

The GOOD HOPE

The official newsletter of the Diocese of Cape Town
(Anglican Church of Southern Africa ACSA)

125th anniversary of the Church Lads and Girls Brigade



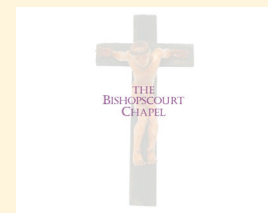
Photographer: Jaén André Isaacs, report on page 8



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CLASSIFIEDS

Archbishop's Education Endowment Fund for Theological Education

Please support the Archbishop's Education Fund so that we can continue to train priests for the future of our church. Thank you for all donations received. If you would like to contribute please consider a donation.

A sum of
R1 483 201.67
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EDITORIAL

It's human nature to compare yourself to others especially when you see someone else succeeding in life and you feel like you at a 'dead-end'. We tend to look at the tangible things which are materialistic and forget that we have all been given spiritual gifts. What's that you might wonder?

God's gifts to the world range from the gift of healing, the gift of miracles, the gift of prophecy, the gift of discernment, faith, fear of the Lord and wisdom to name a few. This, in turn, become our spiritual gifts - teaching, serving and leadership. It's not easy to identify it within ourselves and often only surfaces later in life when we learn to talk less and listen more. These gifts don't come polished, we are somewhat obligated to mature it as we grow in faith. Once it's developed in full we become a shining light to those who are attracted to what they seek and we become a beacon of hope like a lighthouse that towers over the sea.

Love and Light, Rebecca

THE GOOD HOPE

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EVENTS AND NOTICES

BINGO: St John the Evangelist Crawford, will host a Bingo afternoon on Saturday 5th October 2019 in the parish hall (201 Belgravia Road) 13h30 for 14h00. Refreshments will be on sale. For further information contact the parish office on 0216974956 or June Barnes 0726901322.

GREYLADIES FUNDRAISER: A concert by Philadelphians Choir group will be held at Church of the Holy Spirit, Heideveld on Sunday 6th October 2019 at 15h00. Tickets available at Barbara 021 671 0820, Jay Jay 063 769 0018. Email: greyladies@telkomsa.net, R50. Refreshments are on sale.

PARISH DANCE: St Luke's Salt River presents a Black and White evening on 18th October 2019 from 20h00 - 00h45 at the Kensington Civic Centre. The band in attendance will be Sweet Sounds. There will be a Cheese and Wine from 19h00 - 20h00. Donation of R120. For tickets contact Desiree at 079 354 2261 or Miche at 083 379 7907.

ISRAEL TOUR 2020 TOUR GROUP

MEETING: Please note a meeting will be held on Sunday, 20 October 2019 at St

Saviour's Church, Claremont from 15h00 -17h00. For more information contact Alex Pelston on 0823772856 or anekaj@gmail.com

ST MATTHEW'S CLAREMONT

PARISH DANCE: will take place on 25th October at Retreat Civic Centre. There will be cheese and wine from 7pm with live music by Cool Sounds. St Matthew's Claremont parish dance will take place on 25th October at Retreat Civic Centre. There will be cheese and wine from 7pm with live music by Cool Sounds. Contact Alan on 0834125067 or Quinton on 0721251303 for Tickets at R120 per ticket.

PATRONAL WEEKEND

CELEBRATIONS: 1st-3rd November 2019, All Saints, Plumstead will be hosting a Bingo and Boerewors evening on 1st November 2019; Fete on Saturday 2nd November 2019 (We will be serving breakfast until 11am, thereafter the tea garden will be up and running. Many lunch options available, fun activities for the kids and their friends, and craft stalls. If you would like to have a craft stall please contact our parish office)

and our Patronal Festival service on Sunday 3rd November 2019.

ERRATUM: The GSS Centenary Requiem Mass takes place on 3rd November 2019, 15h00 at Church of the Holy Spirit, Heideveld.

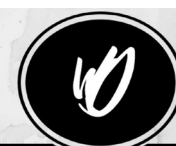
MORNING MARKET: at St Paul's, Rondebosch on Saturday 30th November 2019 from 08h30. Come and join us - lots of fun for young and old. Different stalls: boerewors, curry & roti, books, sit down breakfast, white elephant, fruit & veg, cakes & desserts, kiddies' corner with jumping castle and face painting, Christmas gifts and Christmas cakes, plants and much more. For more information please contact Enid Taylor @ 0832877876 or Zerick bailey @ 082 8213106.

PARISH SECRETARY VACANCY: at St John's Crawford, starting date January 2020. Submit your CV to Fr Alexander Ernest at ahernest@telkomsa.net by 30 November 2019.



DIOCESE OF CAPE TOWN GUILD OF THE SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY (GSS) CENTENARY MUG

The GSS is selling these mugs at R60 each in a box. It has the centenary logo on the front and the Servers Guild prayer at the back. For orders or queries, they may email Khile on knabalse@gmail.com.



Writing Desk

**Drawing up of: Newsletters, CV's,
Pew Leaflets and more**

Contact Robyn:

robyn@writingdesk.co.za



From the Vicar General's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers

Richard Rohr encourages us to learn to see ourselves and the world as the Mystics see it. He suggests that whatever it is that we teach or are taught, we hear it on at least eight to ten different levels depending on our inner psychological and spiritual maturity. At level 1, "people will misuse the Bible, the sacraments, the priesthood, spiritual direction, the Enneagram, or anything else that is presented to them." At levels 7-9, "people will make lemonade out of even sour or unripe lemons" (*The Naked Now*, page 163). Referring to the tragic events of the recent weeks that has wreaked havoc, destruction, death and the spate of killing women and children in our country as the sourest lemons imaginable would still be the understatement of the century.

It seems as if we have descended into the deepest darkest ugliness. The state of affairs has got to change and they will change and reach a turning point. Women have taken the lead in saying 'enough is enough'.

At the Cathedral, after the protest against gender based violence, a woman said: "I walk like this to ease the excruciating pain in my back. Yet I can't begin to imagine the pain the families must be going through who have lost their beautiful daughters so brutally murdered. We must unite to end this scourge." Another said: "what we experienced today is a game changer."

"At the start of the Cape Town Marathon the National Anthem was sung with such intense passion, urgency and determination that it filled me with hope for our country after what we have just been through. I felt encour-



aged by our church's stance and messages of hope, Archbishop Thabo gives us and the many sermons that inspire hope in me. My hope is renewed," said another.

A joint confirmation service was held at St Saviour's, Claremont for candidates from the Anglican schools and St Saviour's parish at which our Archbishop presided. "It was such a wonderful experience to see the church packed to capacity. It filled us with hope for our church's future and the significant role we can play in society as a church," said the Churchwardens.

Later that same day the Church Lads and Girls Brigade celebrated their 125th Anniversary with a Eucharistic service in the Cathedral. Despite his gruelling schedule, Archbishop Thabo agreed to preside and preach at the service. Brigade battalions from the Dioceses of Cape Town, False Bay, Saldanha Bay and George met on the Grand Parade and proceeded to march to the Cathedral in a joy-

ous procession of Christian witness. It was wonderful to observe the hymns and choruses played with such gusto. The Cathedral was packed to the rafters with parishioners from the various dioceses who came to celebrate this most memorable and glorious occasion. The timing of this event was a significant reminder of the value of having church brigades in our townships. Young people are given a sense of purpose, they are kept off the streets, and their programmes instil in them discipline and respect for each other. They are also equipped with the skills to play a musical instrument. With the integration of the Lads and Girls in a combined brigade we see a fine example of not only gender equality but also a fully intergenerational community from most senior member to most junior member affirming equal dignity and value of everyone. There is hope for the future.

Let me conclude with a quote from former Irish president Mary Robinson's speech given at the launch of Daily Maverick's climate journalism unit in Cape Town called '*Our Burning Planet*': "Imagine the world we are supposed to be hurrying towards by 2030. A much healthier world free of fossil fuel pollution; a more equal world, in which everyone has access to clean energy; and the world of solidarity, the world of deeper human relationships, that we need in order to get there ..." (DM, 15 September 2019). To quote Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, let us all be, "prisoners of hope."

Let us refuse to give up on a better world and play our part to make it happen.

Grace and Peace
Keith De Vos



A rector for Tristan da Cunha

The Revd Margaret van den Berg was instituted as the rector of St Mary's church on the Island of Tristan da Cunha, on Sunday, 1st September 2019. Her licensing took place during Evensong at St George's Cathedral by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba. She and her husband, Nicolaas traveled the following day on the SA Agulhas to Tristan da Cunha which took seven days at sea.

Photographer: M Wannenberg

Silent Vigil at St George's Cathedral in response to the senseless killing of girls and women



Photographer: The Photo Journal - Desire' Martin

Athlone Archdeaconry Clergy Retreat

The Athlone Archdeaconry clergy retreat took place at a beautiful tranquillity setting at Stellenbosch Christian Brothers this year.

It was a time for reflection and introspection on the theme: "Growing in our priestly life and formation within the context of the challenges and opportunities of our times".

A reflection abstract from the retreat: During this time of reflection we engaged with conversations on the importance and crucial principle that we take care of ourselves and others, even in difficult and complex situations. The purpose is to develop and grow into our life experience.

Revd Stephen Tekana our retreat conductor directed that we constantly need to find creative and meaningful ways of growing and developing the quality of our lives and the lives of others. This principle requires us as clergy; to constantly seek God's guidance and direction and to act appropriately and decisively towards the challenges to opportunities which face us daily. Sometimes



we face situations in which we have to make difficult choices. In Matthew 25:34-40, we are reminded that we recognize the needs of our sisters and brothers and act accordingly what is expected from us, which confirms the rootedness of this life principle. Whilst we also reflect on ourselves as clergy, engaging in this life principle, the question arises about the care for clergy and families in the life of the church.

Thanks be to God - we could give thanks for this wonderful week away to reflect on life's principle for all of us. A time to give thanks and a time to celebrate. We celebrated the Revd Deon Faro's birthday during the retreat. The Archdeaconry clergy together with our ordinand give thanks to Revd Stephen Tekana. We also express sincere gratitude to Byron Lenders who was our cook during the week.

As Revd Tekana reiterated, let us continue to grow in our expectations for the positive and encouraging life experience that come on our life journey.

Let us then always be mindful of the amazing presence of God that forms the core essence of life and that we should never take things or life for granted.

- the Revd Ronald Dias

Democracy, vulnerability, and resilience, in post-apartheid South Africa

Theological and ethical challenges

Democracy: Almost 23 years ago, in his prophetic reflection on Christianity and Democracy, John De Gruchy lamented that 'the sorry tale of failed political orders in Africa, particularly Southern Africa, since independence, indicates that systems of government, whether liberal democratic, socialist, or Marxist-Leninist, foisted on the people of Africa, cannot be expected to work. Democracy has to grow from within in ways appropriate to Africa and each nation's particular history and political tradition.' For De Gruchy, the emergence of democracy as understood in the west, always reflected local traditions and practice; hence Africa cannot be an exception. Endorsing Kwame Appiah's position that 'Africa will only solve its problems if they are seen as human problems arising out of an African context,' De Gruchy insists that 'while attempts by western nations to prescribe democratic solutions for Africa have to be considered seriously, they also have to be treated with critical caution.' To struggle for freedom is one thing but to build a democratic society is another thing. Political challenges besetting post-liberation governments in Africa, particularly in Southern Africa, as they try to build democratic states that are resonant to the needs and aspirations of their people, while trying to reflect local traditions without displacing the mainstream political thought as found in the west, are a result of much deeper socio-political problems than one of transition. For De Gruchy, in order for democracy to be authentic, it should reflect local needs and interests.

Vulnerability: Current challenges besetting South Africa today seem to suggest that to build a new nation out of the ruins of the old political order, without its meaningful transformation or integration into the new, is impossible. It is like trying to 'pour new wine into old wineskins' while avoiding breaking the old wineskins. In the process new challenges are encountered than those experienced in the struggle for freedom. Avoiding or facing these challenges head-on may both be an occasion for blessing or curse. The vulnerability of South Africa's democratic dispensation is not unique to South Africa but a reminder of how true democracy works.

The South African Story as a Cradle of Resilience: The story of apartheid should always disturb the consciousness of the people of South Africa, in order for them to remain resolute in their commitment to the struggles for a non-racial and reconciled South Africa. To remember is to build a nation in its common spirit. It is in remembering that we derive the power to believe. So, as Christians, we are called to remember again and again, in order to believe. In fact, we meet every Sunday in order to remember, to remember in order to have confidence in the certainty of Christian discipleship. We remember in order to become members of the body of Christ again. Current events in Southern Africa, particularly in our country South Africa, is a reminder of how heavy the cross of democracy is. It reminds us that to know what democracy is, is one thing but to understand what it means to live in a democratic society is another question, even more difficult to answer. The wounds of our divided past make it impossible and unbearable for many South Africans to see the new dawn. The dark cloud of apartheid still hovers the South African sky and this cloud make it difficult to see the mirage of democracy laying ahead. As a nation the people of South Africa are united by the history of pain. The strength of South Africa democracy should be found in the South African people's common story of suffering and pain. It is when the people cease to remember that the bolts of democracy begin to crack. The South African story is a cradle of resilience.

Individual freedom as a social commitment: The Indian philosopher Amartya Sen in his book *Development as Freedom* shares a thrilling but breath-taking story about Bertrand Russell, who was a firm atheist, who was once asked what he would do if, following his death, he was to encounter God after all. Russell is supposed to have answered, I will ask him God Almighty, why you gave little evidence of your existence. Certainly, according to Amartya, the appalling world in which we live does not 'at least on the surface look like one in which an all-powerful benevolence is having its way. According to him, it is hard to understand how a compassionate world order can include so many people afflicted by acute misery, persistent hunger and deprived and desperate lives, and why millions of innocent children must die each year from lack of food or medical attention or social care. For Sen, the issue of cause is not new, it has been a subject of some discussion among theologians. The argument that God has reason to want us to deal with these matters ourselves has had considerable support. It is not out of the ordinary that Amartya Sen uses Bertrand Russell's anguish to make a real point that expresses our own social quagmire in a real world. He speaks of God's invisibility and God's little evidence. Likewise, I would also say that the appalling circumstances in which we live in a post-Apartheid South Africa does not seem to be under the guidance of a democratically free society in which the rule of law and individual responsibility prevail. The presence of democracy is invisible and vulnerable. It does not make sense that young lives may be taken in public spaces within institutions which could protect and make them safe. Amartya Sen's position reveals one of the most intricate theological and ethical challenges facing the Church after 20 years of our democratic transition.

Uyenene's tragic passing in a public office only reveals how unsafe and vulnerable our democratic institutions are. As a nation we have been befallen by a tragedy that will take a long, long time to heal if it will ever heal. It shows that South Africa has not been able to deal with its divided past in a way that heals and reconciles. It has not effectively dealt with its bleeding wounds. The bleeding wounds of our democracy render God's existence invisible. Immediately after 1994, the world has been unfair to South Africa by demanding more than what South Africa could afford, without giving it any possible space for it to sit and reflect on its own wounds. South Africa's urgency in responding to international pressures and making of itself a perfectly democratic country has not given time to South Africa to dress its own wounds.

Yes, we laid the foundations, the foundations of democracy, the rule of law, the culture of constitutionalism and human rights, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, but we have not realised that as wounded as we are, we may not be able to take our journey to the end as easily we could. We have dressed the wounds, but we seem to have placed the bandage just over the bleeding wounds which were not properly dressed which are now beginning to show up in many different ways. We took for granted that we have achieved our freedom but we did not reflect so soberly what to do with our freedom.

This is an edited extract, to read the full text, log in to:
www.ctdiocese.org.za

- the Revd Dr Isaias Chachine
UCT Chaplain



To the Laos - to the people of God

You may recall that in my sermon at St George's Cathedral in Cape Town last Christmas, I voiced the Church's alarm at the high levels of aggression that we are experiencing in South Africa. I spoke then of violence in our schools, on picket lines during strikes and at service delivery protests. Now, in recent weeks, we have seen other manifestations of this ugly element of our country's psyche come to the fore: gender-based violence and xenophobic attacks on fellow Africans who come from beyond our borders but live among us.

Violence against women and children is of course nothing new. As we emerged from the apartheid era in the 1990s, clergy in the Diocese of Cape Town began to name what had until then been a scourge too little spoken about in our communities. My own exposure to the crisis came in Johannesburg, where as a psychologist I spent three years counselling at a shelter run by Women Against Woman Abuse. There I wept as I heard the stories of how men raped women and children, inflicted burns on women, kicked pregnant women and stabbed their genitals, and I struggled to understand how human beings could be so evil towards others.

Many brave and committed people, women in particular, have long campaigned against this deeply-buried secret shame of our society. But the cruel murder of Uyinene Mrwe-tyana in Cape Town has set off a nation-wide outpouring of anger and protest the likes of which we have not seen in recent times, not least within the Church. I have been proud as I have seen evidence on countless Facebook pages run by dioceses, parishes and individual Anglicans of how our people have gathered in demonstrations large and small outside our churches and on our streets. I am especially proud of the action those in church schools have taken, whether young women dressed in black lining the streets or young men committing themselves to set an



example to society by treating all, but especially women, with respect, dignity and compassion. All of us must keep up the pressure, in our own lives and in the institutions and organisations we are part of, to take the many steps necessary to defeat this evil.

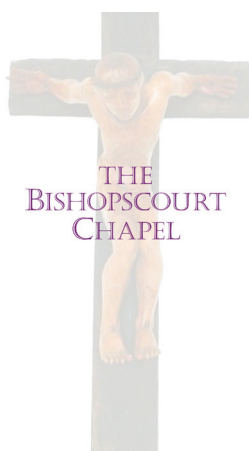
The attacks on migrants that have erupted once again are further evidence of the way in which we as a nation have grown up thinking that results are achieved only through violence. I understand how poverty, hunger and the peddling of drugs in our community infuriates people – I am infuriated by those too – but the breakdown of law and order gives criminals in communities license to act with impunity, and the looting and killing drives away the investment we need to create jobs. In an unprecedented joint statement issued with the Most Revd Nicholas Okoh, Primate of the Church of Nigeria (Anglican), I have condemned the breakdown of law and order, and expressed our sympathy to those who

have been injured and our regrets at the loss of property and businesses. We have committed ourselves to dialogue with a view to finding lasting solutions to the tensions and urged our presidents to work to ensure that Nigerians and South Africans work together to mutual benefit.

We should do the same with those from other countries on our continent as well – even truck drivers transporting goods from other African countries are afraid to cross our borders for fear of being attacked. In public statements I have condemned those who have chased people from their homes, deploring how we, who suffered the pain of forced removals under apartheid, can inflict that pain on others. And I have also called on President Ramaphosa to ensure that the responsible branches of government act firmly against the violence, especially by arresting and prosecuting those who attacked people and looted their homes and businesses.

Within the Church, we need at parish level to contribute in whatever way possible to help those who have been the victim of attacks, and to create spaces for dialogue where we can look at how we can support one another theologically, pastorally and in a practical way. We should empower ourselves, and move away from only condemning the government and towards being part of the solution ourselves. As I said last Christmas, we will not be able to say that the quality of life for ordinary South Africans has been improved by our liberation until we are also liberated from our instinct to solve problems through violence: "The flames of darkness associated with violence need to be extinguished forever."

God bless you.
+ Thabo Cape Town



Booklet on the Bishops court Chapel

A short history on the crucifix at Bishops court, including a brief overview of the refurbishment of the chapel, is now available.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy, it's available at R70 from the Archbishop's office. Please e-mail Wendy at: archreception@anglicanchurchsa.org.za for related enquiries".

Start with what is necessary, then do what is possible and soon you will do the impossible (St Francis)

A statement of solidarity by Provincial Ministers of Third Order of Society of Francis who met at Cenacle Retreat Centre in Long Island, New York from 18 – 24 August 2019.

As we look at the reliable scientific evidence of what will happen if we don't stay within the 1.5o limit, we see quite simply the unravelling of the web of life, of God's creation. This affects us deeply as penitential Franciscans. It also opens an avenue for us. As agricultural failures loom, as sea levels rise, as storms worsen and drought covers vast areas, as the poor suffer immeasurably, as hundreds of thousands of God's precious are displaced, what is necessary? What is possible?

The needs of this world are existentially endangered; providing for the spiritual crises arising from that will be vital, as we mirror for people the love and connection with each other that must be a priority moving forward. We all know about reducing our carbon footprint and taking the steps necessary to do that.

The uncharted territory facing us will be the new kind of care for creation: the care for creation through the soul and souls of others as well as the body. We may have to rethink our priorities and busy lives, just in order to do what is necessary, what is possible. The deeper and truer we are to God's image in us, the more we will have to offer in an outward direction to those in distress.

Our strength as Franciscans lies in our experiential trinity of Contemplation, Community and Missional Action. These will anchor us as we serve others.

Making his contribution and support to Third Order Ministers, the Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, TSSF, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Canada wrote "It is unfortunate that the Franciscan legacy has been tainted by the movement's involvement with colonization. In the urgency of humanity's present crisis, however, a new reality and possibility emerges: a reconciliation which will acknowledge and repent the past; a reconciliation that will bring ben-

efit to humanity and all Creation. The threat of global environmental disaster has a unique danger for Indigenous Peoples and, at the same time, displays that their ecological wisdom and stewardship of the land are an essential part of any livable future. Indigenous Peoples, in their living relationship with the Land, are standing in a prophetic relationship to our global economic, cultural, and ecological crisis. For Franciscans, the way forward has three aspects:

1) Spiritual/Moral Examination - A sincere and dedicated communal examination of ways in which the colonial cultural-social system of the past four centuries has distorted and deformed Christian understanding and witness. This has ecological implications, in addition to a concern for Indigenous Peoples.

2) Standing with Indigenous Peoples and Mother Earth - Though greatly threatened, Indigenous Peoples now have the stewardship of roughly a quarter of the world's remaining intact eco-systems. The protection of these lands and the people who guard them is one of the most compelling human rights issues facing our global community, as well as a critical issue to planetary viability. Where do we stand in this essential concern?

3) A Return to Ecological Wholeness - Indigenous ecological wisdom is desirable in and of itself. It does, also, bring Christians back to the ecological wholeness of our original documents and their embodiment in practice (so severely deformed by aspects of the mindset of Western modernity.).

This is an environment in which Franciscans should thrive, leading a movement towards a spiritual, moral, and cultural practice that will see humanity living in harmony with the rest of Creation.

**- Compiled by Rev Dr M Twum-Darko TSSF
(Minister Provincial African Province)**

Fellowship, fundraising, and finger sandwiches



Our High Tea held on 1st September 2019 was a huge success. While the subtle theme was inspired from "Beauty and the Beast", there is a comparison drawn between Belle and our women in the Church. They are strong, resourceful, and independent. "The backbone of the Church".

Both women and men, young and old, in attendance had a wonderful and delicious afternoon. From the colourful decorations, to the

fantastic finger foods, and talented entertainment it was a way to celebrate women in the Church. Our Church hall looked bright and lively with the reds and yellows from the various decorations. Some of our snacks included mini quiche, finger sandwiches, veg and dip platters, fruit platters, eclairs, cream horns, petit fours, chocolate cake, carrot cake, vanilla cake, jam squares, salted caramel bars, date bars! We had flavoured tea, coffee, and juice to quench our thirst. We had many lucky draw prizes and three raffle prizes, while not everyone won a prize they certainly did not go home empty handed- each guest received a filled goodie bag.

Father Mkhushi opened the event with a welcome and a prayer. Our entertainment included home grown performances from our Liturgical Dance Group, one of our youngsters doing a trumpet solo, the ladies from St Michael's Home for Girls doing a dance and a song, one of our parishioners gave us a talk and her sister sang to us. We were so fortunate to see such an array of talent!

It is through the grace of God that we could use our gifts that God gave us to make this a very special and successful event. A very big thank you to all involved and to all those who came to support.

- Caitlin Smith

125th anniversary Thanksgiving Service of the CL&GB

"Fight The Good Fight" and spreads God's Gospel amongst all young men, women and children throughout our communities". Famous words from the Archbishop of Cape Town, Makgoba, on Sunday 8th September, at The Cathedral of St George the Martyr, when His Grace congratulated the CL&GB, on this amicable milestone, of 125 years of existence, in the life of "The eldest" organisation within the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

Brigade Members from Cape Town, George, Saldanha Bay and False Bay Diocesan Regiments, families with even babies in strollers, came in their hundreds, to celebrate and give thanks to God, for reaching this historic occasion. After an inspection by Colonels, Ronnie Jacobs, Fred Spocter, Gloria Berry, Osborne Arendse, Roy Theunissen, Cape Town Regiment led the march through the streets of Cape Town, from the Grand Parade to the Cathedral. In disciplined formation, we showed off our talents, with traditional Fife & Bugle marches, like "Onward Christian Soldiers", "The Thunderer" and old-time favourite tune of "Elke dag Soutvis en Brood". Sounds of Bass and Snare drums echoed against the tall buildings, as platoons were at their most sharpness, swinging arms and moving feet on one formation. Supporters and well wishes had smiles all over their faces as it reminded them of "those" years, some 15-20-50 years back.

Inside the Cathedral, before the services started, there was a buzz as many younger members entered this huge building, with this high ceilings and enormous organ pipes, for the first time. Adjutants from three Diocesan Regiments, struggled with VIP-Guests seating, as old friends wanted to sit close or next to each other, just to have a chat about yester-year. There wasn't space for a fly, as the pews were packed to capacity and our Mother Church "Bars uit haar naate" van oorvol kan wees. Some parishioners and members had to participate from outside.

In his vote of thanks, The Executive Mayor of the City of Cape Town, congratulated the Brigade for 125 years of existence, proudly thanking and commended the members and officers, for the sterling work they are doing in the greater Cape Town communities. He encouraged the leadership to carry on fighting against the evils of women and children abuse, substance abuse, use of drugs and to stand up against gangsterism & crime.

After the service, the sidewalks of Wale Street, in front of the Cathedral, were filled with the Archbishop, Mayor, Regimental Chaplains – Revd George Wyngaardt, Revd Christopher Swartz, Revd Ronald Dias, Revd Shaun Cozett, the rest of the clergy, Commanding Officers of DRC Brigade, our own CL&GB Commanders and onlookers, to watch and cheer, especially the little ones, as Battalions Bands and Platoons marched past the saluting bay, led by the 1st Battalion of Saldanha Bay, George, False Bay and Cape Town Diocesan Regiments, under the command of Parade Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Eugene Isaacs, en-route to the Grand Parade for the dismissal. "Wow, what an amazing event" and "Oh no, they are just too small to march". Famous words from the Archbishop and everyone's lips, after the Service & Parade. - **Lieutenant Colonel Eugene Isaacs**

"What a momentous day it was! After months of planning, it eventually paid off. This was the first time in over 50 years, that an Archbishop attended a Brigade Anniversary Thanksgiving Service. What a sight awaited us on arrival at the Grand Parade. That was a "WOW" moment. The last time all Regiments were assembled at the Parade was 15 years ago. The Cathedral was packed to capacity. There was probably +- 500 people outside. What a beautiful service. His Grace, Archbishop Thabo Makgoba, Diocesan Bishops, Clergy, Regiment Chaplains, Executive Mayor-Alderman Daniel Plato & VIP Guests. The Regimental Colors (Flags) of the Diocese of Cape Town and Saldanha were blessed during the service. After the service the Archbishop, Clergy and the Regiment Commanders took the Salute outside the Cathedral. What a wonderful day." **Colonel Ronnie Jacobs**
– **Officer Commanding Cape Town Regiment**

"I the Commander of the False Bay Regiment wish to thank the Brigade Regional Committee for hosting such a blessed day. It makes me think of the old days when the Bishop and the Mayor were part of the celebration." **Lt Colonel Roy Theunissen**
– **Officer Commanding False Bay Regiment**

"So 'n tikkie hartseer – by die "Last Post" en "Reveille". Die blydskap en herdenking van 125 jaar, en om weer vriende van jare gelede weer te sien. Die lede van die Regiment kan nie uitgepraat raak van die ervaring op parade nie. Ons lede kon die President van die Brigade in lewende lywe sien, hul hoor en leer net van die Aartsbiskop Makgoba. Die meeste van ons lede het vir die eerste keer voet in die Katedraal gesit, wat 'n belewenes! Die orkeste van die Regimente was puik, en almal het hul beste gegee. Met groot trots sal ons nog baie lank van hierdie spog geleentheid praat. Die organiseerders het hul goed van hul taak gekwyd, dit was puik. Offisiere moes die kleintjies op die heup dra, wie nie meer kon stap nie. Die boodskap was so gepas vir die geleentheid en was hierdie spesiale dag opgedra aan baie van ons Offisiere en lede wat ons reeds verlaat het na hoër roeping." **Kolonel Francis Gloria Berry Bevelvoerder George Regiment**

"On behalf of the All Adjutants, it gives me great pleasure to thank everyone, for your participation in arranging this major event in the life of the Church Lads and Girls Brigade of South Africa. I was honored to be part of such a great team. Thank you for those who went the extra mile to make sure that this event is a success. We all had tasks to do, but I would like to give a special thanks to Lt Col. Eugene Isaacs for taking the lead in all the preparations together with Col. Ronnie & Col. Spocter who saved Lt Col Isaacs from having a heart attack because of the permit that wasn't approved days before the big event. A special thanks to my girls (the adjutants). We worked the hardest on this day. Welcoming the guests. Made sure that most had a seat. Unfortunately, some had to stand outside due to overcrowding. Thank you that we could work together as a team. To Father Chris helping us with the last minute run around. We appreciated that. ONCE again thank you (big or small) everybody very much to a job well done." **Major Roslin Williams – Adjutant**
– **Saldanha Bay Regiment**

We would love to hear from your parish, send articles and photographs to Rebecca Malambo at malambor@ctdiocese.org.za or call 021 469 3766.

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