

The St Dom Chronicle

February 2017

(Established April 1991)



St Dominic's Parish Mission Statement (October 1999):
Christianity through learning, caring and serving.

Church office: (031) 765 5515

www.stdom.co.za



February: Dennis Anderson, Byron Baxendale-Small, Antonio Bertacco, Anne Brennan, Mike Buckle, Colleen Burn, Adam Cahill, Michael Cameron, Anna Carlier, Rodney Carr, Remigius Chapanduka, Elaine Cheesman, Tiago Cipriano, Malcolm Cobbledick, Kate Collett, Kevin Collett, Michelle Collett, Sarah Coombe, Hilda Coombe, David Coombe, Lenize Coughlan, George de Charmoy, Robert Embleton, Diana Funga, Dario-John Giai-Minietti, Karin Gigante, Andrew Glenn, Rebecca Gormley, Patricia Gregory, Robert Gregson, Lynn Halstead, Laura Hayes Foley, Jarrod Haynes, Zac Hickman, Leanne Hikins, Megan Hoar, Mikaela Howard, Mark Howard, Estelle Hughes, Shawn Hughes, Lisa Impey, Mizpah Kelly, Antony Kerdachi, Whitney Kilfoil, Jonathan Kilmister, Terry Leeson, Anais Lim, Marie-Louise Lombard, Douglas Loubser-Goldblatt, Laura Luciani, Stephen Macquet, Mbali Makhaye, Ashley Malcolm-Smith, Jean Matthews, Robert McConnell, Ursula McDonald, Lynn McKenzie, Meghan Metzger, Abigail Metzger, Mpilo Mfeka, Paul Milburn, Nkanyiso Mkhize, Ntombifuthi Motha, Jessica O'Brien, Jessica O'Flaherty, Harry Ogilby, Caitlyn Oliver, Maryanne Oliver, Megan Palmer, Rebecca Peters, Renee Poole, Chayce Porter, Leonard Raymakers, Jessica Rogers, Debbie Rogers, Tracey Rooi, Ella Roos, Sonya Rougier Lagane, Dieter Schauerte, Bernadette Schauerte, Marcia Schillaci, Troye Schulz, Eileen Sharp, Paul Sims, Paul Snook, Bradley Sparks, Wilfred Sparks, Natalie Stellenberg,

Hayley Stellenberg, Samuel Strachan, Chloe Stroh, Dick Thyssen, Cynthia Tigere, Jeremy Townsend, Rob Upton, Gavin Van Vuuren, Chantelle Velleman, Valerie Willems, Brenda Winn, Mandiza Zama

Congratulations to those celebrating milestone birthdays:

21st: Luke Janus, Amy Swart & Brad Zietsman

40th: Banzi Dlamini, Brent Minnit & Katherine Trussler

50th: Jeremy Kriek

60th: Thomas Daniels, Krystyna Kalinowski, Lindy Phyfer & Greg Smith

80th: Joan Hutchinson



And a huge congratulations to **Caterina Antoniotti** who will be turning 100 years old this month.

Caterina was born on 7 February 1917.

Tantissimi auguri Signora!

Welcome to St Dom's!

✠ Mark & Tarryn Kedian and family, Alwyn & Ans Neal, John & Jennifer Snook, Clifford & Hannelize Munro, Ryan & Laura Cole and family, Patrick Wiltshire, Kristina Pukstys, Maria Bond and Sean & Taryn Flanagan and family.

We hope that you will enjoy being part of the St Dom's family.

- ✠ And a very big **WELCOME HOME** to our Deacon Martin Hughes! Deacon Martin has moved back to Hillcrest after a four-year stint in Johannesburg for work commitments. We are all so thrilled to have you back where you belong Deacon Martin!



- ✠ From the Social Life Committee to all those who worked so hard to make the Golden Oldies luncheon such a huge success. A special thanks to **ALL** the cooks and cleaners, and of course to musician, Dave Marais, who provided the excellent entertainment.



- ✠ To all those involved in our Christmas liturgies for making them the special celebrations that they were.
- ✠ To Mike Ronald for organising our lovely nativity play which was held in conjunction with the pie and sherry evening. Thank you too to Caryn, Robert and Harper du Plessis for playing the role of the Holy Family.
- ✠ To Helen Bellew, who will be stepping down from her role as head of our St Vincent de Paul Society. Your hard work, passion and dedication in leading this important ministry has not gone unnoticed at St Dominic's! And thank you to Mary Henderson who will be taking over from Helen. We wish her all the best in her term of office.
- ✠ **And last, but certainly not least**, from our very own Father John:
To my new found friends of St Dominic's, it is now a year since I was transferred to Hillcrest from Amanzimtoti (time flies!).

Some have been asking me if I have settled in: well like anyone of us who are called to relocate, it at first can be difficult – however after a few weeks I did settle in and can honestly say that I am happy in Hillcrest and have met and made friends with everyone.

I write this letter though to thank the parish of St Dom's for the Christmas gifts which were

greatly appreciated and then to thank you for celebrating my Silver Jubilee with me.

I do realise that many could not attend due to work commitments, but from the great response, I know that you were present in spirit and your prayers.

At first, I did not want a big celebration, but having worked in so many parishes over the past 25 years, and since, like at St Dom's, many of my past parishioners are still part of my life, I felt guilty about not at least inviting them. I really did not expect the wonderful response I got.

The celebration brought back memories of many happy and wonderful years that God has blest me with – years of dedicated Catholics who are the backbone of every parish that I have served. The celebration was almost a replica of my ordination and brought tears to my eyes; but tears of joy and happiness.

I also would like to thank everyone who in any way worked to make it such a wonderful and enjoyable day – the office staff, the choirs, the Ladies' Guild, the Social Life Committee, the flower arrangers, the servers, the PPC, the PFC and to everyone who in any way made the day such a joyous event.

Once again, to everyone connected to St Dom's thank you, thank you and thank you!

May God bless and keep you always in His loving care, just as you have done to me.

Love from Fr John



- ✠ To Guy Rider and Zoë Purcell on their recent engagement, and to parents Dev Rider and John and Cathrine Purcell.
- ✠ To Estelle and Gareth Hughes, on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte, and to very proud big brothers, Ethan and Samuel.
- ✠ To Richard Smith and Hayleigh Millar, whose daughter Annabelle was recently baptised.
- ✠ To Mark and Tarryn Kedian, whose daughter, Sophia, was recently baptised.
- ✠ To the winners of the Ladies' Guild Christmas raffle: 1st prize C Manfron; 2nd prize Krystyna Kalinowski; 3rd prize: Sharon Jones.

- ✚ To the winners of January's SSVdP 100 Club draw: 1st prize: Sharon Daly; 2nd prize: Esme Baker; 3rd prize: Sabrina Thompson.

Our sincerest condolences go to:

- ✚ Mike Ronald and family on the death of Mike's mother, Violet Davies Ronald.
- ✚ Tosca Jones on the sudden passing of her husband, Bryn.

**Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace.

Amen.

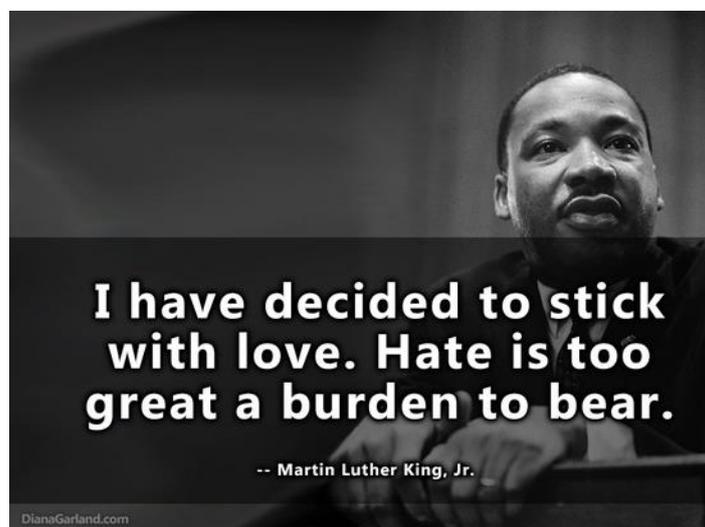
On the Liturgical Front

- ✚ The mass intention for the 8.00am mass on **Saturday, 4 February** will be for a quick and positive resolution to the pollution caused by the smell in the Upper Highway area.
- ✚ As you will have noticed, the various music groups have been experimenting with leading the music from the back of the church during our masses. If you have any feedback that you would like to provide to the Liturgy Committee on this change, please contact Fiona Campbell on fionacampbell452@gmail.com. The committee will be discussing the way forward regarding the placement of the musicians in due course.

News from our Ministries

- ✚ Our Maintenance Committee continues to be very hard at work week in and week out. Just a couple of tasks carried out recently include varnishing the doors and windows of our Catechism class rooms and repairing the dry walling in the Confirmation room.
- ✚ The Spiritual Life Committee has sourced another two exciting series from Bishop Robert Barron. These will be screened during the year.
- ✚ The Community Services Committee is hoping to hold a workshop with Singakwenza for approximately 35 carers from crèches in Molweni, Inanda and Embo.

- ✚ The committee is pleased and proud to announce that their only grade 12 learner from the English reading classes held at the KwaNyuswa drop-in centre has passed Matric.
- ✚ The Community Services Committee has also partnered with Harambee to assist the young people in our area in finding employment.
- ✚ SSVdP held a successful holiday feeding scheme at Embo and Bethlehem during the December holidays.
- ✚ The sewing ladies started meeting again in January. They sew t-shirts and tracksuits for needy children. If you would like to join the sewing circle, please contact Jenny Meilhon on 082 499 5395.
- ✚ At long last work as begun on the new storage room for SSVdP. We look forward to seeing the completed project!



SSVdP: Project Spotlight

Masimbonge Old Age Service Centre: This centre caters for the elderly who come in everyday for breakfast and a cooked lunch.

Many of them walk huge distances to get there every day as for many of them it is the only meal they have. This is a meeting place where they get together and chat and some bring their sewing and knitting.

We have managed to help them with various kitchen items to make things easier for catering and supply them with a monthly donation of food which helps tremendously to give them a more varied diet.

We will be going out in February to visit and will treat them with tea and cake.

Youth Talk: Adapted from 'Why Pray? The Truth about Prayer'
by FR MIKE SCHMITZ

Does prayer really do anything?

Do you ever find yourself thinking this way about prayer? Or have you heard others question prayer in this way? That's totally normal . . . you are not a freak or a "terrible Christian." It shows that you are taking prayer seriously and not just kind of "going through the motions." If prayer is going to "mean something," then it should "do something."

Why pray if God is good? If God is good, wouldn't He already be planning on doing that thing in the first place?

This question is so deep that it goes all the way to the very identity of God and the nature of the universe. We can sometimes fall into the mistaken notion that God is in control of everything. And I acknowledge that, in a general sense, that is kind of true. Everything that exists either comes directly or indirectly from God. But that is not the same thing as saying that God is "in control" of everything or that everything that happens is a "part of his plan."

When God willed to create the universe, He was free to create it to operate somewhat "independently" of Himself. God is certainly still the Primary Cause, but He has created a universe that has both "laws of nature" and is also filled with free beings.

God is not the "cause" of things except for the fact that He created a world based on physical laws. God created chemistry, but He does not "control" a campfire or "cause" a wildfire; the fire burns because of the "secondary cause" of reason or science (the laws of nature).

And God has also created a universe with free beings. These beings are truly free, therefore they are free to act as "secondary causes." Human beings are part of this kind of causality.

This is why we have thieves, liars, and kidnapers. But it is also why we can have doctors, nurses, judges, and teachers. Human beings are free to choose to act or not to act. And in choosing, we become causes ourselves.

God Cares. But...

When it comes to prayer (and how prayer works), it might be helpful to consider this reality. Christians believe that God exists and that God cares and acts in this world. But we also know that there are an abundance of secondary causes at work.

There are many times when the Bible teaches us that prayer makes a difference. In fact, it is one of the ways in which we cooperate with God's will. In the

same way your choice to give to a person in need is one way you can cooperate with God's will to care for the poor, your decision to pray for a person is another.

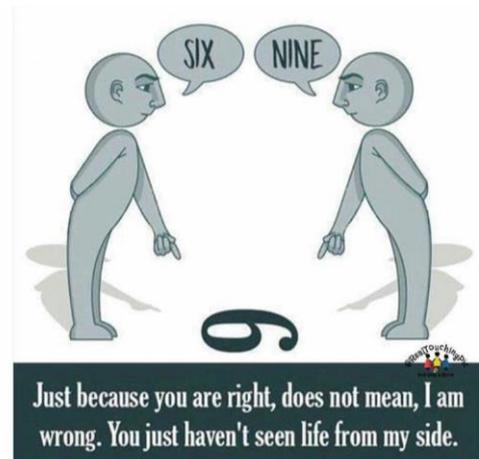
Let's Work Together

When you care for a sick person, are you changing God's will? No. Are you making a real difference? Yes. What you are doing is fulfilling God's will. You are doing your part in God's will to make this world more and more the way He wants it to be. When you pray, you have become a "cause."

God shares his strength with us. God shares his power with us. When he calls us to pray (and that prayer actually makes a difference), God makes us into something even more than children, he allows us to be co-workers with him.

And when we pray... when we work with God, we are drawn into even more intimate relationship with Him.

And that kind of prayer and relationship definitely changes something else... it changes us.



(Courtesy: Mike Buckle)

Do you need prayer?

"It is my wish then, that in every place the people should pray, lifting up holy hands [...]"
1 Timothy 2:8

The members of the **St Dominic's prayer chain** are a dedicated group of people who pray for parishioners' intentions.

All prayer requests are kept in strictest confidence and only shared with the members of the group. The name of the person requiring prayer may even be withheld if you wish, but the more information the members have, the better their petition will be on your behalf.

Should you require prayer for yourself, family members or friends, please contact Dev Rider on 031 765 2660 or rider2@worldonline.co.za.

Domestic worker: If you need a spare pair of hands to help around the house, please contact Shirley Browning on 031 765 5979.

The Last Laugh

Two very active seniors, Jacob and Mary, living in 'The Villages', are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way they pass a drugstore. Jacob suggests they go in. Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: "Are you the owner?" The pharmacist answers, "Yes."

Jacob: "We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course we do."

Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely."

Jacob: "Medicine for memory problems, arthritis and Alzheimer's?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety. The works."

Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely."

Jacob: "Everything for heartburn and indigestion?"

Pharmacist: "We sure do."

Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers and canes?"

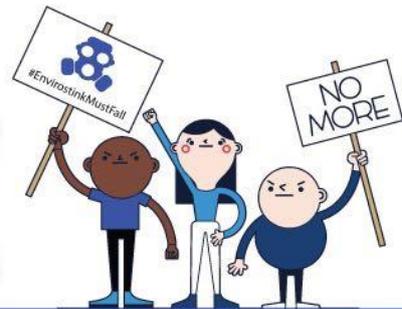
Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes."

Jacob: "Adult diapers?"

Pharmacist: "Sure, how can I help you?"

Jacob: "We'd like to use this store as our Bridal Registry."

(Courtesy: Robynne Lott)

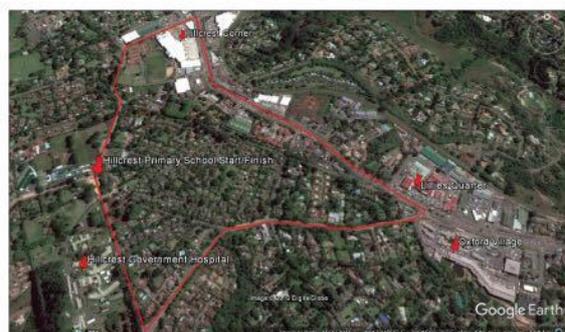


To create community awareness and highlight the ongoing pollution crisis in the Upper Highway area, we have City approval to hold a peaceful protest march walking in unity. We encourage you to attend and stand in solidarity with us, create posters, wear your t-shirts and help us in spotlighting our dilemma to the appropriate authorities. We will be handing over a memorandum to the relevant role-players.

WHEN: 9:30am Start at 10am,
Saturday 4th February 2017

WHERE: Start and finish outside Hillcrest Primary School in Hospital Road

CONTACT: admin@upperhighwayair.co.za
We need marshals!



The St Dom Chronicle – February 2017

Date	Time	Event
FEBRUARY 2017		
Wed, 1 Feb	06h00	Holy Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Ladies' Guild meeting
	18h30	Folk Group practice
Thurs, 2 Feb	18h00	RCIA
Fri, 3 Feb	18h30	St Vincent de Paul 100 Club Draw – Bring & share supper
Sat, 4 Feb	08h00	Holy Mass and Rosary – For a quick and positive resolution to the pollution caused by the smell in the Upper Highway area and for those suffering from its effects
Sun, 5 Feb	08h00	English / Zulu mass Tea hosted by: Ashley & Stephanie Cameron
Mon, 6 Feb	17h30	SSVdP meeting
	18h00	Choir practice
Tues, 7 Feb	18h00	Liturgy Committee meeting
Wed, 8 Feb	06h00	Holy Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h30	Folk Group practice
Thurs, 9 Feb	18h00	RCIA
Sun, 12 Feb	08h00	Tea hosted by: Krystyna Kalinowski & Denise de Witt
	10h15	Hillcrest Government Hospital – Finance Committee on duty All parishioners are most welcome to assist
Mon, 13 Feb	18h00	Choir practice
	18h30	Bible Study
Tues, 14 Feb	09h30	Tuesday Forum
	18h00	Finance Committee meeting
	18h00	Social Life Committee meeting
Wed, 15 Feb	06h00	Holy Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	PPC meeting
	18h30	Folk Group practice
Thurs, 16 Feb	18h00	RCIA
Sun, 19 Feb	08h00	Tea hosted by: Tom & Ros Donnelly
Mon, 20 Feb	17h30	SSVdP meeting
	18h00	Choir practice
Wed, 22 Feb	18h00	Spiritual Life Committee meeting
	18h30	Folk Group practice
Thurs, 23 Feb	18h00	RCIA
Sat, 25 Feb	07h30	SSVdP packing – All parishioners are most welcome to assist
	09h00	Community Services Committee meeting
Sun, 26 Feb	08h00	Children's mass Tea hosted by: Askew Family
Mon, 27 Feb	18h00	Choir practice
	18h30	Bible Study
Tues, 28 Feb	18h00	Shrove Tuesday – Pancake evening