



IMFEFE ZAKHE

*HIS GRACES
MOHAU WA HAE*

NEWSLETTER.

VOL 2



BISHOP THULANI VICTOR MBUYISA CMM PICTURED WITH HIS EMINENCE STEPHEN CARDINAL BRISLIN AT HIS CONSISTORY IN ROME.



BISHOP THULANI MBUYISA CMM PICTURED WITH MS. SHEILA PIRES, SECRETARY FOR SYNOD COMMUNICATION AND ARCHBISHOP DABULA MPAKO.



BISHOP THULANI MBUYISA CMM PICTURED WITH SR. ANNA MIRIJAM KASCHNER CPS AND BISHOP FELIX FROM MUNSTER IN GERMANY AT THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS.

**BISHOP
THULANI.**



BISHOP THULANI VICTOR MBUYISA CMM FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL AND MARTYRS AT THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS.



BISHOP THULANI VICTOR MBUYISA CMM WITH HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS DURING THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS.





THE ETERNAL CHILDHOOD OF THE BELIEVER.

As I understand it, the Church of today faces three basic problems or challenges, if you want. The first is the eternal childhood of the believer. The second is the misplacement of the believer. The third is the lack of unity. This became evident when I surveyed my own situation in the parishes that I have had encounters with. Although we are adding more and more people to the membership roll, all are remaining children, little babies who are taught the same things year after year. The hymns we sing, the prayers we are praying, tell that we are only children. Not only we are content to use the same hymns and prayers for more that two thousand years, but we are always on the same subject: asking. Yet I know that when a child grows, the clothes don't fit him anymore. If after so many years of going to Church one hears the same prayers by the same people, one knows the Church has not grown. I am to challenge all of us in the spirit of Synod on Synodality to grow in prayer, praise, worship, ministry and singing. We are to grow in fellowship. We are to grow in dialogue.

People who sing the same hymns for years, pray the same prayers for years, keep the same Church structure, and need to hear the same messages even on the pulpit are not really growing, they are eternal children. Paul told the Corinthians they were babies because they were divided. But the division Paul accuses them of is not the division we have today. All the Corinthians were in the same Church, only they were divided over their leaders. Some said that Paul was the founder



of the Church so they should follow him. Others said Peter was the better because he had been with Jesus. Still others were thrilled with the preaching of Apollos. "When Apollos preaches even the benches tremble", they said. All in the same Church yet divided over their preachers. For this, Paul called them babies. If this is what it is to be babies, what would Paul call us today? Today we have Christians who won't even talk to one another.



CONTINUATION.

The Churches are all divided into different buildings in different places speaking against one another and calling themselves by different names. If the Corinthians were babies, we are not even born yet. And it continues. Instead of becoming one, we are divided more and more each day. Different denominations start. Today the body of Christ is divided as never before in history. We are less than babies. Our lack of workers is additional evidence of our eternal childhood. I don't know how it can be, but there are people who spend ten, twenty years in Church and still do not know how to lead a person to Christ. The only thing they can do is invite them to a meeting.

They say to a friend, "Why don't you come to our Church? It has comfortable benches, new carpeting, heat in winter and air conditioning in summer. We have a nice preacher too. Why don't you come?" Twenty years to learn to invite a person to a meeting! Then it is up to the Priest to lead those souls to Christ, feed them the milk of the Word, and baptize them. Paul almost never baptized anybody in Corinth. He said, "I don't think I ever baptized any of you. Oh yes, I think I baptized Crispus and Gaius." If one reads the Acts of the Apostles, one finds that Crispus was the first that God saved at Corinth and Gaius was the second. It seems that Paul baptized the first two- Crispus and Gaius- and they baptized the others. Why? Because Paul was making disciples. He was not fattening the Church, he was letting it multiply. But in our Churches and parishes priests in most cases are always doing the same thing because people do not grow. For example, every Sunday people come to the altar. We put them in the classes for new people, give them lessons on the Church, and baptism - then we start with another group. But while we are starting with another group, these first people are getting lost because we didn't take them into maturity. We are like doctors bringing children into the world. But many of our children die because we don't take them on to maturity.

We gain so many people each year, and we lose so many people. Almost all parishes are winning people but few that are won stay in the Church. We cannot raise them up in the Church because we have eternal children. Who is guilty in this situation? Many times, we say to the people, "You are babies, you must grow." But a person who is fed only on milk cannot grow. We as priests are guilty because we are always giving them milk. But how can one blame the priest when he has been taught this by the seminary? The only way out is to stop all activities and ask God if we are doing the right thing or not. In the next issue of our newsletter, I hope to reflect on why Jesus put ministers in the Church.



CONGREGATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS SISTERS WORKING IN THE DIOCESE OF KOKSTAD.

**MR. XOLA MANANGA
(COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE).**

Religious sisters live a life devoted to serving those in need where they are “in the world”. They dedicate their lives to the faith, providing social services, work to educate children, provide care to those in need, promote peace and advocate for justice, while standing alongside individuals who face undue hardships.



Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood were founded by the Trappist Abbot Francis Pfanner, who wanted the congregation to totally be committed to the service of Christ's redeeming love, to make the precious blood fruitful for all and to honour it in a special way. Their title is a mandate “to live the Paschal Mystery and to witness to the redeeming love of Christ”. They currently have two communities in the diocese: Bizana (Sisters Sigrid Ngcobo CPS and Marie Anne Mbalentle Miya CPS) and Mount Frere (Sisters Kieran Madikizela CPS and Cyprian Candlovu CPS).



Dominican Sisters of Montebello also referred to as the Order of Preachers with their patron saint Mary Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, was founded by St. Dominic De Guzman. They specialize in preaching, teaching, nursing, social development and looking after the needy. They are based at St. Patrick's parish in Kokstad (Sisters Xaviera Dlamini OP, Dominic Shezi OP and Marrietta Msubo OP).



Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was founded by Fr Jean-Maurice Catroux and Mother Marie Rose Giet. They work in teaching, feeding the hungry, hospice, youth ministry, sewing and social development. The congregation is celebrating its Bi-centenary, as it was founded in 1823. They are based in Mzongwana, Hardenberg, Flagstaff, Lusikisiki and Kokstad (Sisters Callista Notshele FCSCJ, Kizo Thwala FCSCJ, Nomfuneko Madikizela FCSCJ, Anna Mokoma FCSCJ, Nomvulo Mntambo FCSCJ, Philile Mdunge FCSCJ, Khumbuzile Mathe FCSCJ, Florina Hlephe FCSCJ and Nomsa Gusuluza FCSCJ).



Daughters of St Francis of Assisi were founded by Rt Reverend Bishop Michael Adalbero Fleischer CMM helped by Mother Aemeliana Ambruster CPS. They are a diocesan Congregation in Mariannahill Diocese, where their Mother house and Generalate house are situated. Their mission is the glorification of God by following Christ Poor and Crucified. They are committed to the ministry of Evangelization - promoting Catholic faith and helping Christianity to be incarnated. They are also involved in various ministries such as hospitals, taking care of elderly sisters, teaching, boarding school caretakers, children's homes for children with various needs such as psychological, physical, emotional, and spiritual. They are based in Maria Telgte (Sisters Peter Claver Mvemve, FSF and Bosco Vezi, FSF).



Little Servants of Mary Immaculate were founded in 1850 by Blessed Edmund Bojanowski. Their apostolate is to serve children and youth in Christian upbringing, the poor and the sick. They serve with the spirit of simplicity and exclusive love of God and neighbour. They are based in Matatiele at Holy Trinity parish (Sisters Barbara Skora LSMI, Lucyna Buddy LSMI and Nomveliso Mbanjwa LSMI).





ON THE OCCASION OF THE BLESSING AT MARIA TELGTE.

Steve Bantu Biko is famously known for his utterance, “Black man you are on your own”. I have always been fascinated by these words of Bantu Biko. Upon reflecting on them, I came to realise how they speak to the reality of many who have suffered and died for the beliefs and convictions they upheld. When Steve Bantu Biko was brutally tortured and murdered in his fight for the emancipation of Black people in South Africa, he was on his own. When Robert Sobukwe was killed in the confinement of his own prison cell, he was on his own. When Malcom X was assassinated for standing up for Africans in America, he was on his own. When John the Baptist was beheaded, he was on his own.

Often in our pursuit of justice, equity, freedom, dignity and development; we encounter many hardships, resistance and a lack of support, all of which will often result in anxiety and feelings of loneliness. On the occasion of the blessing of our school and boarding house, I strongly believe that Mary Our Mother of Sorrows (after whom Maria Telgte mission is named) is out to teach us a lesson in faithfulness. In actual fact, when our Lord Jesus Christ hung on the cross, he was not alone. Mother Mary remained at the foot of the cross with her son till the last.

Reverend Bishop Thulani Mbuyisa, I would like to pledge my unequivocal support to you in our quest to develop and defend the legacy of Maria Telgte School and boarding facility. Through the guidance of our Catholic Ethos we shall collaborate with every stake holder, in promoting quality and holistic education, through work and prayer as our motto dictates. We shall leave no stone unturned in our pursuit for excellence, discipline and diligence in the upbringing of the African child.



WE ARE HOWEVER, MINDFUL OF THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES AND DIFFICULTIES FACING MARIA TELGTE, AS IS THE CASE WITH MANY OTHER CATHOLIC INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING:

- Lack of financial support in the midst of a global financial crisis makes it extremely difficult to maintain and sustain our Mission.
- A historical lack of proper governance of our institutions has resulted in us having to deal with challenges of disrepair, low morale among staff members, improper management of inventory, neglect of our Catholic Ethos and a general crisis of leadership. All of these have contributed to the present state of affairs.



CONTINUATION.

- We continue to grapple with issues of compromised family life and other social structures, which ultimately results in the prevalence of drugs and substance abuse, as well as social and gender based violence. A general state of anxiety, depression, corruption, neglect and a lack of cohesion within faith communities, all of which has led to a general state of apathy and hopelessness in our society. The young people we cater for are greatly affected, making it difficult to intervene.
- We are equally aware of the deliberate efforts from certain quarters to discredit our Catholic institution and the Church at large.

We however remain resolute in our commitment to safeguard the heritage of Maria Telgte Mission. In this regard we are committing ourselves to a turn-around strategy of not only maintaining, but developing Maria Telgte into a state of the art institution of learning and human development. To this effect we have introduced a number of programs and projects. The restoration of the Catholic Ethos and Educational approach remains our main priority. We are striving to achieve this in the following ways:

- Regular Eucharistic and other Religious Celebrations.
- Upholding the culture of prayer and work.
- A catechetical program is well under way in all elementary sacraments.
- Liturgical classes are being upheld in the areas of sacred music, altar serving and sacristy.
- We continue to engage the school in our effort to re-introduce Religious Education.



Extra mural activities are being gradually introduced, in the areas of music, arts and performance, as part of our holistic approach to education. Through these activities we assist our learners to re-discover their inner voice, confidence and a sense of wellbeing. Skills empowerment through agricultural activities forms an integral part of our program, as our learners are given skills in animal husbandry, gardening and environmental awareness. We pride ourselves in our piggery and fowl run, which provides good quality meat produce to our kitchen. We also run a tuckshop which not only creates much needed capital for our boarding house, but also much needed training to our pupils in commercial activity.

We appeal to every person of goodwill to provide any form of material and monetary support, so that we may realise our vision. We are happy to inform you of our recent achievement in the renovation of our school classes and the building of flush toilets in the boarding house. Our learners no longer rely on dangerous pit toilets. Through branding and marketing we are engaged in an effort to advertise Maria Telgte, so we may avail our facility to many young people throughout the length and breadth of South Africa. As of the start of 2024 Maria Telgte Boarding House will be welcoming learners up to Grade 12. In this regard we will be working closely with our sister school Glen Edward High.



THE PARACLETE HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION.

HOLY MASS

Holy Mass was celebrated with every member wearing their traditional attire. It was a colourful and beautiful day. People came in numbers from across the Parish regardless of the rainy and misty weather conditions.



She stressed that for us to even understand the theme of the day, we need to know our identity as an individual, as a family and as church of Christ. Once you know yourself, you will know Christ who lives in you.

We were told to idolize the likes of Daniel, Meshack and friends, and David, who never wavered during hard trials because of their solid faith and Christ in them who gave them the strength to stand the test.

Outstations then performed traditional dances.

BAPTISM



The church welcomed 25 new members of the church through Baptism.



CELEBRATIONS AND YOUTH FUNDRAISING

The Faithful were invited to a celebration in the big hall. The theme of the day was 1John 4:4 "Greater is He who lives in me than the one in the world." The speakers of the day were Miss. Fikiswa Nomvete who spoke on the origin of Heritage day and Mrs. Mpofoana who emphasized the importance of Identity.

The youth cooked and sold traditional meals such as umngqusho, iinkobe, isigwampa, umqa, ulusu, isonka samanzi iti nezinye izinto, usuku lube yimpumelelo. Fr Leo was the most entertained person in the house as he joined in all the dances like a left footed person!

A big thank you to our official sponsor, Mveleli Funeral Services owned by our very own Mens Sodality President Mr. A. Tuta

MISS.MPHO
ALICE
MVULANA



THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HARDENBERG PARISH.

The Legion of Mary together with the community of Hardenberg parish celebrated the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Below are the pictures of the celebration.



The Cake of the Feast of the Nativity of our Blessed Mother.



Miss Mpho Faro the Secretary of the Legion of Mary with Father Leeto, Father Zuma (Spiritual director of Legion of Mary) and Father Vilakazi after the Mass of the Nativity of our Blessed Mother.



FCSCJ Sisters who belong to the community of Hardenberg on the day of the celebration.



Different Sodality members were present on the day of the celebration. Sodalities such as Kemolo and St Anna.



YOUNG ROMAN CATHOLIC MEN'S UNION
(AMADODANA ASE KATOLIKE) AT THE
ANDWENDWELA IPARISH YASE
MALENGE KWIDAYOSISI YASE
MZIMKHULU

LiKatolike, liNye; oku kungqiniwe lutyelelo lwamadodana aKatolike ase Kokstad kwiDayosisi yaseMzumkhulu.

Amadodana akwi Dayosisi yase Kokstad athe afumana umyalezo wokokuba uMpriste wase St. Martin De Porres – Malenge, uFather Thokozani Masina SCP unomdla wokubona umhlangano wamadodana. Lomdla ukhuliswe ngutata wase Mzimkhulu osebenzela eKokstad obalisileyo ngawo. Amadodana aye abonisa umdla acela isimemo kuMpriste lowo esibhekise kuMpriste wase Uganda Martyrs eBhongweni uFather Silindile Yalezo. Isigqeba seDayosisi sithe sangenelela sayinxalenye yoluhambo ngokukhapha Amadodana ase Uganda Martyrs eBhongweni.



Unobangela wolundwendwelo ibikukukhuthaza ootata ngenkonzo, ukukhulisa ibandla kunye nolwazi ngomanyano lwamadodana aseKatolike.

Ngolusuku Amadodana eDayosisi athi ayinxalenye yeenkqubo zonke zase Malenge nasemculweni, agqibela ngokupha isipho uMpriste noMdikoni owayekhona.

Amadoda ashokoxekile eBandleni, nokuthatha kwawo inxaxheba akukho-mandla kakhulu. Ekuzameni ukwakha amakhaya neenkonzo eziluzilima; Amadodana aseKatolika anomnqweno wokubona umhlangano ukhula, kwaye ingumnqweno ukubona ekhula nakulolonke eli, ukuze aqhubeke nomsebenzi wokuba ngabancedisi eTyalikeni.



MR. X
MANANGA



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF KOKSTAD TO HOLD FUNDRAISER FOR SEMINARIANS FUND FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

The Kokstad Diocese Finance Office is once again organizing the long-anticipated fundraiser towards the education of seminarians. Our readers may recall that this is not the first fundraiser, as previously it took place prior to the novel coronavirus pandemic. This year's event will be held on Saturday the 04th of November 2023 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Kokstad to showcase talent, time, and treasure.

Parishes are engaged in various activities to prepare for the day. It is confirmed that different stalls to sell almost everything ranging from butchery, foods, Indian meals and many other mouth watering items are planned.

DIOCESE OF KOKSTAD

SEMINARIANS FUNDRAISER
04 NOVEMBER 2023

TOGETHER
WE ARE A FORCE FOR GOOD

BUY YOUR TICKETS & WIN R60 ONLY!!!

Tickets for the raffle are being sold at R60.00 each and competitors are encouraged to buy as many as possible to increase their chances of winning a Cornish hen, a sheep or a cow.

Catholic Diocese of Kokstad

Fundraising for Seminarians Fund
Tickets Sold @R60.00
BUY AT PARISH FINANCE OFFICES

1st Prize: Cow
2nd Prize: Sheep
3rd Prize: Cornish Hen

Draw: 04th November 2023

<http://kokstaddioocese.mhmpthemes.com/>

A concert evening is being organized for a great clash of the choirs. The People of God including clergy, religious and lay faithful are encouraged to support this initiative and to promote it in their spaces in parish bulletins, notice boards and announcements.



HUNDREDS OF PILGRIMS GATHER AT MARIA TELGTE MISSION FOR PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS.

Maria Telgte was founded by the Servant of God, Abbot Francis Pfanner and his Trappist Monks of Mariannahill, in 1895. This beautiful and well-preserved Church and mission hosts an annual pilgrimage in honour of our Lady of Sorrows. This year, the pilgrimage took place on the weekend of 16-17 September 2023.

His Excellence, Bishop Thulani Victor Mbuyisa CMM, extended an invitation to all within and outside the Diocese of Kokstad to join him in honouring the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, the symbol of salvation.

Bishop Thulani wrote in his letter of invitation in August “We, her daughters and sons, pray that through her intercession we too may be granted the grace to be faithful disciples of her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and embrace His Cross so as to be crowned together with her and all the Saints in His Kingdom.”



The People of God converged in Maria Telgte to encounter and experience this year’s pilgrimage in a peaceful and serene place.

Pilgrims started arriving around 12h00 to pray and bring their thanksgiving and needs to the intercession of our Lady of Sorrows.

The pilgrimage was convened under the theme “Mary our mother, help us to journey together by working together and listening to one another as a synodal Church”. Translated into IsiXhosa as “Mariya Mama wethu sincede ukuhamba kunye, ngokusebenzisana nokuphulaphulana komnye nomnye njenge Bandla elinye”. In Sesotho as “Maria Mma rona, re thuse ho tsamaisana mmoho ka tshebedisano le ho mamelana re le Kereke ya ditherisano”. The theme was inspired by the Synod of Synodality 2021-2024 as called by His Holiness Pope Francis.

This year’s pilgrimage programme was directed by young people, thus realising a commitment of the Diocese to ensuring that young people find their space in the Church. Ms. Andiswa Hans, Mr. Senzo Jazi and Mr. Siyothula Ntsoyana, representing their deaneries and three official languages, steered the programme



Mr. France Xelitole, in his capacity as Kokstad Diocesan Pastoral Council Chairperson, welcomed the pilgrims and encouraged them to make use of the time to pray and support their diocese, appreciating their prompt arrival.



CONTINUATION.

Pilgrims were invited to a Penitential Service led by Rev Fr Bongani Mbhele, which encouraged pilgrims to pause for a moment and examine their lives so as to truly prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The KODPAC AGM of July 2023 accepted a recommendation to promote vocations in the Diocese. Religious congregations were thus afforded time to introduce their work to particularly the young pilgrims.

A deepened sense of faith was encouraged through the reflections and praying of the Stations of the Cross which was led by the Parishes of Christ the King, St. Matthews, and Uganda Martyrs

Rev Fr Sibusiso Mkhize CMM, with his choir from the Paraclete Parish, led the Benediction and Holy Hour. This was appreciated by all pilgrims, as they spent time in Adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, Christ Himself.

A talk on Synod on Synodality was presented by Rev Fr Aviwe Biata who serves on the Synodality team and is also the Director for Canonical affairs in the diocese. He highlighted the importance of the Synod, as well as the process and what will happen going forward.

Bishop Thulani Victor Mbuyisa CMM was the main celebrant for Holy Mass of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, concelebrated by all priests in the Diocese. This moment recalled His Excellency's invitation that "it is in that Holy Cross under which Our Lady, the Virgin Mary, the Mother of Sorrows stood." The Vicar General, Rev Fr Mxolisi Ngcobo, welcomed the Bishop, as this was his very first pilgrimage in the Diocese and thanked pilgrims for heeding the call.

The Children of Mary and Legion of Mary Sodalties led by their Chaplain, Rev Fr Luxolo Ncama led the Rosary of the Sorrowful Mysteries, preceded by a procession to the grotto, where, afterwards, there were also Marian prayers.

The night progressed well as pilgrims prayed for and received healing and anointing of the sick, during the Healing Service led by Rev Fr Msawenkosi Jakuja, assisted by his brother priests and the Holy Trinity Choir.

At the centre of the pilgrimage was the theme "Mary our mother, help us to journey together by working together and listening to one another as a synodal Church". In his preaching on the theme, Rev Fr Ndumiso Zuma OFM highlighted the important role of Mary. Fr 'Msholoz' as he is affectionately known, reflected greatly on the relationship, co-operation, respect and support of one another among the lay faithful and priests.

The Diocese, through the leadership of the Bishop, envision Maria Telgte as a great pilgrimage site where the People of God converge to encounter and experience Christ in a peaceful setting. It wishes to encourage and attract sodalties, youth, various groups, including priests, to go on pilgrimage to Maria Telgte in the future and that small group retreats be organized.





CONTINUATION.

Parishes and sodalities were invited to introduce themselves through Zazise, a fundraiser for the development of the Maria Telgte mission infrastructure so as to adequately serve the needs of the ever growing number of pilgrims. More than R40,000.00 was raised for this cause.

In honour of our Lady of Sorrows His Excellency Bishop Thulani Victor Mbuyisa CMM presided over the Sunday morning Mass, concelebrated by all priests in the Diocese. Immaculate Conception parish, Hardenberg, lead the singing at this Mass.



Mr France Xelitole, KODPAC chairperson, expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Diocese, for the great attendance, in his address at the end of the pilgrimage. He acknowledged KODPAC, the Bishop and his priests, the steering committee, choirs for their singing, priests who were leading different services, as well as praising the co-operation and unity shown. He also acknowledged the work of the media team for publicising and ensuring that all were prepared for the pilgrimage.

Thank you to all pilgrims who prayed with us.

Here is a summary:

<https://fb.watch/nJSftpbj-c/?mibextid=Nif5oz>





SACRED HEART SODALITY ANNUAL RETREAT.



The Sacred Heart of Jesus sodality and its newly elected executive in the Kokstad diocese, recently held their annual retreat under the direction of Fr. Mxolisi Ngcobo. The rainy and cold Saturday weather did not deter the sodality members who turned up in great numbers to fill the Uganda Martyrs church hall to capacity.



The theme for the day was “I am the vine; you are the branches (John 15:5)”. The Retreat Master, Rev. Fr. Sibusiso Mkhize CMM, encouraged all present to be branches that bear good fruit. The sodality deanery chaplains were also in attendance; Rev. Fr. Katleho Christopher Mohapi of Pondoland deanery who led the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rev. Fr. Aviwe Biata of Matatiele deanery. The presence of Rev. Fr. Yalezo, parish priest of Ugandan Martyrs, was much appreciated by the sodality leadership.



CONTINUATION



We also received support from other sodalities: Amadodana, St Joseph, Children of Mary and St Anne who were also present. The day ended on a very high note as Rev. Fr. Ngcobo burst into traditional song and dance as all present cheered.





HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS HOSTS THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS UNDER THE THEME “SYNOD ON SYNODALITY.”

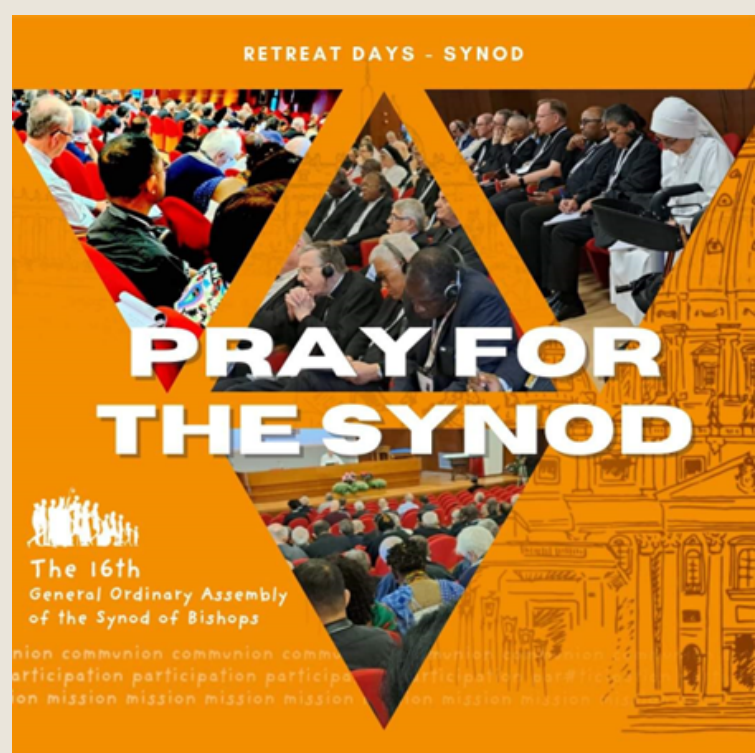


Communion, participation, and mission as called for by the Synod on Synodality, captures the essence of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in the Vatican. This process began in 2021 through the announcement of the Pontiff, where he called the Church and the world to journey together by listening and working together to realize a synodal church.



Pope Francis hosted the Ecumenical Prayer Vigil which marked the start of the Synod of Bishops.

The Ecumenical Prayer was attended by various religious representatives from across the world.



From the 01st to 03rd October 2023, the synod members attended a spiritual retreat in Sacrofano to prepare for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. This truly means that the synod is not a parliamentary session but a process that is guided by the Holy Spirit. All are called to continue to pray for the synod delegates that they may be able to listen to the Holy Spirit as they prepare their hearts and minds for the Assembly.



The XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops started with the Inauguration, followed by the opening Mass, concelebrated by the new Cardinals at St. Peter's Square. The dialogue and discernment process started with the People of God being accompanied by the Holy Spirit.

The Synod participants worked in small groups, sharing their experiences, feelings and were therefore able to make meaningful contributions.



The Synodal journey continues, we remind our readers of the invitation of Pope Francis at the Ecumenical Prayer Vigil "Let us ask that the Synod be a kairós of fraternity, a place where the Holy Spirit will purify the Church from gossip, ideologies and polarization."



The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference is represented at this XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops by His Excellencies Archbishop Dabula Anthony Mpako, Archbishop of Pretoria and Bishop Thulani Victor Mbuyisa CMM, Bishop of Kokstad and Ms. Sheila Pires, SACBC Communications Officer.



The commission for communication constantly holds press briefings intended to update the public about what is happening during the Synod. Social media is also used to share some of the areas being addressed by participants.



Diocesan Fundraising
Towards Seminarians Fund

INVITATION

04 NOVEMBER 2023 | 09h00AM

107 HOPE STREET
KOKSTAD

Raffle; Cake Sales;
Fruit & Veg;
Indian Cuisine;
African Cuisine;
Braai; Butchery;
Children's Entertainment;
Nursery; Tea Garden; Bingo;
7 A Side Soccer
& Choir Competition.



His Lordship Bishop
Thulani V Mbuyisa CMM

Kokstad Diocesan Media © 2023

The image features a bishop in a black cassock with a red sash and a white cross necklace, smiling and holding a pink ribbon. In the background is a large, multi-story stone church building with a prominent steeple. A diocesan crest is visible in the top right corner.

DIOCESAN SOLDIERS OF CHRIST

Celebration of
Christ the King

INVITATION

10-11 NOVEMBER 2023

MAIN STREET, BIZANA
THE PARACLETE PARISH

#AhKrestuKumkani



His Lordship Bishop
Thulani V Mbuyisa CMM

Kokstad Diocesan Media © 2023

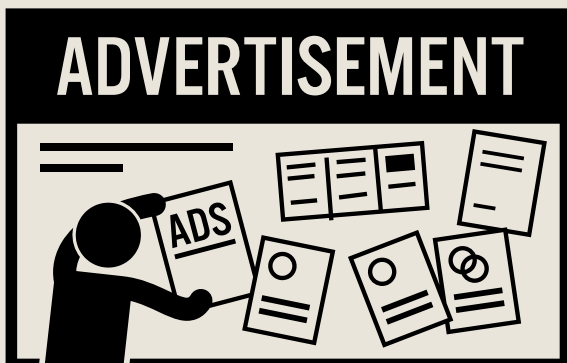
The image features a bishop in a black cassock with a red sash and a white cross necklace, smiling and holding a pink ribbon. In the background, several young girls in red and white uniforms are visible. A diocesan crest is visible in the top left corner.

YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES OF THE 04TH NOVEMBER 2023. LET US WORK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE EDUCATION OF OUR SEMINARIANS!

DIOCESAN SOLDIERS OF CHRIST WILL HAVE THEIR CELEBRATION OF CHRIST THE KING ON THE 10TH TO 11TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT THE PARACLETE PARISH, BIZANA.

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

**#SOLDIERSOFCHRIST
#AHKRESTUKUMKANI**



**PURCHASE
THIS CORNER
FOR
ADVERTISING!!!**