



CONVERSATIONS

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FROM THE RECTOR



"Grant us grace in the face of many temptations to seek the mind of Christ"

ONCE AGAIN, WELCOME TO CONVERSATIONS, THE FIRST EDITION OF OUR PARISH MAGAZINE IN 2022.

For months now, I have found myself browsing through quite a few articles reflecting on the Post-Pandemic Church, and what

it will look like. On the Internet, there are hundreds of these essays and articles. Some are quite interesting, optimistic and reflective, while there are some who tend to cause a knot in my stomach. It was the former articles, written on the basis of sound research and biblical principles that drew my attention. I am not saying that I completely ignore the ones that create the knot, it was just that they did not make any sense.

The Collect for the 6th Sunday of Epiphany 2022, reminded me of an article I read in September 2021, "How to Equip the Church to Flourish Post-Pandemic", by John Wentz - a contributing writer for Crosswalk.com. I recall this article because it was one which resonated with my own thoughts and personal

reflections, when thinking of the Post-Pandemic Church. I share with you my interpretation of his article intersected by my own thoughts, at this moment.

Medical science is in agreement that we are at the tail-end of the Covid-19 Pandemic. One of the most important questions now, is how we re-enter life responsibly and compassionately, and how do we care for one another deeply. What we do know is that the world has changed at an enormous speed over the past two years – and so have we. Life as we know it has now become unpredictable, uncertain, and almost everything we hold dearly onto, can shift in a second. I call these unpredictable, uncertain spaces in which we find ourselves, liminal spaces.

.....

All things
New.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.
2 Corinthians 5: 17

APPEAL FOR YOUR NEWS

- Please help us build this newsletter.
- Send us your stories, pictures & events to share: info@stoswalds.org.za
- Contact the Office: Deirdre
021 551 8529

When it comes to reflecting about the future of the Church during these liminal seasons (in our case, the current pandemic), there are many temptations we need to watch out for. I draw again from the Collect mentioned, “*Grant us grace in the face of many temptations to seek the mind of Christ.*” I mention three of these temptations of which we need to be aware.

Temptation One: to Organize in Our Own Strength

John Wentz, makes an example of an active dog who was held back and leashed for too long. When the dog was finally set free to run, it charged ahead at full speed. I agree with this analogy to the extent that it makes me laugh and be cautious at the same time.

After more than two years of restrictions and caution, the reality is, most of us might be tempted to move forward so quickly, in our own strength, becoming blind to how God is moving, and deaf to what the Spirit is saying. I am not saying we must fold our arms and not be pro-active in our re-building of our congregation; in fact it is good to have a desire to act and pray through all our actions and plans. What we need to guard against, is to avoid the temptation to re-build in our own strength. We need to take time, and put the necessary in place; to understand what God’s Spirit is saying and to follow the Spirit’s pace.

Temptation Two: Back to Normal

If we understand our current pandemic environment as a liminal space, then



we also know that liminal spaces are precarious or risky. With a positive approach to finding ourselves in these spaces, we also know that it has the potential to transform - but transformation is not a given, it is ultimately a choice.

Being at the tail end of the pandemic affords us opportunities to reflect in a relaxed mode about what has happened to us. Our eyes have been opened to the pain and suffering in the world around us, and has made us more aware of the deep hurts of others.

But above all, it has also shown us the potential of new ways to connect, support and simply be with each other, which initially did not come easily. With it has come emotional and physical exhaustion, because we have had to adjust and adapt at great speed.

I have an intuitive sense that many are simply tired. It’s tempting now, to have a longing for the normal and to go back to the way things were. Now

is the best time to wrestle with new ideas, and include as many as possible to be part of decisions to be made, especially when it affects them. Doing this will require a gentle and compassionate approach, validating and affirming others, who have something to say and to contribute.

Temptation Three: Stay in our Bubbles

It is said of new territory, that it brings fear. One of the great dangers we all experienced through the pandemic was staying isolated from others.

Technology has made us comfortable to be almost everywhere virtually, without moving our feet. I have more “friends” now on social media, than before the pandemic. Not that it is a bad thing, but it is scary, because 60 percent of “friends” are reduced to the fingertip on a cell phone, laptop or a virtual experience. This is what we have to guard against. We are, by our very nature, social beings.

Perhaps now is a good time to minimize Online services and reduce it to only twice a month. It is something to think and have conversation about.

Well, St Oswald’s, St Francis, St Luke’s, how do we respond to these temptations? How do we move forward and flourish post-pandemic? I suggest we do three things; listen to God, listen to one another, and listen to the world.

Enjoy our Parish Magazine!

With love, *Fr Selwyn*





A QUIET PRAYER AS WE ENTER THE NEW YEAR ...

*GOD OF ALL TIME, help us enter the New Year quietly,
thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others,
mindful that our steps make an impact
and our words carry power.*

*May we walk gently.
May we speak only after we have listened well.*

*CREATOR OF ALL LIFE,
help us enter the New Year reverently,
aware that you have endowed
every creature and plant, every person and habitat
with beauty and purpose.*

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

*LOVER OF ALL SOULS,
help us enter the New Year joyfully,
willing to laugh and dance and dream,
remembering our many gifts with thanks
and looking forward to blessings yet to come.*

May we welcome your lavish love.

*In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ
bless us now and in the days ahead.*

Vinita Hampton Wright; Offered by Douglas Ruschman <https://www.xavier.edu>



FROM THE WARDENS



*A NEW YEAR, A NEW BEGINNING. The numbers of parishioners returning to church
Wishing you all the best and hopefully it will be a
more positive year for all of us and a return to
restarting many of our ministries and exciting new
events.*

*Last year ended on a sad note with some of our
dear parishioners' passing and the very sad loss of
our beloved "Arch". We will miss them dearly and
remember them with love. A week of Evening
Prayer as well as a Diocesan Requiem Mass for the
"The Arch" was held here at St Oswald's.*



*The one fund raising event we held last year, was a
socially distanced Food Fair on the front lawn of
Maureen's House. It was a glorious day and a
successful morning. Maybe this is the way to go for
future fundraisers? Quick and easy with not too
much hard work.*



*Due to lockdown and the restriction on numbers,
we held a 6pm Christmas Eve Eucharist in the
garden behind the hall. It was lovely, even though
we could not sing. A proper Christmas tree was
donated and we arranged the nativity characters
under it.*

*continue to grow, so we are back to 2 services. The
second service now starts slightly later at 9:30, as
we need to sanitise the pews between the services.
We hope and pray that lockdown restrictions will
ease so that we can accommodate more people. It
would be lovely to see a full church again.*

*One of the projects for the year is the repainting of
the interior of the hall and the installation of new
curtains. Hopefully this will be completed by the
time this copy is issued. There is more work to be
done, with the windows, gutters and woodwork
needing attention. The list never ends!*

*In 2021 the confirmation service was held for 3
parishes, St Oswald's (including the Chapelries),
Holy Trinity, Bothasig and St Lawrence, Dunoon,
at the Good Shepherd church in Kensington. It was
a confirmation with a difference and we could
accommodate many more persons in the bigger
facility.*

*We look forward to serving you with renewed
energy in 2022.*

THE BEATITUDES

OUR FAITH IN THE COMING YEAR ...

A wonderful way to take on the challenges of a new year is to consider the Beatitudes. These statements of characteristics and blessing, are part of the Sermon on the Mount that Jesus spoke and is recorded in Matthew. They are Christ's own specification of what every Christian ought to be. Each beatitude looks at different circumstances of life and how all Christians are blessed through their faith. Through these 8 Beatitudes, Jesus teaches of virtues and values in life that will result in blessings and rewards, not for merit but as a gift of grace. These beatitudes are not singled out for specific people - they are blessings applicable to all Christians. These Scriptures will encourage you and give you hope as you face each day knowing that you are called blessed! No matter your age, job, or family role, if you apply the beatitudes to your life you will experience a joyful, fulfilled life and give evidence of what we already are!

www.biblestudytools.com / Stott, J. The Beatitudes, 1998

THE MEANING OF THE BEATITUDES FOR US

1 BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT....

The poor in spirit are those who feel a deep sense of spiritual destitution and comprehend their nothingness before God.

The kingdom of heaven is theirs, by acknowledging this condition of poverty, and because in seeking this salvation, they therefore find and abide in the kingdom.

2 BLESSED ARE THEY THAT MOURN

Those that Jesus promised comfort are not primarily those who mourn the loss of a loved one, but those who mourn the loss of their innocence and their self-respect with regard to sin. Those who deplore the

effects and consequences of this sin shall be comforted as they seek for deliverance in Christ.

3 BLESSED ARE THE MEEK ...

Meekness is not being weak, but rather a true view of oneself, expressed in conduct and attitude regarding others. It makes us humble, gentle, sensitive and patient in all our dealings with others. There is strength in the meekness which springs from acceptance and security within oneself. It clears away fear, anger, defensiveness and anxiety and you 'inherit' an inner peace, knowing what it means to live and reign with Christ.

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God

*Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven*

Matthew 5: 3 - 12

A NEW BEGINNING!



We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new.

Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life.

Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises.

Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to a voice saying to us:

"I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!
Imagine!

Henri Nouwen

<https://healthyspirituality.org/a-new-year-a-new-beginning-henri-nouwen-quote/>

4 BLESSED ARE THEY THAT HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS ...

Spiritual hunger is a characteristic of all God's people. The first priority is spiritual and not material progress. When we seek God's Kingdom and righteousness our souls will be satisfied. As this inner quality of holiness is developed, it will become embedded in our everyday living, and blessedness will follow.

A LOGICAL JOURNEY

The first 4 Beatitudes, according to John Stott, demonstrate a logical spiritual progression.

In the first - we need to acknowledge our complete lack of spirituality before God.

This is followed by the need to mourn the cause - our sin and corruption.

The third advises meekness towards others. This conditions our behaviour to them and God.

Finally we need to acknowledge the necessity of growing our inner holiness.



In the rest of the Beatitudes we turn from our attitudes to God to those attitudes regarding our fellow human beings.

5 BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL ...

We all need mercy to be shown to us constantly in our daily lives for our sins. The easiest way to ensure this relief, is to offer it readily and unconditionally to all others in need, with kindness, compassion, forgiveness and acceptance. There is no peace or stability for anyone harbouring negative feelings towards others. However, there is everything to gain - peace, freedom, love and joy in God's kingdom itself.

6 BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART ...

To be pure in heart is to have a single-minded devotion to seek God and yield to His ways. It is an expression of inward purity and sincerity, and thoughts and motives towards others are transparent to all. The relationships of this person to God and others are free of deception and open to the needs of others. This, in turn brings joy and peace to one, which allows God to dwell in us and be experienced directly.

7 BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS ...

Living by the principles of the Beatitudes, attaining inner peace is a natural progression. Peacemakers take chaos, conflict or unhappiness and turn it into tranquility whether it is with individuals or communities. The deeper your own inner peace and joy, the stronger the effect it has on others. This peace-filled state, is in itself, the kingdom of God which is to be shared with all the world.



The Church of the Beatitudes, built on the site where the Sermon on the Mount took place

Each Beatitude consists of two phrases: the condition and the result. Together, the Beatitudes present a new set of ideals that focus on love and humility rather than force and exaction. They echo the highest ideals of Jesus' teachings on spirituality and compassion.

en.wikipedia.org/

8 BLESSED ARE THEY THAT HAVE BEEN PERSECUTED ...

Persecution is the great clash between irreconcilable value systems. If one demonstrates genuine righteousness, many will reject you for reasons of their own immorality being highlighted. Those who suffer because of their loyalty to the kingdom of heaven are blessed by finding self-fulfilment as a human being, gaining God's approval and being bound more closely to that kingdom for which they suffer.

The blessing is also that active persecution for the right reasons indicates that the powers of darkness believe you are succeeding in furthering God's kingdom.



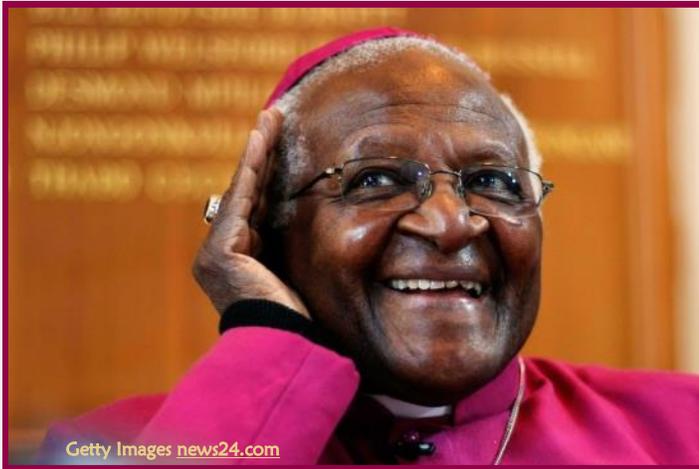
Gustin, M. *Finding Joy & Peace*, 1998

Stott, J. *The Beatitudes* 1998

www.biblestudytools.com

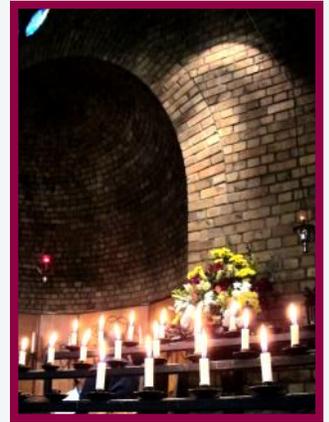
www.theologyofwork.org/

Remembering the Arch at St Oswald's



Getty Images news24.com

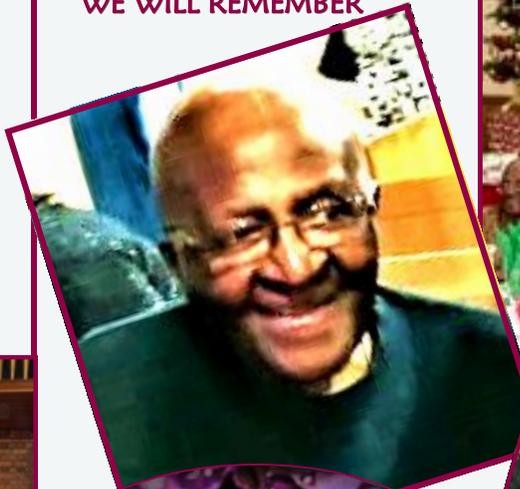
OUR BELOVED ARCHBISHOP
EMERITUS DESMOND TUTU
passed away on Sunday, 26
December 2021 at the age of 90,
at the Oasis Care Centre near
Milnerton. He is survived by his
beloved wife, Leah, 4 children -
Trevor, Thandeka, Nontombo
and Mpho, 7 grandchildren
and great-grandchildren.



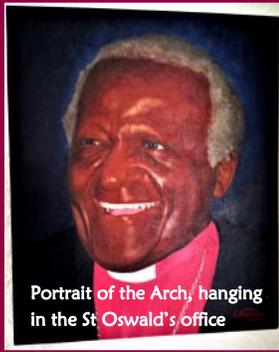
MAY YOU REST IN PEACE,
ARCH DESMOND,
AND RISE IN GLORY

While he was recognised by the world as a Nobel-Laureate and South Africa's 'moral compass', who fought fiercely against apartheid and who ultimately chaired the Truth and Reconciliation Commission here, he has also won numerous awards for his support of human rights struggles internationally. He was hugely respected and honoured by ordinary people and religious & state leaders the world over, and loved for his irrepressible humour.

SOME OF THE TIMES WE WILL REMEMBER



Remembering the Arch at St Oswald's



However, here in Milnerton, known simply as the Arch, we grew used to seeing him and his beloved wife, Leah, in church on a Sunday as one of our parishioners. No fanfare - just one of us. He regularly sat in the second pew on the right, occasionally celebrating a special service or Confirmation. He and Leah supported our church and attended parish events when and where they were able, delighting all

of us. St Oswald's will sorely miss the Arch, with whom we were blessed to share some precious time. His sense of mission and the legacy of compassion, warmth, and joy, which emanated from him at all times, is a reflection of the ideals of the Beatitudes discussed on previous pages. We have been blessed to have the Arch's light close to us.



A St Oswald's Book of Condolences has been left in the church for anyone who would like to express their wishes and feelings in a message to Ma Leah and Tutu family.



Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu was a priest for more than 60 years, devoted to showing believers and non-believers alike that God's compassion is infinite. He went a step further too, repeatedly showing by example, what it is to live a life of deep compassion for all people, for all creatures and for the Earth.



ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS DESMOND TUTU -
"WE ARE MADE FOR LOVING. IF WE DON'T LOVE, WE WILL BE LIKE PLANTS WITHOUT WATER."



From [tutulegacyfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/tutulegacyfoundation/) - Facebook



14 ESSENTIAL LIFE-LEARNINGS FROM MARIA POPOVA



Brain Pickings is an online blog in which the writer explores many wonderful ideas - all related to the human condition which we all share, and are really worth exploring. (www.themarginalian.org)

Over many years, Popova has discovered for herself, the following 14 'learnings' which we may do well to reflect on, as we approach the coming year. More than ever, after the last 3 years, we need to look at ourselves and our lives afresh.

1. **ALLOW YOURSELF TO CHANGE YOUR MIND.** We often form and cling to our opinions based on superficial impressions rather than fact. It is far more rewarding to understand than to be right.

2. **DO NOTHING FOR PRESTIGE, STATUS, MONEY OR APPROVAL ALONE.** It can warp your sense of what is important and enjoyable to yourself. An inner motivation is far more powerful. And rewarding.

3. **BE GENEROUS** - with your time, resources, in giving credit and with your words. There is someone on

the other side of every communication. To understand and be understood is a great gift.

4. **INCLUDE STILLNESS IN YOUR LIFE.**

 Our best creativity comes when we are quiet and not forcing ourselves to find solutions. Sleep is vital to nurture our health & sanity. Ignoring this is a lack of priority and self-respect, which we need to survive everything else.

5. **BELIEVE PEOPLE WHEN THEY TELL YOU WHO THEY ARE.** But don't believe them when they tell you who *you*

are. You are the only one who knows truly who and what you are, and their assumptions tell you about themselves only.

6. **PRESENCE IN THE MOMENT RATHER THAN PRODUCTIVITY** -

 which is how society measures worth. Look rather for the joy and wonder that makes everyday worth living.

7. **THINGS WHICH ARE WORTHWHILE TAKE TIME** - to unfold and don't just happen instantly. There is no 'overnight success' in the making of character and destiny.

8. **FIND WHAT MAGNIFIES YOUR SPIRIT.** Who are the people, ideas and things who transform you? Nurture them through your good times and bad; protect and grow your soul.

9. **BE AN IDEALIST** - don't just supply what society demands. Create new ideas which lift people up, not just give them more of what they think they want and already have.

 10. **ACTIVELY FIGHT CYNICISM.** It is uncreative, unconstructive and spiritually corrosive and a form of destruction. It is much more difficult and yet infinitely more rewarding to

act with faith in the human spirit, fostering growth and betterment.

11. **QUESTION THE MAPS OF YOUR INNER AND OUTER UNIVERSE** and test them against reality. They are, after all, only maps which are searching for the truth, and will always be incomplete.

12. **THERE ARE INFINITELY MANY KINDS OF LIVES** - acknowledge them all.

13. **FORGIVE, FORGIVE, FORGIVE...** Even the richest relationships have dark places, where we carry shame and vulnerability and we are much less than we would like to be.

Forgiveness, along with love, sympathy and understanding can keep these relationships growing into something even deeper, more precious and significant for those involved.

14. **CHOOSE JOY.** It will be a conscious effort at first, still feeling the weight of all the sorrow, friction and frustration that pulls us down; but it will become an automatic response as your inner focus changes. The little delights all around us, are so often our lifelines.





DIOCESAN SYNOD

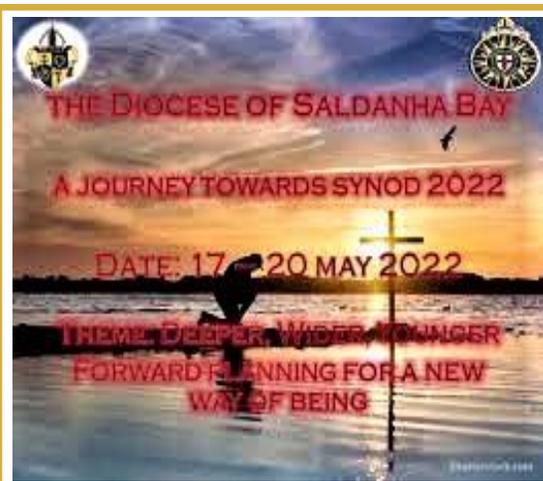
WHAT DO WE KNOW?

A Synod, in the tradition of the Anglican Communion, usually takes place every 3 years, or as required.

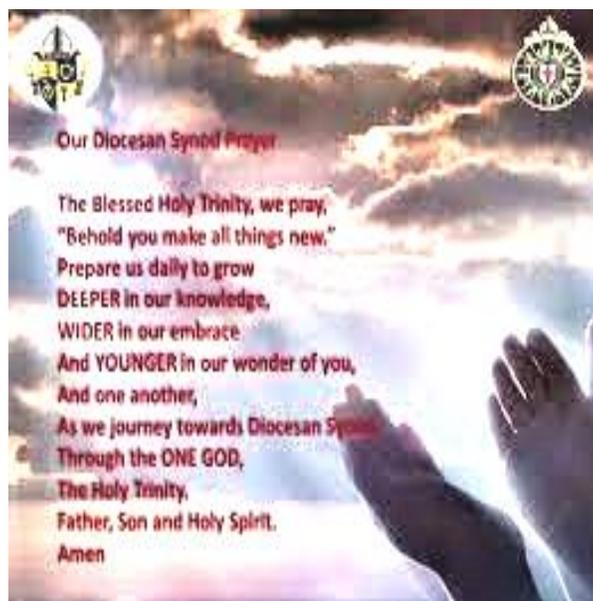
Each year, Lay Representatives from our parish are elected at the annual Vestry, to attend.

This year, from May 17 - 20 the Diocesan Synod will be taking place at St Nicholas, Matroosfontein.

However, how many of us understand exactly what the purpose of this Synod is or what happens and what type of decisions are taken there?



Diocesan Synod Prayer 2022



In the Anglican Communion, of which we are part, a bishop directs the affairs, policies and economy of a diocese. The bishop carries out these acts with the advice and consent of representatives of the clergy and laity of the diocese. The group which authorises this is called the **Diocesan Synod**. Well-prepared and detailed motions meeting all Synod criteria may be submitted for consideration by any parish, council or body within the church.

This Synod body consists of 3 houses - the House of Bishops, the House of Clergy and finally the House of Laity. Generally, the three Houses meet for debate and for voting on relevant issues. While the majority in the 3 Houses will carry a vote for the Synod to assent to a motion, there are sometimes exceptions when the diocesan bishop may veto the synod decision if they so wish.

Types of resolutions and decisions taken, include any issues regarding the well being of the diocese and all it's clergy and people.

ST OSWALD'S MINISTRIES

ST OSWALD'S PARISH which includes **ST FRANCIS & ST LUKE'S CHAPELRIES**,
HAVE MANY ACTIVE MINISTRIES, OF WHICH EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO BE A PART.

- ◆ Lay Ministry
- ◆ Sacristans
- ◆ Altar Servers Guild
- ◆ Reader's Guild
- ◆ Choir
- ◆ Welcome Team
- ◆ Catering Team
- ◆ Sunday School Teachers



- ◆ Bible & Confirmation Teachers
- ◆ Youth Groups
- ◆ Mother's Union
- ◆ Mary Magdalene Guild
- ◆ Bernard Mzeki Guild
- ◆ Social Outreach
- ◆ Fundraising
- ◆ Maintenance

FOR LENT AT ST OSWALD'S

The
Season
of
Lent



WHAT IS LENT AND WHY DOES IT LAST FORTY DAYS?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days

represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Courtesy of <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-is-lent-and-why-does-it-last-forty>

ASH WEDNESDAY is a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season. It is commonly observed with ashes and fasting. www.brittanica.com



It marks an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection. www.christianity.com

ASH WEDNESDAY COLLECT

Almighty and Holy God

Your Son, in obedience to the Spirit fasted 40 days in the desert: give us grace to discipline ourselves that we may press on towards Easter with eager faith and love

From the [Anglican Prayer Book](#)



Beginning with Ash Wednesday on 02 March, 2022, Fr Selwyn will be conducting regular mid-week Lenten Eucharist services for everyone at St Oswald's. Fr Thozamile Shweni and Fr Mxolisi Mpmbani will be presiding at St Francis and St Luke's respectively.



ASH WEDNESDAY

02 March	St Oswald's	06h00	09h30
		18h00	19h30
	St Francis	18h00	
	St Luke's	18h00	

LENTEN HOLY EUCHARISTS

Each Wednesday	St Oswald's	09h30	19h30
From 09 March	St Francis	TBA	
	St Luke's	TBA	

LENT

PROGRAMME

FOR THE WEDNESDAYS OF LENT AT ST OSWALD'S

Theme: Longing for God

"Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee"

Across time and throughout history, God's love has touched countless people. Often these encounters awaken a spiritual longing in us and we begin to seek this love more fully and have it always present in our lives.

During the Wednesdays of Lent, we will reflect on the primary paths to God that have developed throughout Christian History. Contemporary insights on spirituality tends to portray the spiritual life in an analytic and detached way, or it is reduced to a narrow range of distinct emotional experiences. Christian spirituality has a long history that needs to be revisited.

The heart of the reflections on a Wednesday is to grow in the understanding that Christian spiritual formation is a God-ordained process that shapes our entire person so to take on the character and being of Christ Himself.

09 March	Augustine of Hippo	<i>The Spiritual life as the right Ordering of our Love for God</i>
16 March	Thomas Merton	<i>The Spiritual life as Journey</i>
23 March	Francis of Assisi	<i>The Spiritual life as intimacy with Jesus Christ</i>
30 March	Julian of Norwich	<i>The Spiritual life as the right Ordering of our experiences of God</i>
06 April	Benedict of Nursia	<i>The Spiritual life as Action and Contemplation</i>

FOR LENT FROM THE GREEN ANGLICANS

“MY LITTLE BIT OF GOOD” - CARBON FAST FOR LENT

Stemming from a quote from the late Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, *“Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”* We recognize that this lent we are all on our individual journeys, but as we perform our “little” actions where we are, when added together makes a significant impact.

<https://www.greenanglicans.org>

For this lenten journey we at Green Anglicans encourage small actions that we can perform in our everyday lives and make a difference. This year we would like to invite you to fast for the planet, to reduce your use of plastic, meat, electricity and water, for the sake of Mother Earth and the generations to come. Individual actions don't lead to transformation change, but networked actions do!

VISION

“A church which is striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth”

MISSION

Resource and inspire Anglicans in the spirituality of Caring for Creation
Inspire and encourage individuals to live sustainable lives
Inspire and equip Churches and Dioceses to practical actions as Earthkeepers
Challenge and network individuals, Churches and Dioceses to prophetic acts of advocacy



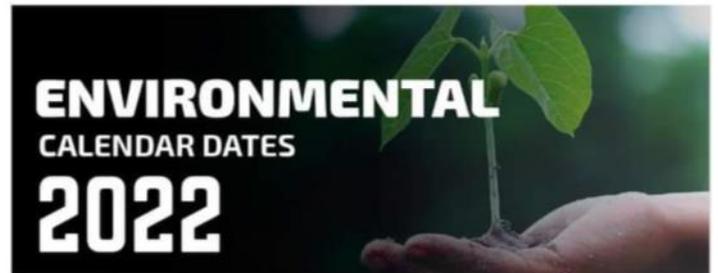
World Water Day is an annual day always on 22 March that highlights the importance of freshwater. The day is used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. As Christians we celebrate the sacredness of water (for we were baptised by water) and the call to water justice.

<https://www.greenanglicans.org>



ANGLICAN COMMUNION "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." - Archbishop Desmond Tutu

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			MARCH	3	4	5	6
			Ash Wednesday Prayer of confession	Plastic Pledge Commit to reduce plastic usage	Food pledge Commit to reduce food wastage and to be good stewards when shopping	Transport and energy pledge Commit to reducing your carbon footprint	Responsible Consumption Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Luke 12: 33-34 (SDG 12)
			7	8	9	10	11
CONSUMERISM	Did you know? "The real impact of Bargain clothes" #meathemonday	It's the last Straw! Stop using Styrofoam, straws, single use plastic bags, plastic cutlery.	Eco gifts Plan presents for kids - avoid plastic toys and gift them with an experience	Packaging? Is it recyclable or biodegradable? Check the packaging before purchase	Shop challenge! Take action and challenge your local store #stopusingplasticbags	Give Away Day! Go through your closets and give away all unused clothing	Clean Energy Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. Psalm 20:7 (SDG 7)
			14	15	16	17	18
ENERGY/TRAVEL	Find out more! All about Hydrogen #meathemonday	Switch it off! Commit to switching off devices.	The more the merrier! Make arrangements to use public transport, lift club or cycle.	Power down! Turn down temperature on your thermostat/ Use cold water for washing machine	Games night! Invite friends around for board games. Turn off electronics #stufriday	Be the change! Say no to new oil and gas explorations. Sign a petition or join a protest.	Clean Water For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, Deut 8:7 (SDG 6)
			21	22	23	24	25
WATER	Find out more! What is groundwater? #meathemonday	World Water Day Morning or evening prayer	Water wisely Avoid the hosepipe (carwash /wastering) and water early morning or evening	Just say no! Say no to the single use plastic bottle. Buy a reusable one #stufriday	20 Litre Challenge Can you survive on 20 litres per person per day? #stufriday	Pick it up! Walk through your community and pick up litter. Prevent waste from ending up in stormwater.	Zero Hunger Share your food with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless. Isaiah 58:7 (SDG 2)
			28	29	30	31	APRIL 1
FOOD	Find out more! How to start a herb garden. #meathemonday	Dignity for waste pickers Make a plan on how you deal with food waste. Separate it from recyclables.	Bring your own bag Make a plan to avoid fruit and veg in thin plastic. Take your own small bags!	Yummy Vegetarian Day Make and share your favourite vegetarian recipe.	Support your local vendor Source your fruit and veg locally #stufriday	Sharing is caring Create gift packages of the food in your cupboard that you won't eat before the best before date.	Life on Land The mountains and hills will burst into song before you... Isaiah 55: 12 (SDG 15)
			4	5	6	7	8
NATURE	Find out more! Research indigenous plants in your area #meathemonday	Plant a Celebration Tree For next birthday or anniversary plant a tree at home or at church	Share the beauty! Take photos of nature this week and post with hashtag #stufriday	Movie day Watch a nature documentary/movie this week with family or friends.	Green gifts! Buy some native plants/succulents and grow them to give as presents. #stufriday	Sunrise, sunset Plan a devotion or picnic during sunset or sunrise	Palm Sunday Put a palm or other branch on your door.



FEB 2 WORLD WETLANDS DAY	MAR 2 - APR 14 LENTEN FAST FOR THE PLANET	MAR 21 INTERNATIONAL FOREST DAY	MAR 22 WORLD WATER DAY
MAR 26 EARTH HOUR	APR 22 EARTH DAY	APR 28 FOOD WASTE DAY	JUN 5 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (ONLY ONE EARTH)
JUN 8 WORLD OCEANS DAY	JUN 17 DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION	JUN 20 WORLD REFUGEE DAY	JUL PLASTIC FREE JULY
SEP 1 - OCT 4 SEASON OF CREATION	SEP 17 INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY	OCT 4 ST FRANCIS DAY / WORLD ANIMAL DAY	OCT 16 WORLD FOOD DAY
AUG 12 WORLD ELEPHANT DAY			

RECENTLY ROUND AND ABOUT ST OSWALD'S!

ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS



OUR ADVENT WREATH



OUR CHURCH



CHRISTMAS 2022
INDOORS AND
OUTDOORS



THE GIFT OF A COPE FROM THE WILLIAMS' IN
CELEBRATION OF THEIR SON'S 25TH BIRTHDAY ↓



FR SELWYN, NADINE AND THE SUNDAY SCHOOL
DURING THE NATIVITY ↓



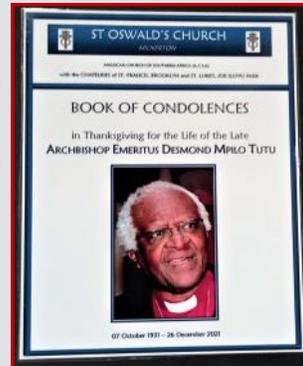
2021 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES RECEIVING THEIR CERTIFICATES ↓



RECENTLY ROUND AND ABOUT ST OSWALD'S!



BOOK OF
CONDOLENCES
FOR THE ARCH
IN THE
ST OSWALD'S
CHURCH



Members of the MOST VENERABLE ORDER of the HOSPITAL of ST JOHN of JERUSALEM attending the OFFICE of EVENING PRAYER in honour of the late DESMOND TUTU GCStJ, former Prior for ST JOHN SOUTH AFRICA and BAILIFF GRAND CROSS in the ↓



EVENING PRAYERS AND A REQUIEM MASS WERE SAID FOR THE ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS DESMOND TUTU AT ST OSWALD'S CHURCH



EDUCATION SUNDAY SERMON FROM CEDRIC WILLIAMS ↓



EDUCATION SUNDAY AT ST OSWALD'S

SOME CHOIR MEMBERS SINGING DURING THE SERVICE FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER THE COVID BREAK ⇒



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESTARTING & CHILDREN RECEIVING COMMUNION AFTER 2 YEARS! ↓



ST OSWALD'S HALL RECEIVING A LONG - AWAITED REFURBISHMENT



↑ BIBLE CLASS TEACHERS



← FIRST MEETING OF THE 2022 CONFIRMATION & BIBLE CLASSES

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ST OSWALD'S!



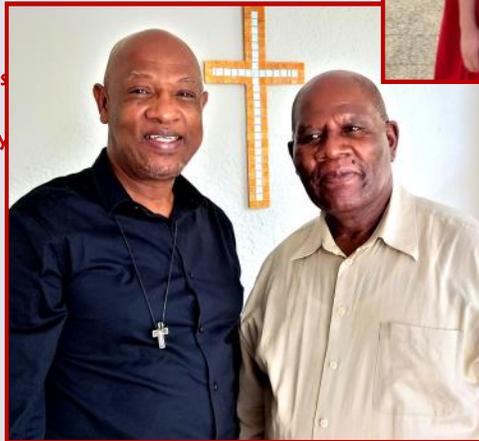
Many Congratulations to our **ARCHDEACON of TABLE VIEW, REVD DR TOBIAS MUTALE**, on his attaining a **Doctorate** at the end of last year. His topic was *"Theorizing Poverty and Inequality in the case of Rural Women in Mungi District Zambia: A grounded Theory Approach"*



Congratulations to **TIMOTHY DE WET**, Caroline's son, on his wonderful achievement. He has been awarded his **PHD in medical microbiology** ahead of his **MBChB** from UCT for his TB - related research. He is the first student to achieve this challenging study path.

WELL DONE, ESONA SHWENI!

Fr Thozamile & Nombulelo's daughter, has been made **Head girl** at **St Paul's Primary School, Bo-Kaap.**



OUR RECTOR, FR SELWYN ENGELBRECHT & FR MXOLISI MPAMBANI from **ST LUKE'S** have both completed the *Advanced Course in Clinical Pastoral Counselling* and will graduate in March 2022. Congratulations to you both.

This course provides a progressive understanding of care and counselling through personal and pastoral reflection on specific situations of persons in crisis.

The course specifically looks at spirituality and the search of meaning in the midst of dealing with illness, suffering and death in a clinical context which all needs to be treated with the utmost sensitivity. <https://www.enterprises.up.ac.za>



CONGRATULATIONS REVD TEMBEKA, on your **70th Birthday** in January!

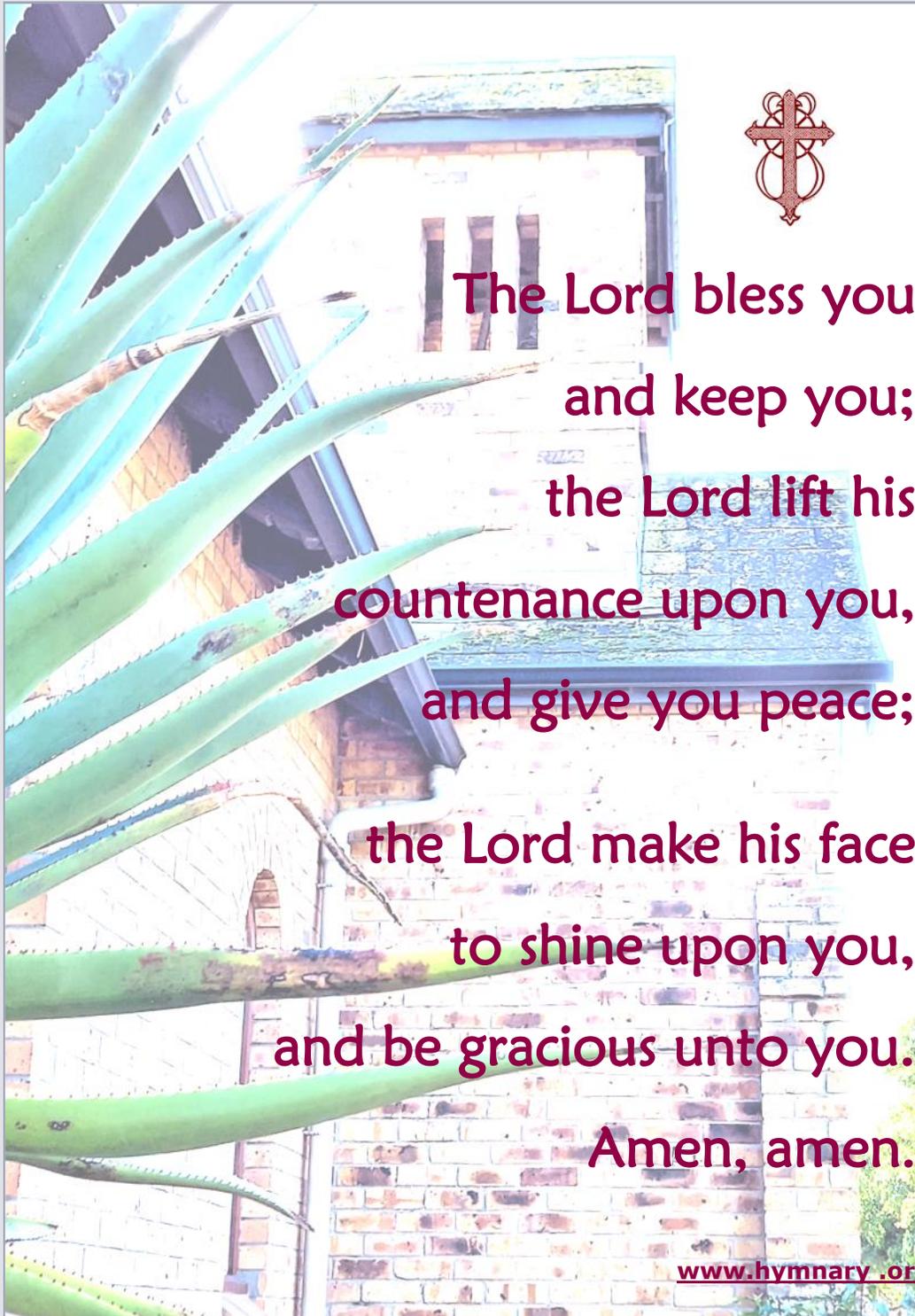


Well done to **COSMO CLOETE**, a longtime parishioner, at St Oswald's, who graduated in 2021 with a **Master's degree in Engineering.**

CHRISTOPHER WARD-COX, a St Oswald's Lay Minister, was awarded an **MBA** last year. Congratulations Chris, on your big achievement!



THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU...



The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord lift his
countenance upon you,
and give you peace;
the Lord make his face
to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you.
Amen, amen.

www.hymnary.org



