the healing service. The choirs, as usual were excellent.



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8. **Mrs Kekana** continues her excellent program to offer free screening health services for people in need. On the 7th of October at the Bertoni Center, there will be a meeting to launch the **Pretoria Archdiocese Health Care Association**. All Health workers are invited to attend. If you need more information, please contact Mrs Victoria Sofala. The meeting begins at 9:00 am.
9. We conducted a very successful **National Workshop for Diocesan Leaders of Correctional Services Chaplaincies** at the Comboni Center in Lynnwood from the 22nd August to 24th August.
10. Congratulations to the excellent committee founded in Mamelodi by young people and Sr Clara called “**without chains**”. It is an effort to tackle the serious problem of human trafficking. All priests should mention this scourge of trafficking sometimes on Sundays.
11. Congratulations to the **Assumption School** in Pretoria North which celebrated 65th anniversary this year.
12. On the 29th August, the **Missionary Group** met at Santa Sophia. Composed mainly of priests and religious, the aim is to make the South African church more missionary minded.
13. On 12th September Fr Vincent Brennan with Fr Patrick Rakeketsi and Hugh Lagan conducted a **Protocol Workshop for our Metropolitan area** at Santa Sophia.
14. **Caritas**. This is the International Development and Welfare Office of the Vatican. It is already in 160 countries. Establishing Caritas in Pretoria, a meeting took place at Jolivet House on 13th September. Led by Sr Marian Moriarty and Ms Marie McCrea. It discussed with the welfare agencies in our Diocese the establishment of this umbrella body. Caritas will help us to appreciate the full dimension of Christian ministry. We preach the Word of God, we pray to God in the Liturgy but we are also called to Diakonia, that is the service of the needy. This is an essential part of Christian Life. There are many outreaches of service within our Sodalities, Parishes, and Projects. There are many skill centers, schools, health care centers, welfare centers in the Archdiocese. Caritas will allow all of them to continue their excellent work but will offer them a clearing house, a point of contact to deepen our motivations, offer a data base and aggregate us into areas of competence.
15. A very special moment in the South African church will be the **Mini World Youth Day** in Durban from the 3rd December to 10th December. So far, 279 youth have indicated an interest in attending while many more would like to attend. Let me appeal through parishes and individuals to help with finance so that our young people can attend this wonderful experience. In a spiritual preparation to participate in this Workshop there will be a night vigil at St Vincent in Tembisa on the 22nd September starting after 6:00 pm.
16. **Finance**. Finance is certainly a struggle for us in this Archdiocese. I really appeal to all Parishes to meet their assessment demands. This year less than 50% have contributed. This inhibits the Pastoral Ministry of the Archdiocese.



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I appeal to the Deaneries to invite Fr Robert Mphiwe and Mr. Du Plessis to conduct workshops at the Deanery level. They have already had an excellent workshop in the Southern Deanery. For the success of this Workshop it is very important that the priests also attend.

17. Responding to the call of Pope Francis in his beautiful letter *Laudato Sii*, the church in South Africa invites all to participate in a **novena from the 23rd September to 3rd October** to reflect on the **Gift of Creation**. This novena can be conducted individually, in family or in Parishes. It can involve a short reflection on the beauty of our world, reading short passage from the Pope's letter, something from Scripture and a prayer. To make our experience real, we can plant a tree or a flower, block leaking taps and pipes, and clean-up the environment around us.
18. Congratulations to the excellent **Community at Olifantsfontein** who have bought beautiful fittings for their church and now having installed a magnificent Tabernacle.
19. Congratulations to **Monavoni Parish** for their retreat offered to Proclaimers of the Word. All such workshops help to deepen our awareness of the beauty and importance of our participation in the churches' ministry.
20. The **Catholic Women's Association (CWA)** held their annual retreat on the 2nd of September at Woord n Aksie. The Diocese is very grateful to them and to the other Sodalities such as the Sacred Heart and St Anne who made very generous contributions towards the education of our seminarians.
21. On 8th September, **Christopher West**, the author of many books on the Theology of the Body lectured at St John Vianney Seminary.
22. Congratulations to **Fr Elias Senona** who will be the **New Dean for the Northeastern Deanery**. **Fr Elias** has made a great contribution in his Parish and will now coordinate in the Parishes and in the Deanery. The next Consultor's meeting will be on 24th October. We thanked **Fr. Sam Setshedi** who has moved to another Deanery and who worked with great generosity for 7 years in the Northeast until now.
23. The **next meeting of the Bishops of the Metropolitan Area of Pretoria** will take place at Mater Dei on 30th/31st October.

The **next SACBC Board Meeting** from the 7th November to 10th November will take place at Lumko.
24. There will be a special mass for the **Neocatechumen** on 15th October. Recently they travelled all over the country bringing the Good News and consolation to our Priests and Bishops. They went out as Jesus sent out His disciples in the Gospel with nothing for the journey.
25. The Archbishop will attend the meeting of the **Security Cluster Chaplains** on 10th October. This involves the prisons services, the police, and the army. On 20th September, the Archbishop will



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sign a MOH with the Head Chaplain of the Correctional Services which will facilitate the work of the Catholics in the restricted area.

26. Please pray for **Fr Barney McAleer** who had a heart attack and is waiting for his operation.
27. We thank **Fr. James Thazhoor CMI**, for his efforts to secure our property at Lotus Gardens. While trying to place a fence around our site he was attacked by some local people who tried to drive him away. Others who suffered recently for the church are **Fr Jimmy Mitchell** who was held-up and robbed at gun point in his office at Midrand. We want to assure Fr Jimmy that we really appreciate what he suffered because he is simply there for supply.
28. Congratulations to **Fr. Anthony Mdhluli CP** who was taken over from Fr Vincent Hill as Coordinator and Supervisor of the Deacon and Pastoral Ministry and Training Program. This Program is very well attended at Queenswood as many people wish to offer their services to the Church.
29. **Deacon Tshepiso Matle** was appointed as **Director of Evangelization of the Archdiocese**.
30. The Administration Office of the Chancery will be closed on Mondays.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

22 nd – 24 th August	National Workshop for Diocesan Leaders of Correctional Services Chaplaincies, Comboni Center in Lynnwood
26 th August	Marriage Desk - Eastern Deanery at CBC
8 th September	Christopher West Theology of the Body
10 th September	Confirmation at Ivory Park
12 th September	Consultor's Meeting – Archbishop's House
13 th September	Caritas Meeting – Jolivet House
	Soseletso
14 th September	Opening Eucharist for the Anglican Synod
15 th September	Evangelisation Meeting – Jolivet House
	Meeting with Youth Executive
	House Meeting at Jolivet House to discuss Burglary
16 th September	CWL Annual General Meeting – Lynnwood, 9:00 AM
	Mass at CBC for Marriage and Family Life
	Confirmation St Pius
17 th September	Confirmation St Peter Claver
19 th September	Ecumenical Meeting – Archbishop's House
	Bana Ba Maria Meeting
20 th September	MOH Signing at Jolivet House
22 nd September	Mass for Mercy Day at Capital Park
	Night Vigil at Tembisa for Mini World Youth Day



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24 th September	Confirmation St Vincent, Tembisa
	Catechetical Sunday in SACBC Dioceses
	Priests Retreat Begins (24 th – 29 th September, Good Shepherd)
24 th September	Welcome to New Parish Priest Midrand
23 rd September – 3 rd Oct	Novena to Celebrate Creation
1 st October	Launch of Benedict Daswa Medal at Cathedral. Bishop's Joao
4 th October	Feast of St Francis of Assisi
7 th October	Launching of Pretoria Catholic Health Care Association at Bertoni, 9:00 AM
8 th October	Confirmation Queenswood
10 th October	Meeting with Security Cluster
	World Homeless Day
11 th October	Meeting with Alpha
12 th October	Meeting with Ambassador of Missionaries
14 th October	Meeting with Jaco
15 th October	Confirmation Mahube Valley
	Mass for Neocatechumens – 6:30 PM
18 th October	Department of Formation St John Vianney Seminary
21 st October	Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Meeting
	Confirmation at Waverley – 6:00 PM
22 nd October	Sending ceremony at Zwavelpoort – 12:00 Noon
	Confirmation at Monavoni – 10:00 AM
24 th October	Consultor's Meeting
28 th October	Golden Jubilee of the Franciscan Minoresses, New Castle
29 th October	Confirmation at Montana
	Confirmation at St Raphael - Mamelodi
30 th & 31 st October	Metropolitan Bishops' Meeting – Mater Dei
1 st November	All Saints Day
2 nd November	Mass at St Augustine's
3 rd November	Mass at Loreto School in Cathedral
4 th November	Confirmation at Lynnwood
5 th November	Confirmation at Motla
7 th November	Mass for Priests and Religious at the Cemetery
7 th – 10 th November	SACBC Board Meeting - Lumkong
11 th November	Confirmation at Sta Maria
12 th November	Confirmation at Eersterust
18 th November	Mass at Sanctuary to welcome Koinania Community
19 th November	Confirmation at Zwavelpoort
	Confirmation at Siyabuswa
	Thanksgiving Mass for Western Deanery
24 th November	Evangelization Meeting at Jolivet House
25 th November	Graduation Mass for Echoing the Word at St Pius
26 th November	Confirmation at Sunnyside



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27 th November	Mass for Holy Trinity School – 2:00 pm
30 th November	Mass at St Paulus
3 rd December	Confirmation at Midrand
3 rd – 10 th December	Mini World Youth Day - Durban
9 th December	Ordination of 3 Deacons at St Peter Claver for Consolata Missionaries
10 th December	Confirmation at St Joseph, Pretoria West
	Confirmation at Lethlabile

+William Slattery OFM

+William Slattery OFM
Archbishop of Pretoria
15 September 2017