

# ST CYPRIAN'S CHURCH

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Dear Friends

## WELCOME TO 2018! SO WHAT'S NEW?

It is within our human nature that hopes with every New Year it will be better than the previous year. We have expectations of new opportunities and happier times. That we will strive to be "better" - eat healthier, lose weight, exercise, read more, be kinder, more generous etc. etc. So we tend to make resolutions each year!

Yet sometimes we can also feel why bother because while we may try to attain the goals we set we soon return to the same old me.

St Paul reminds us that it is God who brings about real change and transformation through the renewal of our minds (*Romans 12:2*) this is not a single event but a process through prayer, reading, worship and practice. The renewing of the mind includes the heart and will - it is our whole being.

Let the '*renewing of our mind*' be our focus for 2018 to commit ourselves to the process of asking God to transform our lives into what He wants us to be. Herewith a prayer to help us in 2018:

*Dear Lord*

*I seek a clear light, your light,*

*To shine upon my way in life.*

*A light that gives me courage to fight my darkness.*

*To overcome my fears and weakness.*

*A light that shows me your truth, love and purpose for my life.*

*A light in whose strength I find comfort, certainty and assurance of your presence.*

*A light that enables the renewing of my mind in prayer, through your word and in my humble and unworthy adoration.*

*For you Lord, my King my love is the Light of the World!*

*Amen!*

### **THE SHOW MUST GO ON!**

For the past sixteen years, the home of the Rhumbelow Theatre has been the Rhumbelow MOTH Shellhole in Cunningham Road. Unfortunately the roof of the theatre requires major repairs and shows will not be able to be held in the hall until the repairs are completed.

In the interim all the Rhumbelow Theatre shows will be held at St Cyprian's Parish Hall on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. This will not affect our usage of the hall for Sunday morning teas and Sunday School. The shows will be advertised weekly on the Notice Board.

### **BIBLE SOCIETY**

On Sunday 04 February the Regional Head of the Bible Society for KZN Rev Clive Van Rooyen will be preaching and promoting the Bible Society at both the morning services.

### **MEN'S WEEKEND**

There is still space for the Men's Weekend from 09-11 February at Himeville. We will be staying on a dairy farm with a trip up Sani Pass into Lesotho on the Saturday. (Passports will be required) The cost is in the region of R800. To book, phone the Parish Office or write your name on the list in Church.

### **PARISH PANCAKE PARTY**

Shrove Tuesday is on 13 February at 6.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, a wonderful social evening for everyone in the Parish before Lent begins. If you can help with cooking pancakes, ingredients etc. and for catering purposes please write your name on the list or contact the office.

### **LENT 2018**

Lent is a gift to us to aid our spiritual maturity and Christian journey of faith. It is a time to reflect on the values of the Gospel and an opportunity to do more and to give more - not only money, but time and service and to commit to prayer and reading of the scriptures and Christian writings. To attend the Holy Week services and then to rise renewed in joy with Our Lord at Easter.

Our prayer to God should be:

*Oh God you know me  
You know how I know what I ought to do this Lent  
Yet I still find so many reasons and obstacles that bind and prevent me.  
Please O Lord, help me to break this apparent weakness  
And enable me to keep a Holy, Good and Faithful Lent.  
I pray in the holy and sacred name of our Lord and Saviour, the same Jesus Christ!  
Amen!*

### **IN LENT THERE WILL BE:**

Ash Wednesday 14 February

This is a day of obligation and three Masses with the imposition of ashes are offered at 6.30 a.m.; 9.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Saturday 7.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m.  
Mass and Meditation beginning on Saturday 17 February

Wednesday 9.00 a.m. Mass with Homily  
Wednesday 5.30 p.m. Evening Prayer  
6.00 p.m. Bible Study on St John's Gospel (Parish Office)

Confessions are by appointment with Fr Dane or Fr James.

For four of the Sundays in Lent parishioners will share their journey of faith and what their faith means to them and how it shapes their lives.

Mothering Sunday Family Service 11 March at 9.00 a.m.

### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Sunday 25 March Palm Sunday 7.00 a.m. and 9.00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday 29 March 6.00 p.m.  
Mass with the washing of the feet and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday 30 March  
9.00 a.m. Stations of the Cross  
12.00 Noon - 3.00 p.m. Three Hour Devotion

Holy Saturday 31 March  
6.00 p.m. Service of Light

Sunday 01 April Easter Day  
7.00 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. Mass

### **PARISH VESTRY**

This will be held during **One** service on Sunday 25 February at 8.30 a.m. Vestry is important for the good and accountable management of the Parish, its finances, maintenance, ministry and pastoral care. It importantly elects its representatives to Parish Council and elects the Churchwardens.

I have an aversion to long meetings and to save time the audited accounts for 2017 are on the Notice Board in Church. If you have any queries or comments please speak to the Churchwardens or myself before the day of the Vestry.

The salient points of the 2017 accounts are:

- Income from parishioners, interest and Easter Offering grew from R692 013 in 2016 to R779 022 in 2017.
- The year ended with a surplus of R12 384 which was allocated to Repairs and Maintenance.
- Income in 2017 from fundraising, donations, rentals and realised capital gains on investments R598 535.
- A total income of R1 377 557 for 2017.

- The Specific Funds of the Parish represent the total asset value of the Parish. This grew from R1 072 566 in 2016 to R1 166 094.47.
- The Share Market investment is valued at cost R852 312, market value at 31 December 2017 was R1 559 077.

Our healthy financial position enabled the Parish to:

- Replace the Sound System in Church R63 436.
- Sound System in Hall R6 539.
- Seal part of the flat surface of the Church R84 707.
- Tree Maintenance R12 850.
- Repairs to Rectory and Outbuilding Roofs R62 220.
- Repairs to Hall Roof R43 800.

In 2018 we will continue with major repairs to the Church building.

The one anticipated major expense for which there is the appeal box at the entrance to the Church is the complete replacement of the pitched roof at the top of the building, estimated at today's prices at R1 400 000. If every Sunday we each place a few rand in the box it will have a major effect in eventually being able to get this done. Currently the Church Roof Fund has R280 000.

Well that's the Vestry meeting down to 15 minutes!!

#### **A YEAR OF CELEBRATION - A JUBILEE YEAR**

**2020** marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Parish. I would love this to be a year of celebration. Already a number of people have responded to the request to establish a committee to plan for 2020 and to help with suggestions and ideas to make this a memorable year. If anyone else would like to be on the committee or if you have suggestions please speak to me. The first committee meeting is on Tuesday 06 February at 5.30 p.m. in the Parish Office.

In 1995 when the Parish celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary the interior of the Church was painted. It has worn well but needs painting again which I hope we will be able to do towards the end of 2019.

#### **EASTER OFFERING**

For many years I have not received the Easter Offering, which is provided as a supplementation to the Parish Priest's stipend, but directed it to Parish income. This year will be no different and would want us to make a generous contribution towards the Easter Offering to go to establish a fund for the interior painting of the Church.

#### **CONFIRMATION 2018**

This is on 16 September. The list is in the Church and candidates need to be at least 14 years of age.

**30 JUNE 2018**

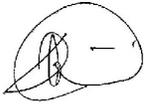
Please diarise this date for the annual Fete. The White Elephant ladies are already hard at work. Books, jewellery, white elephant, prizes etc. can be brought to the office or Church.

**29 JANUARY 1993**

This was the day of my collation as Rector of St Cyprian's Parish by the then Suffragan Bishop Ross Cuthbertson. That was 25 years ago!

I am very grateful to everyone for the wonderful experience of serving as Parish Priest at St Cyprian's. This is truly a caring and loving community and it is a privilege to be part of the St Cyprian's community.

With Every Blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'FR DANE', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval border.

FR DANE