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It is my prayer that 2018 will continue to be blessed, and that, led by the Holy Spirit, you will be able to achieve those goals in ministry and person holiness that you set for yourself and your people.

**Diocesan News:**

I thank you again for your presence at that marvellous Service of Consecration of Bishop Murinda at All Saints, Polokwane at the end of 2017. For many of you, that was a first-time experience, and I know that the fellowship between clergy of different Southern African countries of the TAC was enjoyed by all. Once again, thank you to all those who travelled so far and worked so hard to make the occasion successful, especially the clergy and Council of the Pro-Cathedral.



*Just some of the faithful clergy and servers gathered at All Saints, Polokwane*

The last *Ad Clerum* of 2017 focussed specifically on the consecration of Bishop Wellington Murinda, but there was a lot of other activity in our Southern African region, just some of which I will report on here.

The Consecration of Bishop Wellington has meant that appointments needed to be made to facilitate the continued planned growth and development of our Diocese. These were announced at the Consecration, but I will begin with those appointments for your information. There will be further appointments made as the year goes on.

**THE VERY REV AUGUSTINE KOLITI. BSc, BEd, BTh, UED.**

**Vicar General for Southern Africa**

Members of Diocesan Standing Committee, including Bishop Wellington, had many discussions around this key appointment. The position of the Vicar General of the Diocese is a working one, and not a glamorous post. It is a most responsible Diocesan position, as the Vicar General is key to many situations as the first amongst the priests in the Diocese, and he serves as the Diocesan Bishop's appointee. The role requires a careful and prayerful man of God, a good administrator, who can step in should there be a crisis of any kind, especially should the Diocesan Bishop become ill or die, as was the case with the late Bishop Trevor Rhodes. All Diocesan administration, including liaison with the TAC College of Bishops, would then fall on his shoulders, until such time as the matter is resolved. The post covers the TAC in South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia and Botswana.

After careful and prayerful consideration, the Diocesan Standing Committee agreed that Fr Augustine Koliti had the theological education, personal strength and discipline needed for the position. He, in turn, spent much time in prayer before accepting our proposal, and we are delighted that he has agreed to become the Vicar General for Southern Africa. Fr Koliti is a respected academic, having held leadership positions in education, and as such he adds stature to the leadership of the TAC in Southern Africa. I ask you to keep him in your prayers.



*Fr Augustine Koliti at the clergy retreat and with +Michael in the Eastern Cape*

**THE REV FR STEPHEN SMUTS, MA, BA Hons, BTh.  
Regional Dean, Western Cape**

The Western Cape has been an area of concern since the time of Bishop Rhodes. Several of our clergy engaged in church-hopping, usually in search of some rapid promotion with a title attached! It resulted in insecurity and a good deal of unpleasantness between former colleagues. The ACC (Anglican Catholic Church) capitalised on these people's ambitions, and although they were junior clergy, often poorly educated, they were able to advance themselves into high positions in that church without any scrutiny and/or reference in terms of their behaviour as our TAC clergy. It was a most unsatisfactory situation.

Our stalwarts in the region have been Canon Lionel Kuiper (Holy Resurrection, Robertson) assisted by Deacon David Purcell, and Fr Stephen Smuts (Christ Church, Brackenfell). Both have thriving parishes, and together, they have shown great discipline and the kind of commitment we expect from the clergy of the TAC. It is now time for the growth and expansion of the TAC in the Western Cape.

Fr Stephen Smuts was approached to consider taking the role of Regional Dean in an area in which we hope to see some rapid development over the next few years. I am grateful that, after prayerful consideration, he accepted the position. His appointment was announced at the service of Consecration in Polokwane.

Things in the Western Cape have been moving swiftly, and just two months ago, Fr Stephen and Fr Augustine Koluti visited Fr Lionel and Deacon David Purcell in Robertson for the first Regional Deanery meeting ever held in that area. It was a most successful exercise, and since then, Fr Stephen has indicated that two men have offered themselves for the diaconate. Please hold Fr Stephen and his family in your prayers. Pray also for the growth of the church in that Region.



*Fr Stephen Smuts with his congregation, and (below) as part of Cape Town Disaster Management, serving the people of the city.*





**THE FREE STATE REGIONAL DEANERY:**

**REV CANON JACOB MASAKALA WILL RETIRE.**

**REV FR GEORGE DIMPANE – Acting Regional Dean,**

**REV FR ANGELO ERICKSEN - Assistant to Fr Dimpane**

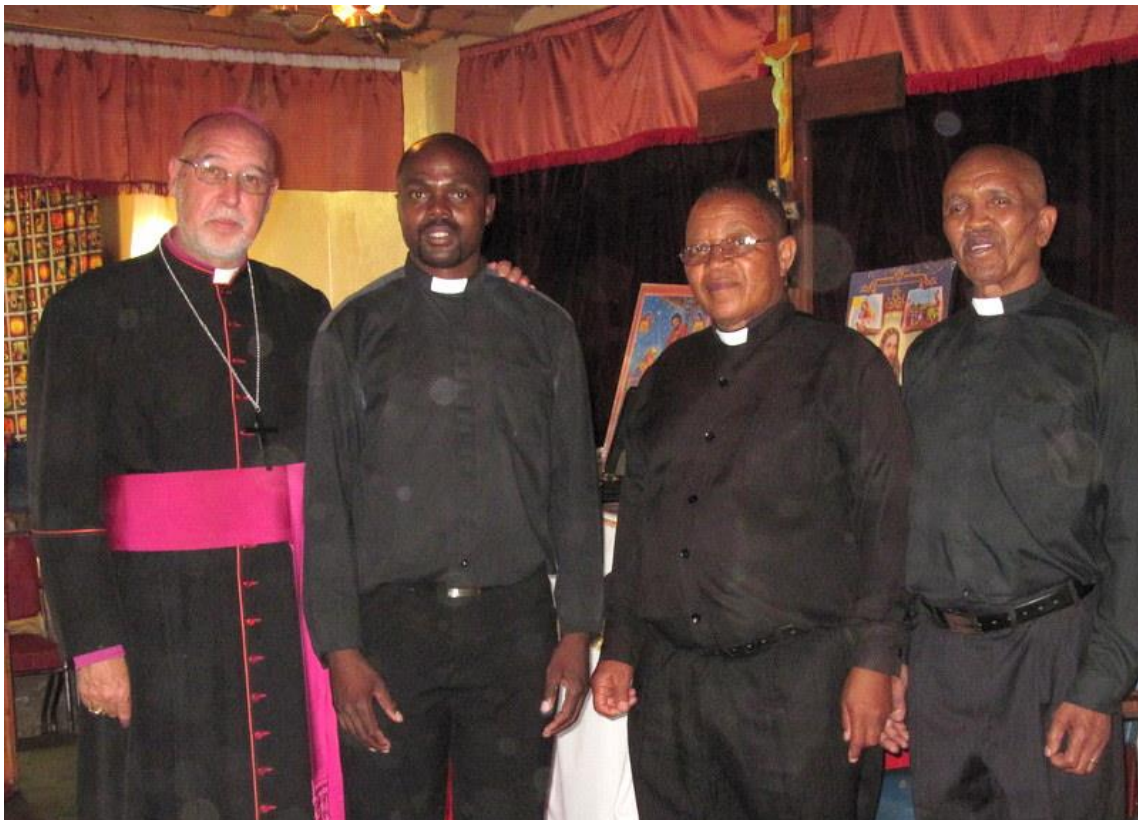
**REV FR BARNAD LESENYEHO - Priest-in-Charge, St James' Botshabelo**

In the first week of February, Vicar General Fr Augustine travelled to Botshabelo to meet with Regional Dean, Canon Jacob Masakala, his clergy and lay leadership. They were joined by the clergy from Kimberley for the meeting.

During the weekend, Canon Jacob Masakala announced that he would be retiring as Regional Dean and as the Rector of the Parish of St James, Botshabelo. St James is the main church in the Botshabelo, with St Luke and Holy Cross as its outstations. His decision meant that adjustments needed to be made.

After discussion, Fr George Dimpane (St Phillip and St James, Mangaung) was chosen as Acting Regional Dean, assisted by Fr Angelo Ericksen of All Saints, Kimberley. Both are highly capable clergymen and their friendship over years will mean that co-operation in the Region will develop further and the church will flourish.

The Rev Fr Barnad Lesenyeho has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of St James, Botshabelo and both outstations, Holy Cross and St Luke, assisted by Fr Ralejoana and Deacon Phillip Semenyane.



*Bishop Michael with Fr Barnad Lesenyeho (Botshabelo), Canon Jacob Masakala (Botshabelo) and Fr George Dimpane (Mangaung, St Phillip and St James)*

**CANON JACOB MASAKALA** has done wonderful work over many years in the Free State Region, and we thank him for his ministry, both in service and music, and for the sound Christian teaching he has given to his people. He has assisted the Bishop on many occasions, especially in Qwa Qwa, where clergy reliability has been a vexing issue, and his wisdom in dealing with tribal leaders has been invaluable. He has been a fine and dedicated clergyman, and his services will be greatly missed. A farewell function for Canon Masakala will take place in Botshabelo on 24<sup>th</sup> June. That will be covered in our next *Ad Clerum*



**THE REV CANON MARTIN MAGOLENG:**

Fr Martin Magoleng has given years of exemplary service as Regional Dean of Gauteng Province and Rector of St Cyprian's Atteridgeville. Under his leadership the Region has developed and grown to the point where the TAC is a force to challenge mainstream Anglicanism. Fr Martin has many health problems, the most serious being an hereditary degenerative eye condition. He needs our constant prayers as he fulfils a very special ministry in Gauteng.

In recognition of his contribution to Diocesan life, Fr Martin was made a Canon of the Diocese. We thank him for his valuable service to God's church.





**NORTH WEST PROVINCE: JOUBERTON**

Fr Hendrik Diamond has worked hard in Jouberton in North West Province, and a loyal and dedicated congregation has developed. The Bishop journeyed to Jouberton for a visitation and Confirmation. It was a good day of fellowship and praise, as new members of the church were welcomed to the community.



*Members of the Mothers Union*



*Fr Hendrik Diamond, their faithful Priest*

**A BIG SURPRISE FOR THE BISHOP AND REGIONAL DEAN MAGOLENG!!**

For many years, Fr Magoleng and I have visited the faithful people of St Mary Magdalene, Ga Rankuwa, located in a local Primary School. We were again invited to visit and so travelled together. St Mary Magdalene is a thriving parish under Fr Isaiah Molemi, a faithful and dedicated Priest.

However, when we got to the school, to our consternation, no-one was there.....then a car arrived and told us to follow them.

Imagine our surprise when we arrived at a fully developed site with a completed church structure, and a group of happy Traditional Anglicans, delighted with themselves for having so surprised the Bishop and Regional Dean!!

Fr Isaiah Molemi has done a wonderful work. The church has been funded entirely by the community, and is a robust structure, with a church and vestry, and a separate outbuilding for toilets and cooking. He was so happy to have achieved this – and to have surprised us.

What followed was a joyous and very noisy service! It was a delightful occasion, and the people of God at Ga Rankuwa were filled with the Joy of the Lord.



*The new St Mary Magdalene, Ga Rankuwa....amazing people of the TAC!!*





**A gallery of pictures of the service at the new St Mary Magdalene**



*Fr Molemi with Canon Magoleng and the Bishop;*



*The Servers;*



*Fr Isaiah Molemi*



*Above: The congregation process around their new church*



*The Parish Council is admitted*



*The faithful servers*





*Deacon Joshua Bokaba reads the Gospel; below: The active Sunday School*



*Below: The children come forward for blessing, and the women of the parish dancing and raising funds for their Building Project*



St Mary Magdalene will be officially consecrated on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018, when there will also be Confirmation....and hopefully not too many more surprises! It is wonderful to have Priests such as Fr Isaiah Molemi and Fr Godfrey Mathibe of Mathibestad who have shown such initiative and energy in developing their parishes. May the Lord prosper the works of their hands! They are true pioneers and have strongly established the TAC in Gauteng for the future.

**FR WINSTON MAZONDWA**

Although I did communicate to you all at the time by WhatsApp and SMS, and sent many photographs to you, I have yet to write officially and post the pictures of the funeral of our dear brother in Christ, Fr Winston Mazondwa. I apologize that the organisation of Bishop Wellington's Consecration overran me, and I have not sent out an *Ad Clerum* for the new 2018 year.

Fr Winston died suddenly 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017, and was buried in East London on 4<sup>th</sup> August following a moving Requiem Mass, attended by many from the Region.

He had been a stalwart of our Eastern Cape Region, a loyal Priest and a good companion to his colleagues in that area. He was most supportive of Fr Augustine Koliti in St Francis of Assisi parish, East London. His very sudden passing shocked all his family and friends and left a gaping hole in the life of the church in the Eastern Cape.

Fr Winston is missed by all the clergy and people. We continue to hold his family in our prayers.



*Fr Winston Mazondwa*



*Lulama Mazondwa pays tribute to her father. Regional Deans Koliti and Magoleng*





*"Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen"*

Thank you for letting me share this *Ad Clerum* with you. It forms a part of the record of our growing Diocese, its joy and sadness, its explosive growth and development, but mostly, it's truly wonderful people.

There is much to pray for in our Southern African area. I ask you to remember Bishop Wellington Murinda in your prayers as he develops his new ministry, and all those others that have taken on new ministries within the church.

I thank you for your love and support for the growing ministry of the Traditional Anglican Communion in Southern Africa, and pray God's blessings upon you, wherever you may be.

In Christ our Lord

+*Michael*  
*Southern Africa*