

St. Michael and All Angels

Anglican Church

The Diocese of Saldanha Bay



Our Mission

To honour God by proclaiming His Word in a spirit filled church, nurturing leadership, holistic growth, missions and care groups in a Discipling Environment

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RECTOR: The Revd Canon David Mills

TO THE PARISH FAMILY OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, EDGEMOED **EASTERTIDE MAY 2018**

03 May 2018

Dear Friends,

Greetings in our Lord's Name. Christ is risen, He is risen indeed. Alleluia!! This time of the year is very special, as we recall Jesus resurrection appearances to the disciples and, as we are told in the Acts of the Apostles to no fewer than 500 people at one time. This month we keep the wonderful festivals of the Ascension of our Lord, Pentecost and Trinity, all of which prepare us for the long season of Sundays after Pentecost, reflecting the growth of the church.

I share, as follows, some important notes and news for your attention:

Ascension Day service

Please note that we will hold a service to mark the Ascension of our Lord, on Ascension Day, Thursday 10th May, at 19h00. Please do join us for this service.

Our newly Ordained Deacon, the Revd Evelyn Abrahams

Evelyn was formally welcomed to our parish, in her capacity as an ordained minister last Sunday 29th April at the 09h00 service. Thank you to all who attended and enabled this welcome to be a special occasion. Evelyn, now joining the ranks of our Non-stipendiary clergy, will continue in her journey of training and formation through Post Ordination Training and in-service training in our parish. The POT programme continues for 3 years following ordination as a Deacon.

New place for the reading the Gospel: the particular privilege and liturgical duty of a Deacon is to read the Gospel, at all services, at which he or she is on duty in the sanctuary. From now onwards, the reading of the Gospel will take place in the nave of the church, that is to say, in the centre of the congregation's seating. The reason for this is in order to emphasize the place of the Gospel as central to our lives and that, in each one of us, we carry the Good News of the Gospel. Another way of understanding this is that this way of reading, in the proclaiming of the Gospel, is like Jesus standing in our midst and teaching us from His Word.

Our ministry of Praise and Worship

As you will know, from a number of communications, this ministry forms one of **three focus ministries** set through our Strategic Planning meeting last year. Lauren Franz is the Champion of this ministry which means that she coordinates it. In addition, she was elected by the Vestry to serve on the Parish Council, to report on how this ministry is being developed and strengthened over time.

At the 09h00 combined Holy Communion service on Sunday 6th May, there will be live accompaniment to our worship songs – this is an exciting venture, which, although not for the first time in our parish, is a significant development to this ministry during my incumbency as rector. Do come along and share in the worship and praise which we trust will truly bring glory to God.

Profiled Ministry for May

Each month we are profiling a ministry which is active in our parish – this month we are profiling the Parish Catering Ministry – this ministry, ably led by Val Bullmore and her outstanding team, provides invaluable support for both parish events, requiring catering support, as also Diocesan Training events, which are held from time to time in our parish. Opportunity will be provided through this month for Val and members of her team to share more fully about this ministry and what it entails.

A month of Thanksgiving, Renewal and Dedication

May is to be a month of **Thanksgiving, Renewal and Dedication** for our parish. This will involve a sermon series, given by your rector on each of the Sundays in May and then a special presentation on the first Sunday in June, which will be our **Dedication Sunday**. Please do, if you can, make a date to join us each of the Sundays in May and especially that of the Sunday, 3rd June, at the 09h00 combined Holy Communion service.

The Confirmation Service and 40th Anniversary of our Parish – Sunday 7th October 2018

Our parish is 40 years old this year!! We have a planning team working hard to set up events through which we will mark this occasion – Saturday 29th September is the Festival of St Michael and All Angels – we plan to hold a parish dinner on this occasion - **please save the date!!!**

The Bishop will be with us on Sunday, 7th October 2018, to celebrate this occasion with us and also administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. If any adults or youngsters (from the age of 16 upwards) would like to be prepared for confirmation **please advise Fr David as soon as possible.**

May you and yours know the gracious working of our Lord Jesus Christ in being empowered by God wonderful Holy Spirit poured out at Pentecost enabling us to share the love of Christ to all we know and meet.

God bless,
Fr David

◆Relevant ◆Effective◆Dynamic
Followers of Jesus Christ.