

# St. Michael and All Angels

## Anglican Church

*The Diocese of Saldanha Bay*



### Our Mission

*To honour God by proclaiming God's Word in a spirit filled church, through nurturing leadership, holistic growth, mission and care groups in a Discipling Environment*

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## TO THE PARISH FAMILY OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, EDGEMOOR

### PASTORAL LETTER CHRISTMAS 2018

Dear Friends,

I greet you in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who blesses us with abundance, surrounding us with Angels and Archangels, the messengers of God to protect us in all things.

As can be seen from Scripture, the Angels played a major part in the incarnation and birth of our Lord Jesus Christ 2000 years ago – as we approach Christmas some thoughts and reflections.



### **Who is the Christ child??**

This Jesus, who has come down to be with us in human form is, in every way, like any child that we have experienced – he was not superhuman – he got tired, needed feeding and protection and probably also got sick at times, like every baby. This is important to remember, as statues of the Virgin Mary holding Jesus are often depicted in a beatific way - this might suggest that his birth, infancy and later childhood were perfect. We are reminded by the writer to the Hebrews who declares,

***"Jesus, Compassionate High Priest. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help." (Heb. 4: 14-16)***

Thus Jesus has been tested in every way and yet without sin – these ways of testing are not only such as He experienced in the desert for 40 days, but in the ordinary ways in which we as humans are tested.

