

AD CLERUM – October 2008

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

The BBC comedy “Allo, ‘Allo,” is set in occupied France during the Second World War. In the opening episode there is a hilarious scene in which the owner of the local restaurant has been told that a member of the French Resistance (whom he is to hide) will come to the bar, order a brandy, take out a cigar and ask for a light. He is to respond that he has no matches, at which point the person will reveal his identity.

When a German officer comes into the bar and does all those things, but does not then reveal his identity, the owner asks him, “Are you one of them?” (meaning French Resistance).

“Yes,” says the German (meaning ‘gay’).

At this point the French Resistance fighter comes in, and does all the same things, only to have his cigar lit by the German. “Is he one of us?” the Resistance Fighter asks the owner (meaning ‘in the Resistance’).

“No,” replies the owner, “he’s one of them” (meaning ‘German’).

“Well you don’t have to tell everyone about it,” huffs the German (again meaning ‘gay’).

Farce depends on knife edge timing and so, on paper, the exchange is more ponderous than on the screen. Nevertheless, I have used it simply because it is a humorous exchange that plays on the concept of “us” and “them,” and does so on many levels simultaneously. Also, given that it takes place in a time of war, it illustrates the deadly nature of so many of these “us” and “them” situations.

The problem with “Us” and “them” thinking is that it creates dualities characterised by difference and by which we define ourselves and others. Our sense of identity, and that of others, is therefore shaped and defined by the groups to which we belong and our differentiation from others is marked by those things that set us apart. This gives rise to perceptions of superiority and inferiority that fuel economic, religious, ethnic and other types of competitiveness that leads to power struggles that all too often end in violence, conflict and genocide. Even such a simple and apparently innocuous duality as “my team” versus “your team” can erupt in violence and bloodshed.

Because we differentiate ourselves from others in terms of difference, each “us” group is in competition with others and the state of peaceful co-operation that may exist for much of the time is simply because it is in the self-interest of each group to do so. However, when one group, for whatever reason, whether real or perceived, feels threatened by the other then co-operation breaks down and conflict begins. This “us” and “them” duality lies at the heart of what Walter Wink in his book, “Engaging the Powers,” calls the ‘domination system’, in which the primary value is power. Walter Wink suggests that, in our modern world, wealth has acquired a unique value as a form of power, but that when all else fails, violence is the ultimate expression of power in a world of domination. He says:-

“Violence is the ethos of our times. It is the spirituality of our modern world. It has been accorded the status of a religion, demanding from its devotees an absolute obedience even to death. Its followers are not aware, however, that the devotion they pay to violence is a form of religious piety. Violence is so successful as a myth simply because it does not seem to be mythic in the least. Violence simply appears to be the nature of things. It is what works. It is inevitable, the last and, often, the first resort in conflicts.”

Wink places great emphasis on the religious nature of violence and the spirituality that underlies what he calls “the myth of redemptive violence;” the belief that the evil of violence can be used to bring about a greater good (cf. the invasion of Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq).

Violence, he argues, is not simply an intrinsic part of life – the inevitable and unalterable way that things are – but is a concrete expression of a worldview that has its roots in Babylonian religion and that has simply continued as a dominant worldview alongside and in spite of Christianity. In a nutshell, Wink is saying that we are confronted with a choice – God’s way or that of the world. He says:-

“The distinction between a partnership society and a domination society, between the reign of God and the Domination System, between the story of Jesus and the myth of redemptive violence, provides just the sharp contrast we need for distinguishing between what the Bible calls the way of God and the way of the world.”

As with so much of our country’s sad history, the events of the past week, together with all that led up to it, are a clear testimony to the destructive power of “us” and “them.” Beneath a carefully maintained mask of civility and ongoing declarations of unity and loyalty, there has been a long and bitter power struggle between two rival factions within the ANC. If Judge Nicholson is to be believed, many of the woes that have beset Jacob Zuma may well have been as much politically motivated and driven as the result of his own actions. Despite, or perhaps because of the shift of power at Polokwane, the struggle has continued with an almost religious fervour, first at provincial level (with stabbings and other outbreaks of violence), and now at national level, culminating in the resignation of Thabo Mbeki and a significant number of the cabinet. The behaviour on both sides of the power struggle clearly show the central value of power and the extent to which violence has been an accepted method for achieving outcomes that can be justified in terms of the myth of redemptive violence. It also explains why the final chapters of the struggle have not yet been written, as well as why, despite assurances in the wake of the resignations that there is “No Need to Panic,” many of us continue to feel a deep sense of disquiet and sense that there may well be good reason to panic.

But I believe that we can go deeper than that. What Wink says about the religious nature of violence helps me understand the spiritual dynamics of what is going on. This power struggle within the ANC is tearing our country apart is doing so precisely because it is a part of a system of domination that is profoundly alienated from the things of God. *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers”* (Ephesians 6:12). And immediately St Paul goes on to say that we must put on the whole armour of God and be a people of prayer, reminding us that, as Christians, we cannot simply stand by watching what is happening, but are called to active engagement in word, deed and prayer. Many of you have spoken to me of the need for prayer at this time; echoing the words of St Paul.

It would be so easy to dismiss what is going on as a struggle amongst “them,” forgetting that in Christ there is no “them,” but only “us.” What God wants is not the downfall of the social system (which will only be replaced by yet another system of domination); God wants its transformation. But this is not possible without addressing both its spirituality and its outer forms. For the domination system, says Wink, “is the outcome of the systematic repudiation by institutions of their divine vocations in order to pursue self-aggrandisement and greed.”

We are called to pray and work for the healing and transformation of our world. We are called not simply to talk about the kingdom of God, but to actualise it – in our own lives, in the lives of those around us and in our nation. I will let Walter Wink have the final word:-

“In a field of such titanic forces ... we are emboldened to ask for something bigger. The same faith that looks clear-eyed at the immensity of the forces arrayed against God is the faith that affirms God’s miracle-working power. Trust in miracles is, in fact, the only rational stance in a world that is infinitely responsive to God’s incessant lures. We are commissioned to pray for miracles because nothing less is sufficient. We pray to God, not because we understand these mysteries, but because we have learned from our tradition and from experience that God, indeed, is sufficient for us, whatever the Powers may do.”

May the miracle of God’s miraculous transformation be seen in us and in our land.

+ Brian

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Spiritual Formation

Clergy Retreat: Our annual Diocesan Retreat will take place at St Benedict's House from 17h00 on Monday 13th October until 08h30 on Friday 17th October, 2008. The Retreat Conductor will be the Very Revd Livingstone Ngewu, Dean of St Alban's Cathedral, Pretoria. He has previously led a retreat for the diocese which was very well received. Prayer is at the heart of ministry so I encourage all of you to make space in your diaries for this retreat – for your own sake and for the sake of your ministry.

Clergy Quiet Day: Our next Diocesan Quiet Day will be at Bishop's House on Tuesday, 18th November 2008. Prayer is central to effectiveness in ministry so please plan to make this day a part of your spiritual life.

Clergy Day: The next Clergy Day will be on Tuesday, 7th October 2008 at St Andrew's, Kensington. This time Bishop Brian will speak about his experience at Lambeth.

Directions to St Andrew's:

FROM CENTRAL JOHANNESBURG:

Proceed East along Market Street (one-way east), continue into Bezuidenhout Avenue. Opposite Jeppe police station, turn right into Betty Street. At first traffic lights turn left into Commissioner Street, this becomes Roberts Avenue. Proceed east. Pass Jeppe High Schools (boys then the girls) on the right. Pass Rhodes Park on the left, at traffic light turn right into Ocean Street.

FROM THE N3:

Take the R24 Johannesburg exit (at Gilooly's). Head towards town. At the first traffic lights turn left into Allum Road. Second lights turn right into Langerman Drive (becomes Roberts Avenue). At the third traffic lights (after 1,5km) turn left into Ocean Street.

FROM M1 NORTH:

Take Exit 16 (Houghton Drive). Keep left, past St John's College. Proceed straight along Joe Slovo Drive (was Harrow Road). Just before Ponte take left slip road (unmarked) under the bridge, turn left into Charlton Terrace. Follow the road around the Johannesburg Athletic Stadium - becomes Bertrams Road. At Roberts Avenue turn left. Proceed for approx. 4 kms; turn right into Ocean Street.

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Reading Recommendation

Re-reading Walter Wink's book, "Engaging the Powers" while preparing this month's reflection, I have been struck again both by its wisdom and deep spirituality. Charles Elliot of Cambridge University described it as "... *the most important and exciting theological work to emerge in a generation.*" It is the third book in a trilogy; the first two being "Naming the Powers" and "Unmasking the Powers". All are worth a read, but "Engaging the Powers" is especially good. I commend it to you.

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Growing the Church and the Launch of the Diocesan Centre

There was a good turnout for the celebration of the Eucharist on Wednesday 24th September and an even more wonderful sense of belonging. My thanks to all of you who attended and to those who worked so hard behind the scenes to make the day the success it was; special thanks to Steve Moreo, Peter Wyngaard, Eve Abrahams, Sue and Garth Cramer, Martin Louw, the Parish of Sophiatown, and to the Irvin Phozza family (for the donation of the tent and chairs).

It was a fun day, full of encouragement, and the slide display and drawings by the architects generated a lot of enthusiasm. It is now up to all of us to ensure that the commitments we made become a living reality.

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Confirmations 2008

Just a reminder – the scripture readings for October 2008 Confirmation services can be found on page 388 of the Anglican Prayer Book (fourth set). You may use one or more of them as you choose. Where only one reading is used, it should be that of the Old Testament, which forms the basis for my sermon. The readings are:

Old Testament:	Ezekiel 36:25-27	New Testament:	Acts 8:4-8, 14-17
Psalms:	139:1-14	Gospel:	John 7:37-39

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Family News

Province

- **Bishop David Beetge** died suddenly and unexpectedly on 27th September. Bishop David's Requiem Mass will be held at 10h00 at St Dunstan's School, on Friday, 3rd October 2008. There have now been three deaths in the immediate family over a very short space of time; this latest one being the most devastating for Carol. Please remember her in your prayers.
- **Cynthia Botha** was licensed as a Provincial Canon and at the recent sitting of Provincial Standing Committee. Our congratulations to her on a well deserved acknowledgement of the real contribution she makes to the life of our Province.

Diocese

- This technically belongs in the provincial section, but because he is one of ours it is included here. **The Revd Dr Peter Wynaard** has been appointed as Rector of the Anglican House of Studies in Pietermaritzburg as from the beginning of 2009. His wife, **Lyn**, will also be appointed to a parish there. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to them. They have been key players in the life of our diocese and will be sorely missed.
- **Gary Thompson** is also leaving us at the end of the year for the Diocese of Natal. He has been appointed Rector of Hillcrest. We are also sorry to see him go, but wish him, Tessa and the family every blessing in their new ministry together.
- Since his motor car accident **Rodney Taylor** has been confined to home in a brace. He will be seeing the Orthopaedic Specialist shortly who will then determine what further treatment will be needed. It is anticipated that Rodney will continue in a brace for a number of months, but one that will allow a greater freedom of movement, including that of being able to leave home and return to work. Please keep him and Anne in your prayers and pray for Rodney's speedy and full recovery.
- **The Revd Denzall Snell** and **Sinyati Mollel** will be married at St Mark's, North Riding on Saturday, 18th October 2008. We wish them God's richest blessings for a wonderful life together.
- **The Revd Simon Meje** (LoP at Kagiso parish) passed away at home on the morning of 5th September 2008. A memorial service was held for Fr Simon on the 10th September and his funeral was held at St Bart's, Kagiso, on the 12th September 2008. Please continue to hold the family in your prayers.
- **The Revd Archie Motaung's** brother-in-law, **Mr Augustine Zuma**, passed away earlier in September and his funeral service was held on the 24th September. Please keep the family in your prayers during this time of mourning. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.
- **Mrs Betty Lingiswa Theyise**, wife of the late **Revd B Theyise**, passed away early in September and her funeral service was held at St Mary's, Dobsonville on the 17th September. Please remember the family in your prayers.
- **The Revd Abel Molefe's** funeral service was held on 7th August 2008 at St Francis', Moroka. Please keep Fr Abel's wife, Puleng, and the family in your prayers.

Dates for Diary

OCTOBER

Wed 1 st	Ministry Formation Portfolio: St George's, Parktown	09h30
Wed 1 st	ALPHA: St Luke's, Orchards	19h00-21h00
Sat 4 th	Confirmations: Joburg Central (St George's)	10h00
Sat 4 th	Anglicare: St George's, Parktown	09h00-11h00
Sun 5 th	Confirmations: Cathedral&Jhb East (St Margaret's) / Rosebank (St Martin's)	11h00 / 15h00
Sun 5 th	Anglican Choirs' Competition	
Mon 6 th	<i>Government Schools Open</i>	
Tues 7 th	Clergy Day: Topic: Lambeth Venue: St Andrew's, Kensington	09h00-12h30
Wed 8 th	ALPHA: St Luke's, Orchards	19h00-21h00
Fri 10 th	Mothers' Union: Suburban Conference & Competitions	
Fri 10 th	Prophetic Ministry Conference: St Luke's Orchard's	19h00-21h00
Sat 11 th	Prophetic Ministry Conference: St Luke's Orchard's	09h00-12h30
Sat 11 th	Confirmations: Highway Gdns (St Stephen's) / Joburg North (St Michael's)	11h30 / 16h00
Sat 11 th	Diaconal Year Programme: St Michael's, Weltevreden Park	09h00-15h00
Sat 11 th	STILIM for Lay Leaders: St Thomas', Linden	09h00-12h30
Sat 11 th	Mothers' Union: Suburban Conference & Competitions	
Sun 12 th	Confirmations: Phakamani (St Joseph's) / Meadowlands (St Mary's)	09h00 / 14h00
Sun 12 th	B Mizeki: Council Meeting – St Francis', Moroka	18h00
Sun 12 th	Mothers' Union: Suburban Conference & Competitions	
Sun 12 th	A.M.F: Diocesan Preachers Workshop – St Aidan's, Yeoville	09h00
Mon 13 th	Clergy Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Tues 14 th	Clergy Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Tues 14 th	St Benedict's Spiritual Formation Group	
Wed 15 th	Clergy Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Wed 15 th	ALPHA: St Luke's, Orchards	19h00-21h00
Thurs 16 th	<i>Independent Schools ½ Term Starts</i>	
Thurs 16 th	Clergy Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Fri 17 th	Clergy Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Sat 18 th	Confirmations: Far West (St Nicholas) / St Andrews (St John's)	09h00 / 14h30
Sat 18 th	P.O.S.T: Confession & Exorcism - St Margaret's, Bedfordview	09h00-16h00
Sat 18 th	A.W.F: Diocesan Executive Meeting – St Francis, Moroka	09h30
Sun 19 th	Confirmations: Sophiatown (St Francis)	14h00
Sun 19 th	M.U: Clergy and Family Prayer Day	
Tues 21 st	<i>Independent Schools ½ Term Ends</i>	
Wed 22 nd	Diocesan Finance Board: JP Centre, Bishop's House, Westcliff	16h30
Wed 22 nd	ALPHA: St Luke's, Orchards	19h00-21h00
Sat 25 th	Confirmations: Krugersdorp (St Peter's) / Randfontein (St Bartholomew's)	09h00 / 14h00
Sat 25 th	Independent Verifiers' Workshop	
Sat 25 th	A.M.F: Workshop for New Members (Balekwa) – St Michael's, Alex	09h00
Sun 26 th	Bishop's Pastoral Visit: Manche Masemola	09h00
Sun 26 th	Confirmations: Good Shepherd (Manche Masemola)	12h00
Mon 27 th	Management Team Strategic Planning: St Joseph's Diocesan Centre	09h00-16h00
Tues 28 th	Management Team Strategic Planning: St Joseph's Diocesan Centre	09h00-16h00
Wed 29 th	Management Team Strategic Planning: St Joseph's Diocesan Centre	09h00-16h00

NOVEMBER

Sat 1 st	Bishop's Meeting with Wardens: St George's, Parktown	09h00-12h30
Tues 4 th	Clergy Day: Topic: Management Venue: St Martin's, Rosebank	09h00-12h30
Wed 5 th	Ministry Formation Portfolio: St George's, Parktown	09h30
Fri 7 th	Clergy Spouse Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Sat 8 th	STILIM for Lay Leaders: St Thomas', Linden	09h00-12h30
Sat 8 th	Diaconal Year Programme: St Michael's, Weltevreden Park	09h00-15h00
Sat 8 th	A.W.F: Thanksgiving – St James', Diepkloof	09h30
Sat 8 th	A.M.F: Visionary Servant Leadership Diocesan Meeting – Cathedral	09h00
Sat 8 th	Clergy Spouse Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Sun 9 th	Clergy Spouse Retreat: St Benedict's, Rosettenville	
Tues 11 th	DYPP: Strategy Planning for 2009 – St Barnabas', Bosmont	

Wed 12 th	DYPP: Strategy Planning for 2009 – St Barnabas', Bosmont	
Sat 15 th	Finance Meeting with Wardens and Treasurers	
Sat 15 th	DSRT: St George's, Parktown	10h00
Sat 15 th	B Mizeki: Diocesan Conference – St Paul's, Jabavu	14h00
Sat 15 th	M.U: Diocesan Council Meeting	
Sun 16 th	B Mizeki: Diocesan Conference – St Paul's, Jabavu	14h00
Tues 18 th	Clergy Quiet Day: Bishop's House	09h00 – 15h00
Sat 22 nd	P.O.S.T: Deacon vs S-Supporting vs Stipendiary - St Margaret's, Bedfordview	09h00-16h00
Sat 22 nd	Anglicare: St George's, Parktown	09h00-11h00
Sat 22 nd	A.W.F: Christmas Outreach – Randfontein Hospital	09h30
Sat 22 nd	A.M.F: Diocesan Conference/Admission of new members	
Sun 23 rd	A.M.F: Diocesan Conference/Admission of new members	
Wed 26 th	Ministry/Portfolio Leadership Meetings: J.P.Centre, Bishop's House	08h30-16h00
Wed 26 th	Trustees	
Sat 29 th	Anglican Choirs' Fellowship: Competition	
Sun 30 th	ADVENT	

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Moves, Appointments and Vacancies

- **The Revd Victor Tshoagong** has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of the parish of St Bartholomew's, Kagiso; and his licensing will take place in the parish at 10h00 on Sunday, 12th October 2008. Please continue to pray for Fr Victor as he undertakes his new appointment.

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Birthdays

Please remember the following persons in your prayers as they celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in the coming months:

OCTOBER

1 st	Tsépo & Nosipo Matubatuba (W/A)
2 nd	Désirée Snyman
2 nd	Gail Prince
4 th	Vicentia Kgabe
8 th	Trevor & Gail Prince (W/A)
9 th	Peter & Gayle Wilson (W/A)
9 th	Sharmain James
10 th	William Mpupu
10 th	Pilane Moroa
10 th	Victor Tshoagong
13 th	Ian & Bernice Stevens (W/A)
14 th	Kathe Day
15 th	Manelisi Zeka
16 th	Dennis Francis
17 th	Dan Molwantwa
17 th	Alan Keartland
19 th	Bev O'Shaughnessy
20 th	Kenny Xinwa
20 th	Nicholas Seku
21 st	Makananelo Thaba
22 nd	Omar Abrahams
22 nd	Joyce Ntsoelengoe
22 nd	Florence Ntsoko
22 nd	Denzall Snell
23 rd	Kenneth Owen
24 th	Lankiri & Makananelo Thaba (W/A)
27 th	Tim Mncube
30 th	John Warren

NOVEMBER

2 nd	Susan Alexander
4 th	John Alexander
5 th	Lucas & Corrie Mekgwe (W/A)
5 th	Nicholas & Primrose Seku (W/A)
7 th	Mpho Moeti
7 th	Greg Longbottom
8 th	Athol & Eileen Wanckel (W/A)
8 th	Janet Aereboe
10 th	John Naale
12 th	Dan & Flora Molwantwa (W/A)
14 th	Tim Gray
15 th	Jenny Mabin
15 th	Wilhelm Klingenberg
18 th	Lynn Wyngaard
18 th	Steve & Liziwe Moreo (W/A)
18 th	Manelisi & Eugenia Zeka (W/A)
20 th	Jill Arnold
20 th	Pearl Makhalemele
22 nd	Royce & Yvonne Meyers (W/A)
23 rd	Omar & Evelyn Abrahams (W/A)
24 th	Regia Quickfall
24 th	Godfrey Henwood
26 th	Mashikane Montjane
27 th	David & Rachel Mapheng (W/A)
27 th	Mpho & Precious Chaane
29 th	Sam Moswatlhe
29 th	Michael & Jill Arnold (W/A)
30 th	David Mapheng

NB: Please report any errors and/or omissions to the Diocesan Office on 011 336-8724.

General Notices

- **SAfm Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast Service:**
The next Service will be relayed at 11h05 on *Sunday, 26th October 2008* from the *parish of Christ the King, Mondeor*. The Rector is Canon Eric Ephraim.
- **Post-Ordination Skills Training:**
The programme for 2008 is as follows 18th Oct - Confession, exorcism (un-holy ghosts); 22nd Nov - Deacon vs priest and self-supporting vs stipendiary. Venue: St Margaret's, 9 Harper Road, Bedfordview. Time: 09h00 to ±16h00. Bring & Share lunch. For more information contact Revd Patricia Lane. 011 455 4449.
- **HIV and AIDS Update:**
(1) October is Health Month in correlation with St Luke's Day on the 18th October. Parish HIV and AIDS teams and archdeaconries are encouraged to plan health services. One of the ideas is to host a VCT Clinic on Sunday to give people an opportunity to test and know their status. A second idea is to invite people in Healthcare – Doctors, Nurses, Caregivers, etc. – to a service closer to the 18th and to pray for them. A second collection towards HIV and AIDS can be requested.
(2) With summer on the way, we request the donation of a fridge to keep perishables for the purpose of meetings, etc. A small office fridge would be suitable. If you can help please contact: The Revd Tsépo Matubatuba, HIV and AIDS Co-ordinator. Office telephone number: 011 333 4399.
- **Spectramed:**
Our medical aid scheme advises anyone traveling outside South Africa for any reason to contact **Karen Howard** on 0860 802 981 or 083 2259 833 before they leave in order to activate overseas travel insurance. One of their members has recently had to pay R150 000,00 in order to relocate him from Zimbabwe to a hospital in South Africa, simply because they did not notify Spectramed in advance.
- **THANK YOU:**
The Revd Gwyn Slade, Rector of the parish of St John the Divine, Randfontein, would like to take this opportunity to thank the rectors and parishioners of the following parishes for their financial generosity, love and support, in helping 255 refugee women and children who were rescued recently from the side of the road in Randfontein:

St Peter's, Auckland Park	St Paul's, Parkhurst
St Michael's, Bryanston	St Francis', Parkview
St Margaret's, Bedfordview	St Andrew's, Randburg
St Mark's, Fourways	St Stephen's, Sunninghill
St John's, Houghton	St Michael's, Weltevreden Park
St Mark's, North Riding	DSRT, the Revd Doug Torr
St Luke's, Orchards	

The funds were used to ensure that the refugees received daily nutritional meals, baby formula and nappies.
- **Ministry of Resurrection Way in Rosettenville:**
Bishop Peter Lee reports that The Community of the Holy name in Zululand have accepted an invitation to establish a fullscale branch house at Ikhaya Lokuthula Convent in Rosettenville. For some years now, a team of two sisters from CHN at Melmoth has lived at Pax House next to the Convent and exercised a ministry of caring and evangelism on the streets of Rosettenville, alongside the ministry of the OHP Sisters within St Benedict's.
The new initiative will maintain the street ministry and expand the interface between the sisters and parishes of the diocese; at the same time, the community will develop another face looking inwards to the ministry of St Benedict's House, and providing that godly presence and ministry of support and guidance to those who visit the House.
Sisters Ntsoaki, Nonhlanhla, Agnet and Maureen are already in residence and practising their 7-fold daily rhythm of prayer within the convent and in the Chapel at St Benedict's. One or two more may join them next year. The new branch House will be formalized and a sister superior appointed early in the New Year, when a service of welcome and blessing will be held. A date will be announced shortly.

It is estimated that the convent with 6 sisters would cost some R12 000 per month or R2 000 per sister for the costs of the House, food, medical care and personal needs. +Peter wants to launch a “support a sister” scheme and ask for committed giving towards the support of the community – preferably in units of R2 000 per month. This is primarily a responsibility for the diocese of Christ the King, but given the wider ministry of St Benedict’s, +Peter is hoping for support from all those who may benefit from the ministry of the new house.

Pledges or contributions may be sent to our office, payable to the Diocese of Christ the King, for the time being: Account: The Diocese of Christ the King; Bank: Standard Bank; Account Number: 00 303 616 2; Branch: Southdale; Branch Code: 6405

○ **Siyafundisa Update:**

Siyafundisa continues to provide LIFE SKILLS to young people in our communities aiming to prevent the spread of the AIDS pandemic. Please visit our Website www.anglicanaids.org.za for the Siyafundisa video.

The running of our workshops is progressing in all of our 25 sites and a big thank you to all clergy & laity who are supporting this ministry of HIV/AIDS Prevention. The impact this has made in changing the lives of the people of God has been amazing!

The delivery of the Site Starter Packs to allow the administrative side to run smoothly was successfully effected from 08th to 21st September 2008. If you have not yet received this delivery for whatever the reason, please contact the Field Worker without delay. Just a friendly reminder that the next reporting date (for all SITE SUMMARY FORMS) is the 10th October 2008 and all reports are to be faxed to 086 624 5067. It is vital that we meet this deadline as all reports will be sent to A.A.H.T. in Cape Town. Needless to say, the reporting system is crucial to us in this Programme in order to Monitor & Evaluate progress made.

We warmly welcome Miss Zikhona Gana and Miss Mandisa Masoka (both from the Diocese of Grahamstown) who joined the team of Field Workers recently. This has increased the number of Field Workers to 18 in our Province. We had all Diocesan Field Workers at Fourways during 29th September – 03rd October for further training in the work of the Programme.

Please note that the Siyafundisa Desk in the Diocesan Office will not be operating between 31st October – 07th November 2008 as we will be attending an End of year Reporting and 2009 Planning Session in Cape Town. The Official Site Visit Schedule for October / November 2008 has been revised and dates changed. You will receive this updated schedule via email shortly.

Jabulani Miya, SIYAFUNDISA Field Worker, Diocese of Johannesburg. Tel: 011 333 4399 (Office). Mobile: +27 82 323 9948. e-Mail: jmiya@anglicanaids.net.

○ **HIV and AIDS News:**

Please remember that –

- (1) The month of October is Health month and Sunday, 19th is St Luke’s Sunday – called Health Sunday. Let us please organize Health Services and Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) where possible (some parishes have already booked).
- (2) New Start (our VCT partner) is inviting parishes to join their VCT drive for the week starting 3rd-9th November. They are challenging about ten parishes to participate in the drive; so please hurry and make sure you are one of the ten.
- (3) The Cancer Association is giving parishes an opportunity to book their services to come to your congregations to offer free Cancer screening for various types of Cancer. A few of our parishes in Soweto have already taken advantage of this offer. The letter of invitation will be forwarded to all parishes. Please take advantage of these services as Cancer is another disease responsible for many deaths, but when detected early it can be controlled.
- (4) Our next Parish Representatives’ meeting will be on the 8th November at St Paul’s, Jabavu. It is the closing meeting for the year and as usual we will do some catering to thank you for your commitment during the year. It is also a time to reflect on the year end and to forecast for the coming year. Please will all parishes make an effort to be represented.

The Revd Tsépo Matubatuba, HIV & AIDS Co-ordinator. Tel: 011 333 4399 (Office).

- **Anglicare:** Dates for Anglicare meetings for 2009 are as follows – 24th January (AGM); 7th March; 18th April; 30th May; 11th July; 22nd August; 3rd October and 14th November.

