



# ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF PRETORIA

✉ PO Box 8149  
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South Africa

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Registration No. : 191-349 NPO

## DITABA 33 – 01 AUGUST 2018

1. **Caritas** – there were 25 presents at the 5<sup>th</sup> May meeting including a good representation from youth organizations. At a board meeting the following week, it was decided to request a 30-minute time slot at committee meetings or gatherings of sodalities and organizations. The purpose for this is to share basic information regarding Caritas more widely, allow time for questions, for clarification, and request cooperation in setting up the database. We have already begun doing this at AGM of priests on 29<sup>th</sup> May. Other dates are being confirmed with various groups and we hope to spread an understanding of Caritas in this way in the months ahead. People are very willing to cooperate in our efforts to try to begin to coordinate the good work that is happening in the diocese already. The good news is that Sr Maria de Lourdes has been appointed **National Director for Caritas** also. We hope that this means that we will receive guidelines from national level and be kept in touch with developments in other dioceses.

2. **Get tested.** The figures just released regarding the prevalence of HIV aids in our country make for doleful reading. 7.9 million people are positive. We must bring to the attention of our people that they have a responsibility to get tested. Positive people infect others. Without knowing it some may be giving others a death sentence.

All our Parishes must be aware of the child protection policy of the Church. The Catholic Institute of Education has developed excellent Workshops protecting children in our schools. Their policies apply equally to our Parishes. These policies are written up in easy reading booklets. It is the responsibility of the Parish to let everybody know that there is Child Protection Policy in this Archdiocese. It is necessary that each Diocese has a person to whom complains can be forwarded.

Our representatives on the Catholic Schools Board, Mrs. Violet Ramathunya and Mr Peter Ross, will be happy to help Parishes know the Church's policy.

3. **Archbishop Daniel** has improved after his bad experience where he fell in his flat. He is now in Lady Selbourne recuperating. It is a matter of re-building his strength. Keep him in your prayers. **Fr Ambrose** is still at Lady Selbourne, while his sight has improved somewhat, he still cannot read.

4. In a special way, remember the souls of the following people:

- **Fr Richard Konigbauer** who passed away in Germany. Fr Richard worked in this Archdiocese for 16 years from 1971 and did much to build up the church in Mamaneng and Marapyane.



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- **Sr Stephanie O'Keefe** of the Little Company of Mary. She was the heart of the wonderful work done at the Blues Hospitals in Pretoria for 60 years. A section of the hospital has been named for her.
  - **Sr Gabriel Sibande** of the Community of the Immaculate Heart in Bronkhorstspuit who passed away as a result of an accident. Sr Gabriel was for many years the chief catechist in that area.
  - **Sr Xavier Guiry** of the Mercy Sisters who gave many years generous service teaching in our schools in Mmakau and Iona.
  - **Sr Gerda Herbrügge** of the Holy Cross Sister. Sr Gerda is very well-known in this Archdiocese as she was a wonderful host for all who availed of the facilities at the Holy Cross Retreat House in Lady Selbourne. In addition, she did magnificent work in the prison and in a special way attended to many, many people who were hanged here in Pretoria.
  - **Fr Dominic Hession OFM**, who labored also in this Archdiocese at times in formation and in direction at the Seminary. He is mainly associated with Sebokeng.
5. Congratulations to **Skidders Street Loreto School** which has flourished for 140 years in this City. Founded by the Loreto Sisters, it has implanted Gospel values in many generations. Today, it is still a booming school.
6. Congratulations to the new **Archdiocesan Laity Council**. Representatives of the Sodalities and movements and departments met at Jolivet house to establish the Laity Council on 14<sup>th</sup> July.

The Laity Council will coordinate the work and charism of the Sodalities. It will take the pulse of the spiritual life of our Archdiocese. It is a think tank to suggest policies and programmes for the evangelization of our people.

#### **The New Executives are the following:**

National of Laity Council – Ms Enency Kuki Mbatha

Chairperson - Mr. Dominic Moloto

Deputy Chairperson – Ms Georgina Mabula

Secretary – Ms Helen Ncube

Deputy Secretary – Omphemetse Mpolaise

Treasurer – Ms Meshack Mashau

Member – Michael Tloubatla

Member - Tinashe Dhlamini

Member – Lizzy Nkanyane



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7. The **Justice and Peace** office is very busy and has many plans for the future. They have 16 active Parishes now and 18 other Parishes which come sometimes. Its aim is evangelization through service and care of people. At its Workshop in September, it intends to train 20 young people in the inspirations and motivations of working for justice. They have trained men to conscientise others regarding abuse of women and children. It also sends counselors to assist rape victims at police stations and court cases. It involves volunteers in protecting all people receiving social grants. It protects people who are defenseless and are in need of guidance. We request each Parish to contribute a R100 a month to the work of Justice and Peace through the Chancery.
8. As an Archdiocese, we were very proud of the wonderful celebration at MEDUNSA on 10<sup>th</sup> June. We estimate that almost 6,000 packed in to the great hall to honor the **Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Patron of our Archdiocese**. Congratulations to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, the Liturgical Committee, and the Men of the Archdiocese who organized an excellent function.
9. Around 600 **Altar Servers** held their camp this year under the guidance of Fr Herman Mole.
10. **Fr Herman Mole** is now the new **Vocations Director**, while encouraging more people to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, I request all Parishes to cooperate with Fr Herman in promoting vocations.
11. **Catechetics**. The Archdiocesan Catechetical Team is training 48 new volunteers in their initial formation journey as Catechists. The excellent course, Echoing the Word, continues to take place once a month on Saturdays of which there are 68 participants. On 21<sup>st</sup> July, Priests, Sponsors, and Catechists of the present confirmation formation classes met to plan the Sending Ceremony at the end of October. Remember that the great retreat for Catechists will take place at **Mater Dei from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> August**.
12. **Mrs Kekana** is now in full flight training medical personnel to voluntarily help people by screening for non-communicable diseases. I thank the Priests who make her welcome, this is a real service for poor people who do not easily have access to medical care.
13. **Finances**. I really appeal to all our Parishes to make sure that they pay for their insurance, medical care of Priests, and Assessments. All Parishes are expected to make a great effort to see that their Priests have cars. Remember our AGM conclusions, the Parishes need to have an NPO and to cover themselves for SARS and take account of their responsibilities for their employees.

The Archdiocese has requested Fr Senona to get a **fund-raising committee** together to raise funds for our ministries. The Archdiocese could offer much greater assistance to people in areas like the Marriage Desk, Youth, Justice and Peace, and Catechetical, if we are adequately financed. People with a gift for fund-raising should contact Fr Senona and assist him in this task.



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14. The **Cathedral of the Sacred Heart is the Principal Church of the Archdiocese**. For some time, the roof has been giving problems. It is going to cost a lot to repair it. And repair it we must. I do intend to have a second collection at a later date so that all can contribute something towards these expenses.
15. We are engaged in other buildings at the moment. Fr Senona has just completed an excellent priest house at **St Oliver Kwaggafontein**.  
  
The **Convent in Dennilton** has been totally repaired.  
  
We now have a site in **Nellmapius** to finally plan building a church there.  
  
Due to the huge expansion of houses, we must also build a **Kanana in Hammanskraal**.  
  
Congratulations to **Fr Evantus** who has given us an excellent Church Center at **Olivenhoutbos**. In addition, the **Neo-Catechumenate** community has transformed their house there into a minor seminary where there are 6 seminarians for the Archdiocese.
16. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, the Youth celebrated a special day at the Christian Brothers School in Silverton. They have taken the theme “**Sweat for Christ**” as their motto for the year. They must also be congratulated on the DVD which they have composed and created to alert their peers regarding the danger of drugs. In October this year, the eyes of the universal church will be in the **Synod in Bishop in Rome**, contemplating youth and the discernment of a vocation for life.
17. There was a very good turn-out of Laity at Queenswood for this year’s Winter Theology school promoted by the Jesuit Institute on the theme of **Racism**. It is a pity that more of our Priests don’t use these glorious opportunities. Very few attended and even fewer went to the full workshop at Lumko.
18. While we concluded our own Bi-Centenary celebrations at Medunsa, the Archbishop represented the Archdiocese with the SACBC in Cape Town on 24<sup>th</sup> June.
19. The **Archbishop Peter Bryan Wells**, the Apostolic Nuncio, celebrated the **Feast of Sts Peter and Paul at the Cathedral**. Later many Ambassadors and representatives attended a generous reception at the Nunciature. Both Archbishop Wells and the representative of the South African Government commented on the excellent relationship between the Catholic Church and South African Nation. Our Seminarians rendered the National Anthem and then did excellent work with the Anthem of the Holy Sea in Latin.
20. On 29<sup>th</sup> June, **Sr Rita Carey** of the Mercy Sisters brought an excellent course to conclusion with the awarding of the certificates to many of the offenders in Odi Prison. Sr Rita is continually with the prisoners and has a team that she has trained working with her. Besides



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being a work of mercy, this Ministry is of huge importance for the rehabilitation of many men. After many years of service, **Deacon Molebale** is retiring from exceptional work in the Correctional Service. The prisons in town are served by **Fr Bongi Sithole**, who also is the Parish Priest of Bronkhorstspuit.

21. The **Association of Catholic University Students** met at St John Vianey Seminary on 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July. Parishes should ensure that students know and associate with ACTS.

From the 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of July the Pan-African meeting of the secular **Franciscan Orders** took place at Padre Pio Center. There were 130 representatives from 32 African countries.

22. The **Western Deanery** hosted by **Hartbeespoort Parish** held their 1<sup>st</sup> Deanery Meeting. About 600 people attended and it was an excellent celebration.
23. The Parish of **Laudium** celebrated its **Patron St Thomas** with a family day on 30<sup>th</sup> of June.
24. The Archdiocese says a grateful goodbye to **Fr Tony Thouard OFM** who has been appointed by the Franciscan Province to the Parish of Vanderbijlpark. We welcome **Fr Graham Bouwer** to the Parish of Pius X Waterkloof. **Fr Thomas Fernandes** who worked in Siyabuswa and also with the Altar Servers has been re-appointed by his Capuchins Province to work in Argentina. We thanked him for his service.

**Fr Daniel Kivuw'a IMC** has been appointed as the new Chaplain to the **Knights of Da Gama**.

**Fr Isaac Ramakgolo** will be the new **Chaplain for the Children of Mary**.

25. On 12<sup>th</sup> June, the **Stigmatine Congregation** had the great joy of having three of their Brothers ordained as **Deacons** in St John the Baptist, Pretoria North. They are **Anthony Ntokozo Mkhwanazi**; **Anthony Otieno Osawo**; and **Tumelo Lino Hans Poo**.
26. Congratulations to the Sodalities which celebrate their Feast Days at this time of the year, they are: **Sacred Heart Sodalities** in June, The **Women of St Anne** in July, and the **Catholic Men's Association** who will also have their meeting in July.
27. Let us remember our **Pilgrimage to Jonathan on 19<sup>th</sup> August**. **Our Lady Assumed Into Heaven** is our National Patroness.
28. **Theology on Tap** has been introduced into our Archdiocese by Carlos Camara of Men in Christ. The Bishop had the exhilarating experience of answering questions from 40 young adults on many aspects of Christian life in the world today. Theology on Tap is bringing young people together around a pizza and a drink to discuss theological issues.



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## 29. FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Every Thursday	Radio Veritas on 576 AM
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Funeral Mass for Sr Gerda at Lady Selbourne at 10:00 AM
28 <sup>th</sup> July	Archdiocesan Pastoral Council at the Chancery at 9:30 AM
	Catholic Women's League Annual Meeting at Montana
29 <sup>th</sup> July	Ivory Park Confirmation 9:00 AM
30 <sup>th</sup> July – 7 <sup>th</sup> August	SACBC Plenary Session at Mariannahill
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Catechist Retreat at Mater Dei
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Celebration at Queenswood 10:00 AM
11 <sup>th</sup> August`	Deacon's Council Meeting at Chancery
	Meeting Father Provincial of Missionaries of St Francis de Sales @ 2:00
12 <sup>th</sup> August	Confirmation at St Vincent at 9:30 AM
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Deanery Meeting at St Anne's
	Mass at Padre Pio Center at 5:00 PM
	Minister of Higher Education to Visit Good Shepherd Madidi
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Mass at Assumption Convent School at 8:00 AM
	Spiritual Conference for Handmaids of Christ the Parish at 2:00 PM
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Prayer Vigil and Evening Prayer at Cathedral at 7:00 PM
19 <sup>th</sup> August	Archdiocesan Pilgrimage at Jonathan at 7:30 AM
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Building Committee at 4:00 PM
23 <sup>rd</sup> August	Bishop goes to Dublin for World Meeting of Families and Holiday
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Marriage Enrichment Program Southern Deanery at Maria Regina
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Confirmation at St Raphael
	Confirmation at St Augustine, Silverton
	Bible Sunday
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Ecumenical Meeting
	Clergy Med Meeting
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Catholic Women's Association
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Police Commemoration Day at Union Building
	Confirmation at Maria Regina
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmation at Diepsloot
16 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmation at Saulsville
	Catechetical Sunday
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Bishop's Address to the Knights of da Gama at 7:00 PM
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Evangelisation Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Confirmation at Christian Brothers School
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Laity Council Executive Meeting at 9:00 AM
	Confirmation at St Pius X Waterkloof at 6:00 PM
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Confirmation at Temba
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Mass and Blessing at Tembisa Moya at 4:00 PM
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Police Day of Prayer
29 <sup>th</sup> September	Mass and Talk at St Vincent de Paul Society at 2:00 PM
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Confirmation at Seabe



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30 <sup>th</sup> Sept – 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Annual Priests Retreat at Good Shepherd Retreat Center, Hartbeespoort
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Jubilee Mass at Mnandi for Carmelites Sisters
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Focolare Meeting in Johannesburg
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Feast of St Francis
6 <sup>th</sup> October	YACO Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmation at St Anne, Atteridgeville
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Meeting of Security Services
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Department of Formation St John Vianey Seminary
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Meeting of the Masole and Masolenyana
	Confirmation at Waverly at 6:00 PM
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmation at Queenswood
15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Metropolitan Meeting at Padre Pio
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Golden Jubilee of Parish of Temba at 9:00 AM
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Confirmation at Eersterust
	The Sending Ceremony at Zwavelpoort
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Consultors Meeting
	Caritas Meeting at 3:30 PM
27 <sup>th</sup> October	Initial Formation Journey at Bertoni Center at 9:00 AM
28 <sup>th</sup> October	Confirmation at Mmakau

*+ William Slattery OFM*

**+William Slattery OFM**  
Archbishop of Pretoria  
01 August 2018