

THE ST DOM CHRONICLE HILLCREST, KZN APRIL 2016



(Established April 1991)

Mission Statement (October 1999) : Christianity through learning, caring and serving.

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Please take me home – not to be read in church.

On 27 February 1988, Father Edwin Kinch, then Parish Priest of St Dominics, wrote an editorial to a quarterly newsletter which he had persuaded the Late Carmen Bailey to put together for St Doms. He explained in that editorial that he thought the parish would benefit from such a newsletter. A few issues were published under the name of "The Upper Room" and then it faded away. In April 1991 Kathy Le Brasse and I published the first St Dom Chronicle – and it has been going ever since. Some items of interest which were contained in the first issue were congratulations to Leanne Collins and Anthony Hikins on their marriage. Congratulations were also extended to the Confirmation candidates – Andrew Arde, Melissa and Tamlyn Azzopardi, Andrew Barnes, Marlin Bessan, Amanda Broughton, Lauren Collins, Sharron Connelly, Natasha Curac, Wayne d'Elboux, Robert de Paoli, Russel Donne, Gavin Donnelly, Wayne Drier, William du Plooy, Mark and Michael Ebsworth, Myles Fawcett, Michael Flagherty, Sarah Hamilton, Thibi Hlahane, Monika Huber, Kerry Anne Kaden, Kerry Kuster, Jason Liebenberg, Gordon Malcolm, Maurice Mason, Arlindo Mendes, Antony Moore, Shane Morrow, Tina Mrowka, Mark Parker, Michelle Rawlinson, Jenny Rider, Anthony Roberts, Charles Simpson, Gavin Smith, Siobhan van Leeuwen, Lisa Weeden, Brett Wortmann, Simon Wrigley and Wendy Zuma. This issue also announced the start of St Doms Folk Group! Hopefully I will, in the near future, put together a history of St Doms through the eyes of the Chronicler!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Merle Angus, Maria Areal, Venessa Azzopardi, Belinda Bandle, Clothilde Bennett, Brody



Bircher. Dylan Bissett, Dino Borrageiro, Jade Bosman, Juliette Botha, Graham Boyce, Barbara Brandjes, Teresa Camoin, Genevieve Chisholm, Theresia Cobb, Katy Coombe-Nel, Jane Croot, Sharon Daly, Talissa De Chalain, Denise De Wit, Thomas Donnelly, Rosalind Donnelly, Annita Dos Santos, Susan du Piesanie, Liam Du Plessis, Errol Forbay. Debbie Gossayn, Ethan Gregory, Tracey Gregson, Taylor Gregson, Jayne Hewison, Aidan Hikins, Greer Hoar, Peter Hoar, Ashleigh Holmes, Byron Holmes, Antonia Holt, Ian Holt, Gillian Hunter, Harold Hutt, Clarissa Johnson, Winetta Jurjevic, Jessica Kilfoil, Mark Kuster, Sanele Kuzwayo, Kamalopathy Landro, Cheryl Landsberg, Corinne Lategan, Tommy Leach, Teresa Lear, Lesley Leffler, Bruce Lello, Oliver Lello, Dawn Leppan, Valerie Lloyd-Warren, Don Macfarlane, Tarisai Magumo, Bandile Makhaye, Colin Marshall, Ellen McConnell, Jeanette McMahon, Annabelle Meaker, Samkelo Mfeka, Michelle Midgley, Karla Minnitt, Samuel Mitchell, Clive Mitchell, Mandisa Mkhize. Edward Mngoma, Marie-Helene Moustache, Ntokozo Mpanza, Dave Naude, Ella Naude, Thoko Ndlovu, Pauline Newton, Emmanuel Ngcobo, Brian Ngcobo, Ananda Ngubane, Rowan Nuttall, Georgia Nuttall, Janet O'Leary, Marilyn Parker, Norman Peddie, Leslie Peters, Liam Peters, Denise Powell, Zoe Purcell, Patricia Quinn, Tayla Quintal, Hannah Schimper, Clyde Shelver, Margaret Smart, Bettie Smulders, Caroline Sparks, Merle Stone, Keira Swanepoel, Kate Swart, Ryan Taylor, James Taylor, Wayne Taylor, Cara Towell, Gordon Turner, Francis Waldburger, Maura Walshe, Avril Wasas, Danika Willows, Hannah Willows, and Paul Wortmann. Special wishes to those celebrating milestone birthdays: Roxanne Barbeau on her 30th, Emma Moore on her 40th, Francois Chelin who celebrates his half-century, Stephen Jacobs and Glynis Jacobs on their 60th, Robert Lear and Ian Matthews on their 70th and James Smart on his 80th.



TO

- Leanne and Tony Hikins on their silver wedding anniversary.
- Brendan Kuhnert for being selected for the KZN rock climbing team.
- Katie Ronald, Rebecca Askew, Dean Gregson and Brendan Kuhnert who participated in the Thomas More College long walk on 5 March.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS: Inger Nilsen and "old" friends Brian and Theresa Hawkesworth.

BEST WISHES FOR a complete and speedy recovery go to: Trevor Hodgeson, Bob Fenner, Jean Matthews, Monique Fitzgerald and Maureen Simpson.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY goes to

- Irene and Trevor Hodgeson on the death of their son, Robin.
- Colleen and Bradley Campbell, Liam, Jessica and the family on the death of Pat Meier.

As we all know, Pat had a long struggle with ill-health and the tragic death of her beloved husband, Robin. She was an amazing woman of faith - in the years that I knew Pat from the time when she was nursing at Hillcrest

Government Hospital, I never heard her complain about anything. Her humility, gentleness and unwaivering faith were a shining example to all of us. As one of her friends said to me recently, she made the world a better place for many people. We can only rejoice that she is now at peace and free from pain. To Andrew, Barry, Colleen, Dennis and their families, who have gone through the trauma and pain of the loss of both parents in such a short time, may God bless and strengthen you at this sad time and may you be spared further sorrow for many years to come.



- Lindi Collett who was the guest speaker at the Tuesday forum recently, which was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.
- Everyone for the donations of socks for Don Mackenzie Hospital – the patients will really appreciate these with the approach of the cooler weather.
- The members of the Maintenance Team for fitting anti-slipping strips on the steps of the Meeting Place and the reflective strip on the step at the entrance to the church.
- The “young” men of the Maintenance Team, with the assistance of Goodman, who covered the crucifix prior to Holy Week.
- Everyone who supplied boxes of Easter eggs for distribution to the children and the patients at the hospitals.
- The members of the Ladies Guild Committee who catered for the Paschal Meal, Hilary and Leo Davis, Michelle and Stuart Braidwood, Zoe and Jeff Purcell, Guy Rider, Tiago, Bella, Katy and Liam from the Confirmation Group who waited on tables and washed the endless pile of dishes, Anke Fagelund-Gjersoe for doing the narration and to Dino, Robyn, Luca and Mia Borrageiro. who were the family for the celebration.
- Lynette and Rolf Kuster who headed up the team on Good Friday, serving tea and hot cross buns after the Stations of the Cross – and to everyone who supplied hot cross buns for the occasion.
- Mike Buckle for showing on Good Friday the DVD “What More Could He Do For You?”, the very moving presentation by Fr Larry Richards on the Passion of Our Lord.
- Katia Benedetti who set up St Dom’s Facebook page – so to all you FB fans, make sure that you “like” our page – and keep an eye on it for forthcoming events.

LITURGICALLY SPEAKING



- ✦ You are invited to join us for the first Mass intention being for successful Saturday Mass and Rosary at 08h00 on 2 April, the municipal elections.
- ✦ 3 April is Divine Mercy Sunday and, as this is the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Novena, which started on Good Friday, will end with the praying together at 15h00 of the Divine Mercy prayer followed by Benediction.
- ✦ The weekday Masses during the week of 4 to 8 April will take place in the Upper Room due to the preparations taking place in the church for the Flower Festival.
- ✦ For the same reason, there will be no Adoration on Wednesday 6 April.
- ✦ Sunday 17 April is Vocations Sunday/Good Shepherd Sunday and is a wonderful opportunity for us, not only to pray for vocations to religious life, but to pray for and give thanks to God for our priests.
- ✦ On Wednesday 27 April, which is Freedom Day, Mass will be celebrated at 08h00 and there will be no Adoration that day.
- ✦ The Responsorial Psalm will, in future, be read by the Minister of the Word, with the congregation reading the response after each verse. Following the Jewish tradition, the Responsorial Psalm is, in fact, the community’s acknowledgement and response to the proclamation of God’s Word.
- ✦ As you would have noticed from the bulletin, Mychelle Taylor has agreed to lead an RCIA course for youth and young adults. This is not limited only to young adults who want to be received into the church or who have missed out on the Sacraments, but is also for those who want to find out more about their faith. For more information, please contact Mychelle on 0724530912 or speak to Fr John or Linda in the parish office.
- ✦ Please remember that, having dedicated your time and talents to serve as a member of the liturgical team, the onus is on you to check the duty roster and ensure that you are at the church on time to carry out your ministry. It is not up to Father to run around before Mass trying to find replacements for you. If you are unable to fulfill your duty on a particular day, unless it is an emergency, please ensure that you find a replacement and notify Linda in the parish office so she can fill in the details on the roster in the sacristy.

If God could close the mouth of the lions for Daniel, part the Red Sea for Moses, make the sun stand still for Joshua, open the prison for Peter, put a baby in the arms of Sarah and raise Lazarus from the dead, then he can certainly take care of you! Nothing you are facing today is too hard for Him to handle.

NGOME PILGRIMAGE

We are very pleased to advise that we are planning a pilgrimage to Ngome on 5 to 7 August. Ngome, which is a recognized pilgrimage site on our own doorstep, so to speak, has become increasingly popular over the years. Joanna Campbell, who is organizing the pilgrimage, has managed to secure a booking at a B&B, but there are limited places available. If you are interested in attending, please contact Joanna on 072 7437738.

WANTED

- Men are required to assist with the security and sale of tickets at the church entrance on the 8 and 9 April while the Flower Festival is on. If you are able to help, please call Maggie Raymakers on 031 7652946.

- Anyone willing to help the World Youth Day fund-raising event by supplying mince, veggies or the like for their Murder Mystery Dinner, is asked to contact Zoe Purcell on 079 5274708.

ST DOMS LIBRARY has been safely installed in The Meeting Place which makes it a very comfortable place to sit and look at the books. Please feel free to browse and borrow some of the lovely selection of books from the library. Remember, though, to enter your name, contact number and title of the book in the register, which you can then mark off once the books are returned. And best of all, there are no fines payable for late returns!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

- ❖ "Faith Alive", the exciting new programme organized by the Spiritual Life Committee, starts on Tuesday 19 April at 10h00 and Thursday 21 April at 19h00. Over the six week period of the season, we will view three different DVD's on a number of interesting subjects, each divided into two sessions. The format will, as previously, start with a time to socialize prior to watching the DVD. Thereafter we will be able to share our thoughts and feelings on the subject with the other members of our groups. This is an opportunity to learn more about our faith as well as giving us the chance to get together with our fellow parishioners. It is open to everyone of all ages, so please bring a friend and come along and join us.
- ❖ It is a matter of concern that, although attendance at Catechism and Edge is fairly good, a large number of those children are not attending Mass on a regular basis. Mass attendance is obligatory and should not be pushed aside to make room for "other activities." It is an important part of our lives, our relationship with Our Lord, and the community as a whole. We promised, at the Baptism of our children, to bring them up in their faith and we cannot expect the Catechism teachers to educate our children in what it means to be a Catholic if we are not living our faith within our families. Remember... faith begins at home!
- ❖ As was mentioned in the last issue, The Community Services Committee is setting up "The Listening Post", the aim of which is to be a helping hand and listening ear to the members of our community. For problems such as needing help with transport for treatment, shopping for an elderly or sick person, help with a sick child, someone to talk to, or counselling, please call Linda in the parish office. All calls will be treated with strict confidentiality and Linda will pass your name on to the person who is best able to help you. We are a family and, as such, need to be there for one another. If you would like to offer your assistance with this very worthy project, please call Sabrina on 084 4609902.
- ❖ On the last Saturday of the month the members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul pack food parcels for distribution to the need. They start packing at 07h30 and are finished by 09h00 – obviously the more helpers there are, the sooner they are finished. The problem is that many of the members are not as young as they used to be and they would really appreciate help from younger members of the parish.
- ❖ We remind all St Dom's entrepreneurs to give your details to Linda in the parish office for inclusion in St Dom's Business Directory.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY, St and Saturday 09 April from 10h00 to includes refreshments. In addition, place at 11h00 on Saturday 09 floral artists in our parish, who Highway area are sure to put on a don't miss this. Once again, our hard work she has devoted to putting the Festival together. Thanks too to Maggie Raymakers, the Social Life team and other volunteers for organizing the refreshments, the "security" men and the children who will, under the guidance of Vaughn Harrington, prepare the posies for the tea tables.



Dominics Flower Festival, will take place on Friday 08 April 16h30. Tickets are now on sale at R50,00 each which you can enjoy the recital by St Doms choir which will take April. We are truly blessed to have incredibly talented together with the other amazing floral artists from the display which will delight your senses. Whatever you do, sincere thanks go to Helen Bellew for the many hours of

THE SOCIETY OF ST FRANCES OF ROME will be having their next get-together at the church at 10h40 on Saturday 09 April, which will enable the members to delight all their senses with the floral art display, the music of the choir and tea and munchies in the hall.

YOUTH TALK : My Side of the Confessional: What Is It Like for a Priest? by [FR. MIKE SCHMITZ](#) (from [LifeTeen.com](#))

I was once riding in a shuttle-bus with a number of older folks on the way from an airport. They noticed that I was a priest and started asking questions about it – particularly about Confession and whether it was not depressing hearing about peoples' sins. I told them that it was the exact opposite. There is almost no greater place to be than with someone when they are coming back to God. The Confessional is a place where people let God's love win. The Confessional is the most joyful, humbling, and inspiring place in the world.

What do I see during confession?

I think there are three things. First, I see the costly mercy of God in action. I get to see God's love up-close and it reminds me of how good God is. Jesus consoles those who are grieving their sins... and strengthens those who find themselves wanting to give up on God or on life.

I see a saint in the making.

The second thing I see is a person who is still trying – a saint in the making. **I don't care if this is the person's third Confession this week; if they are seeking the Sacrament of Reconciliation, it means that they are trying. That's all that I care about.**

Do I Remember Your Sins? No!

So often, people will ask if I remember people's sin from Confession. **As a priest, I rarely, if ever, remember sins from the confessional.** That might seem impossible, but the truth is, sins aren't all that impressive.... they are more like the garbage. And if sins are like garbage, then the priest is like God's garbage-man. Honestly, once you realize that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is less about the sin and more about Christ's death and resurrection having victory in a person's life, the sins lose all of their luster, and Jesus' victory takes center stage.

In Confession, we meet the life-transforming, costly love of God... freely given to us every time we ask for it. We meet Jesus who reminds us, "You are worth dying for... even in your sins, you are worth dying for."

In Confession I see my own weakness.

The third thing a priest sees when he hears Confessions is his own soul. It is a scary place for a priest. I cannot tell you how humbled I am when someone approaches Jesus' mercy through *me*.

I am not over-awed by their sins; I am struck by the fact that they have been able to recognize sins in their life that I have been blind to in my own. Hearing someone's humility breaks down my own pride. It is one of the best examinations of conscience.

But why is Confession a scary place for a priest? It is frightening because of the way in which Jesus trusts me to be a living sign of His mercy.

Confession is such a powerful place. All I have to do is offer God's mercy, love, and redemption... but I don't want to get in Jesus' way. **The priest stands in judgment of no one. In the Confessional, the only thing I have to offer is mercy.**

I get to sacrifice for you.

Lastly, when a priest hears Confessions, he is taking on another responsibility. . He sees our sins as a burden that he will take up (with Jesus!) and offer them to the Father, while offering us the mercy of God.

Remember, **Confession is always a place of victory.** Whether you have confessed a particular sin for the first time, or if this is the 12,001st time, every Confession is a win for Jesus. And I, a priest, get to be there. That's what it's like... I get to sit and watch Jesus win His children back all day.

It's flippin' awesome.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul are members will be handing out wool after the enthusiastic support of all St Doms was in the region of 1200 beanies!



launching their 2016 Beanie Project on 16 April. The all the Masses and we are sure we can, once again, count on knitters. Let's see if we can break last year's record which

Did you know that the role of a Godparent is basically to make the profession of faith on behalf of the child being Baptised and to accept the responsibility of assisting the parents in bringing the child up in the faith. For that reason, at least one of the Godparents must be a confirmed, practicing Catholic and we should choose our children's Godparents carefully – their role is an important one.

HOTEL SIGN – WITH A DIFFERENCE

Dogs are welcome in this hotel. We never had a dog that smoked in bed and set fire to the blankets. We never had a dog that stole our towels and played the TV too loud, or had a noisy fight with his travelling companion. We never had a dog that got drunk and broke the furniture. So if your dog can vouch for you, you're welcome too. – The Management

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER: :

To organizing a Murder Mystery Dinner people who are invited to dress as murderer! There will be prizes for the course meal will be prepared by our own



raise funds for the World Youth Day, Zoe and Jaime-John are in the hall on 23 April. Each table will accommodate eight different characters – one of whom is sure to be the best dressed character and for the winner. The three Father John – and anyone willing to act as his sous-chef!

Tickets will be on sale after Easter so make sure that you get a group together and book a table for a fun evening for all ages.

NOTICE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Lisa Beamer, the wife of Todd Beamer who helped take down the plane over Pennsylvania which was heading for Washington DC on 9/11, spoke on Good Morning America, about a very special high school teacher whose husband died suddenly of a heart attack. Lisa said "About a week after his death, our teacher shared some of her insight with us. As the late afternoon sunlight steamed in through the windows, she sat down and with a gentle look of reflection on her face said, "I would like to share with all of you a thought which I feel is very important. Each of us is put here on earth to learn, share, love, appreciate and give of ourselves. None of us knows when this fantastic experience will end. It can be taken away at any moment. Perhaps this is God's way of telling us that we must make the most out of every single day. So I would like you all to make me a promise. From now on, on your way to school or on your way home find something beautiful to notice. It doesn't have to be something you see – it could be a scent,

perhaps of freshly baked bread, or it could be the sound of the breeze rustling the leaves in the trees, or the way the morning light catches one autumn leaf as it falls to the ground. Please look for these things and cherish them. Although it may sound trite to some, these things are the “stuff” of life. The little things we are put on earth to enjoy – which we often take for granted.” The class was completely quiet. We picked up our books and filed out of the room silently. That afternoon, I noticed more things on the way home from school than I had the whole semester. I often think of that teacher and remember the impression she made on all of us, and I try to appreciate all of those things that sometimes we overlook.” Take notice of something special today. Go barefoot. Walk on the beach at sunset. Stop off on your way home to treat yourself to a double dip ice cream. For as we get older, it is not the things we did that we regret, but the things we didn’t do.

LAST LAUGH : On a rural road, a state trooper pulled a farmer over and said “Sir, do you realise your wife fell out of the truck several miles back?” The farmer replied “Thank God, I thought I had gone deaf!”

ST DOMINICS' APRIL 2016 DIARY

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday 1st	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Adoration
	18h30	SSVP 100 Club Draw and bring and share supper
Saturday 2nd	08h00	Holy Mass and Rosary : Intention for successful municipal electionws
Sunday 3rd	08h00	Dave Naude and Zanele Ngubane hosting tea after Mass
Divine Mercy	15h00	Divine Mercy prayer and Benediction ending the Divine Mercy Novena
	17h30	Dieter Schauerte hosting tea after Mass
Monday 4th		Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord
	17h15	SSVP meeting
Tuesday 5th	18h00	Liturgy committee meeting
Wednesday 6th		NO ADORATION
	18h30	Folk Group Practice
	19h00	Ladies Guild meeting
Friday 8th	09h00-16h30	St Dom's Flower Festival
	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Adoration
Saturday 9th	09h00-16h30	Flower Festival
	10h40	Get together of the members of the Society of St Frances of Rome in the church
Sunday 10th : 3rd	08h00	Dave and Sherri Rowe serving tea after Mass
Sunday of Easter	10h15	Hillcrest Hospital Church Service – Liturgy Committee and Community Services Committee will be assisting
	17h30	Tea after Mass hosted by Sue and Shawn Hughes
Monday 11th	18h00	Choir practice
	18h30	Bible Study
Tuesday 12th	18h00	Finance Committee Meeting
	19h00	Social Life committee meeting
Wednesday 13th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h30	Folk Group Practice
Friday 15th	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Adoration
Saturday 16th		Launch of SSVP Beanie Project
Sunday 17th	08h00	Fourth Sunday of Easter : Vocations/Good Shepherd Sunday : Clive and Nina Mitchell hosting tea
	17h30	Debbie Janus and Shannon Oliver hosting tea after Mass
Monday 18th	17h15	SSVP Meeting
Tuesday 19th	10h00	Faith Alive
Wednesday 20th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Parish Pastoral Council meeting
	18h30	Folk Group Practice
Thursday 21st	19h00	Faith Alive
Friday 22rd	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Adoration
Sunday 24th	08h00	Fifth Sunday of Easter : Tea hosted by Ian and Jean Matthews
	17h30	Tea hosted by Brigitte Richard-Coombes and Wanita Black
Monday 25th	18h30	Bible Study
Tuesday 26th	10h00	Faith Alive
	18h00	Spiritual Life meeting
Wednesday 27th	08h00	Freedom Day - Holy Mass – No Adoration
	18h30	Folk Group Practice
Thursday 28th	19h00	Faith Alive
Friday 29th	18h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Adoration
Saturday 30th	08h30	SSVP Packing
	09h00	Community Services meeting