

# ST CYPRIAN'S CHURCH

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Dear Friends

Easter is two weeks away and then it is April and it seems as if 2018 only began yesterday. Such is the treadmill of life.

I hope, however, we have been able to slow down in Lent or alter our focus from the usual everyday things that consume our attention and fill our minds, to journeying with Christ in the experience of reflection and self-emptying so that "He (Christ) may increase and I may decrease" *St John 3:30*

Before us is the dramatic moving and powerful Holy Week. The Holy Week services are as follows:

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>25 March</b>
7.00 a.m.	Said Mass and Blessing of Palm Crosses
9.00 a.m.	Sung High Mass, Blessing of Palm Crosses and Procession
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>29 March</b>
6.00 p.m.	Sung Mass, Feet Washing and Stripping of the Altar
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>30 March</b>
9.00 a.m.	Stations of the Cross
12.00 Noon	The Nail
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	<b>31 March</b>
6.00 p.m.	Service of Light
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>01 April</b>
7.00 a.m.	Mass with Hymns
9.00 a.m.	Sung High Mass

## HELP IS REQUIRED:

On Saturday 24 March from 9.00 a.m. for the making of Palm Crosses. Donations of palm branches are required. The Flower Guild will be adorning the Church with palm branches for Palm Sunday. The Parish will provide tea and hot cross buns to all the workers.

## AUGMENTED CHOIR

So far 14 people have volunteered to form an augmented choir for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday 24 at 11.00 a.m. in the Church. There is plenty of space for more people to join.

### **THREE HOURS MAY NOT BE THREE HOURS!!!**

For the Good Friday Three Hour Devotion we will be doing something different. An eight part reflection called The Nail, in which key witnesses e.g. Peter, Pilate, the Roman Centurion; Mary Magdalene etc. describe Christ's crucifixion from their point of view. The duration will be anything from two to three hours, so please come at the beginning at 12.00 Noon.

### **EASTER OFFERING**

As I mentioned in my previous Rector's Letter St Cyprian's celebrates 150 years of ministry in Durban in 2020. The interior of the Church was last painted in 1995 when we celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The paint has worn well, however, it does need to be painted again which we are planning to do towards the end of 2019 or the beginning of 2020.

The contractor who painted the Church in 1995 has quoted R266 736 to paint the entire interior of the Church. This would be an extraordinary expense and to begin a specific fund for this expense I would like our Easter Offering contribution to launch this project. I would ask that we give generously to the Easter Offering for this project.

### **SUPPER CLUB EVENINGS**

I continue to encourage parishioners to attend these evenings. They are important evenings of fellowship and friendship over a meal of fish and chips at the below cost price of R50 which includes ice cream and chocolate sauce. This is followed with a talk by a guest speaker. Over the past 21 years we have had a wonderful range of speakers and a variety of topics.

The first Supper Club evening is on Tuesday 24 April at 6.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. the speaker is Gail Schreiner a highly professional Social Worker. Gail will be speaking about her visits and work with South Africans in the infamous jails in Bangkok, Thailand who have been arrested for drug smuggling. This is a fascinating story that boggles the mind and exposes one to a whole different world. Her ongoing work is amazing and I encourage you to come and hear her story.

### **HERE'S WISHING YOU**

A blessed Holy Week and Easter and every blessing for you and your family.

Dear Lord thank you!  
Your love and presence is so affirming.  
You sustain me, you uphold me,  
You carry me even when I think all is lost and there is no hope.  
Make me to rise with you at Easter  
And to know and experience the joy of a risen life.  
I pray most humbly in Jesus name!

With Every Blessing  
FR DANE