



Diocese of Johannesburg

ANGLICAN BISHOP DIOCESE OF JOHANNESBURG



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RESTRUCTURING OF ARCHDEACONRIES 2018

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ.

A few years ago, in direct response to the past hurts and pains caused to us as Christians by the legacy of Apartheid, and in order to redress some of the inequalities and imbalances by sharing resources, we as a diocese created new archdeaconry structures.

We have seen good fruit come out of the drawing closer of parishes who were formerly separated from each other. One of the unforeseen consequences of the larger geographical boundaries created in drawing up our new structure is that they have proved a great challenge for archdeacons, clergy, and congregations to work with, and are now hampering efforts to turn our diocesan vision into a workable reality.

In order for us to enable the ministry of all believers, and to give more direction to focussed outreach, in consultation with chapter I have decided to redraw the archdeaconry boundaries. In doing this we have attempted to maintain some of the beneficial working relationships between some of the parishes currently in existing archdeaconries, whilst at the same time enabling other parishes in the same geographic location to support one another in a more concrete and direct way in addressing common challenges which are more area specific and are of an economic, social, and political and even spiritual nature. We hope that in doing this we may be more effective in discerning where God is at work in our communities, and where God is calling us to cooperate in that work.

One archdeaconry under the leadership of Ven Diana Thorburn has already become a pilot for new ways of parish churches working together cooperatively to sustain ministry. In direct response to the call for help which was clearly voiced at our recent Synod by many struggling parishes, we will be using this model throughout the archdeaconries.

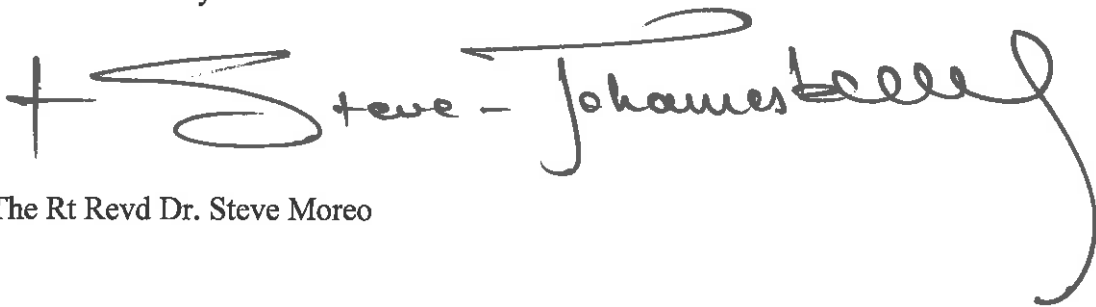
We will focus on working with our mission district and chapelry congregation and attach them to existing parishes that have ministry resources to help them grow, so they are able to realise their full potential.

It is my prayer that God would bless this endeavour, and that the Holy Spirit would enable us to have the will and guidance to make it happen so that we may fulfil the Great Commission entrusted to us by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20.

I give thanks to God for the archdeacons who have served in the previous archdeaconries, and those who have indicated their willingness to serve in the new structure, and I enclose the list of new archdeaconries.

May God bless us all as we live out our discipleship and make the kingdom of God a present reality in the communities where we live and minister.

Yours Gracefully

A handwritten signature in black ink. It begins with a large, stylized 'S' that loops back to the left. To the right of this 'S' is the word 'Steve' in a cursive script, followed by a hyphen and the name 'Johannesbeery' in a similar cursive style. The signature ends with a long, sweeping tail that curves downwards and to the right.

The Rt Revd Dr. Steve Moreo