

THE ST DOM CHRONICLE HILLCREST, KZN JANUARY 2016



(Established April 1991)

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

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

This January, take an empty jar and fill it with notes about the good things that happen to you. Then on New Year's eve, empty it and see how God has blessed you during the year.



TO: Jason Adams, Sarah Agar, Caroline Bega, Marc Bega, Maria Birkby, Luca Borrageiro, Mackala Boyce, Denise Brough, Arina Cahill, Angela Chelin, Nicole Chelin, Cameron Chisholm, Heidi Christie, Gorete Cipriano, Paula Cobbletick, Stephanie Colarossi, Stuart Collett, Helen Conradie, Arnaldo Corbella, John Daly, Gabriella Davey, Oliver Davey, Daniela Davies, Craig Davis, Caroline Dennis, Francois de Segrays, Murray Dorrofield. Robert du Plessis, Hanna Dzwig, Liz Fenner, Bob Fenner, Reuben Finch, Kian Fitzsimons, Thea Fuhner, Robert Galway, Susan Geldenhuys, Siobhan Giai-Minietti, Eva Goncalves, John Goncalves, John Gregory, Dean Gregson, Jean Gutal, Karl Gutal, Barry Haarhoff, Georgina Harmsworth, Michell Harmsworth, Vaughn Harrington, Edith Haynes, Caleb Holmes, Malcolm Hopkins, Jaime-John Hughes, Doris Jones, David Kelly, Kyle Koenig, Marcel Kohler, Deirdre Kroone, Nomaswazi Kunene, Susan Kuzwayo, Phillip Landsberg, Nicole Lang, Valerie Lloyd, William Lloyd-Warren, Trish Lombard, Erin Lombard, Mason Mamotte, Ashleigh Marais, Bella Ann Meaker, Caryl Melly, Reese Minnitt, Christina Mitchell, Nina Mitchell, Joshua Moore, Samantha Naude, Mary Nel, Nicholas Neville, Siobhan O'Brien, Felicite Paget, Calla Palmer, Joan Perkins, Gravin Phyfer, Liam Pilkington, Frans Pretorius, John Purcell, Richard Quintal, Beverly Radford, Katelyn Richardson, Guy Rider, Catherine Roos, Antonio Schillaci, Calem Schulz, Charne Schulz, Justin Sciocatti, Lesley Scott Martin, Natalie Shelver, Zachary Shelver, Hlobisile Sibaya, Irene Simion, Patricia Skinner, Father Brian Southward, Jean Sparks, Rhys Swart, Patche Tigere, Isabella Trusler, Angela Van Lieshout, Andrew Velleman, Anna Voce, Claire Walshe, Morne Weyer, Marcia Williams, Trevor Williams, Bianca Wilson, Bryan Worst, Reece Zimmerman, and to those celebrating milestone birthdays: Marlene Goncalves and Sarah Marais on their half-century and Francesco Benedetti and Ursula de Segrays who celebrate their 70th.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY goes to Tosca and Bryn Jones and family on the death of Tosca's brother

Congratulations! to

- Sizile Dladla and Reynolda Gwamanda who were married recently.
- Johannes Tshazi and Ntombizonke Ndlanganisa on their marriage.
- Maureen Simpson on the marriage of her son, Chas to Nicole Raab.
- Carol van Laun on the birth of her seventh grandchild.
- Isabella Redman who was awarded an International Distinction for her Grade 3 piano exams.
- Hannah Coombe on winning a bursary for Hillcrest High School.
- Our youngsters who excelled in their studies at Curro Hillcrest Christian Academy :
Jessica and Liam Campbell who both won Academic awards;
Hannah Schimper for her Academic award, having achieved 5 A's in her exams;
Mikaela Howard who came first in class, won two awards for English and Maths and was awarded a scholarship to St John's in Pietermaritzburg;
Rebecca Askew, who not only achieved six A's in various subjects, coming first in Grade 8, but was also awarded half-colours for Culture for her piano playing and full colours for Academics.
- Mandiza Zama, who is a member of the Basketball team which won the South African Under 13 Basketball championships/
- Whitney Kilfoil on her appointment as a lecturer in Culinary Art at the International Hotel School.

We are sorry to say farewell to Vaughn Harrington who is moving to Ballito. Vaughn has been involved in the parish as one of our amazing floral artists and as a member of Ladies Guild. She will be back to participate in the flower festival which will take place early in 2016, so she won't be a stranger to us and hopefully it won't be long until she moves back to Hillcrest.

- Thank You*
- And apologies to Mandy Taylor and Claudine O'Flaherty who were omitted from the "thank you's" in the December issue and who, together with Nicole Russell, were responsible for organizing the Christmas tree for the children of Embo.
 - Mychelle Taylor, and her assistants, who arranged the "Cross of Coins" and the collection of toiletries – and especially to all St Doms parishioners for your

generous response. Thanks to you all, toiletries were distributed to patients at Don Mackenzie Hospital, the Hillcrest Aids Centre and Hillcrest Government Hospital.

- Clive and Nina Mitchell who have done a great job in running the Society of St Vincent de Paul's 100 Club draw during the past year. Please remember that the 100 Club draw takes place on the first Friday of each month after Power Hour, combined with a bring and share supper. Apart from the win/win situation of helping the Society whilst having the opportunity to win some handy cash, it is also a great social evening.

- The families who lit the Advent candles and read the Advent prayers at the start of each Mass during the Advent season.

- Leon Raymakers who set up and decorated the crib in the church.

- Terry Leeson who has taken on the task of preparing the St Doms Business Directory, which is a growing and worthy project. Please remember to send Linda in the parish office your contact details and the services you provide for inclusion in the directory.

- Michael Ronald for directing the Nativity Play and the Carols by Candlelight, the Social Life Committee members and everyone who supplied sherry and mince pies for the occasion.

- Father Brian and everyone involved in any way in the liturgy to make our Christmas Masses such a wonderful celebration.

THE GOLDEN OLDIES

Special thanks go to the Social Life Committee members and the hard working team who made the Golden Oldies an outstanding success: Leon Raymakers, the "main ou", Colleen Kilfoil, who so efficiently organized the catering in Maggie Raymaker's absence, with the assistance of chefs Whitney, Jessica and Sean Kilfoil, Norma Shepstone, Ian and Jean Matthews, Bev and Paul Wortmann and other members of the Social Life Committee; Ben Raymakers and Mike Hunter who assisted Leon in the bar; those responsible for washing and cleaning up – Linda and Terry Madden, Gill Hunter, Bridgette Richard-Coombes, Helen Keen, Zoe Purcell, Greer Hoar and Matthew Martin, and the hard-working waitrons managed by Robynne Lott and Jeffrey Purcell: Jessica and Liam Campbell, Tayla Quintal, Kristen Celliers, Kieran Steyn, Devo and Keegan Van Vuuren, Guy Rider, Michael Cameron and Alessandro Antonio. And last, but not least, to the entertainers, directed by Michael Ronald and John Connolly - Rebecca Askew, David Baker, Justin, Ciara and Damien Butt, John Daly, Kyle Howard, Wally Lage, Nicholas and Alexander Merle, Portia Nzuzza, Jules, Kate and Rebecca Ronald, Charles Rouessart and Gordon Turner – and the sound technicians – Sarane Richard-Coombes and Daniel Lage. What an awesome team effort, which was greatly enjoyed by all. And just on an historical note, for those of you who are not aware of it, the Golden Oldies first took place some 19 years ago, being the brainchild of the late Marga Bradshaw, who although she had already turned 60, viewed it as a way to express the parish's thanks to the "senior" members. Marga never

attended the Luncheon as a guest but preferred to work behind the scenes in the kitchen. And another point of interest is that John Connolly and the Butt family have, to the best of my recollection, been involved in the entertainment every year. Starting with John and Doreen Butt on stage, the tradition has continued with Justin (who was then a youngster) and has continued with his children – a tradition which we hope will continue in the future.

FATHER BRIAN SOUTHWARD : It is with heavy hearts that we will be bidding farewell to Father Brian when he retires at the end of January. Twenty years ago he was appointed parish priest to St Doms, which at that stage, was in a fair state of turmoil, not having a permanent parish priest and having gone through various ups and downs. In his quiet way, Father stepped up to the plate and we soon knew that we had an amazing parish priest who is not only deeply spiritual, but is a very good administrator and able to deal with everyone of all ages. Not only did he transform the parish into a vibrant Christian community, but the various building projects which he undertook stand as a monument to his foresight with regard to the needs of a growing community. Father has been a friend, mentor and confidant to many of us and will be sorely missed, but he has promised that he won't lose contact with his parish family. We wish him joy in his retirement and pray that God will bless him with good health and happiness. We can assure him that we will continue the legacy he has given us by welcoming Father John Dalais as our parish priest and supporting him as we have done Father Brian.

INVITATION

You are all cordially invited to the double celebration of Father Brian's 75th birthday. Mass will be celebrated at Embo on Sunday 17 January at 10h00 Mass with a subsequent luncheon. And on Sunday 24 January there will be a bring 'n braai at St Doms starting at about 11h30. Please bring the whole family along to celebrate with him on this special occasion.

Another year has passed and we're all a little older.

Last summer felt hotter and winter seems much colder.

There was a time not long ago when life was quite a blast

Now I fully understand about living in the past.

We used to go to weddings, football games and lunches

Now we go to funeral homes and after-funeral brunches.

We used to have hangovers from parties that were gay.

Now we suffer body aches and while the night away.

We used to go out dining and couldn't get our fill

Now we ask for doggie bags, come home and take a pill.

That, my friend is how life is and now my tale is told

So enjoy each day and live it up before you're too darn old!

ON THE LITURGICAL SCENE

✠ Mass on 1 January, which is the Feast



of Mary the Mother of God, will be celebrated at 08h00.

- ✠ The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord which is celebrated on 03 January, will be a bilingual Mass
- ✠ The good news is that, once again, we are keeping the stipends unchanged. For your convenience, we advise that they are:

Masses	R 40,00
Baptisms	250,00
Funerals	500,00
Weddings	1 500,00
Memorial wall	2 000,00
Organist fees	
Funeral	400,00
Wedding	750,00

- ✠ Catechism fees are now payable for the year and these are:
Catechism : R200,00 for one child or R170,00 for two or more children;
Edge : R250,00 for one child or R220,00 for two or more children;
Life Teen : R450,00 per child or R400,00 for two or more youngsters; and
Confirmation : R550,00
- ✠ The Hillcrest Government Hospital service takes place on Sunday 10- January starting at 10h15. Assistance in taking patients to the chapel will be greatly appreciated. Please meet in the car park outside B Ward – you will find it a truly humbling but uplifting experience.

SOME ST DOM'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

This is traditionally the time when we make those resolutions which we will endeavor to keep during the year, so I thought I would take the liberty to suggest some resolutions which we could consider in our parish

- To be considerate when parking;
- To arrive at Mass early enough to enable us to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Eucharist, especially if we are involved in the Liturgy;
- To ensure that we are aware of when we or our children are on duty and to make sure that we are at church on time;
- To dress appropriately;
- To switch cell phones off without being reminded.
- To have a more prayerful, reflective and quiet atmosphere in Church before Mass.
- To make newcomers and visitors feel welcome;
- Not to leave the church until the recessional hymn has been sung and the celebrant has left the church.
- To socialize with our fellow parishioners at tea before continuing with our activities for the day.
- To be patient in the parking area;
- To carry a grateful spirit of living our faith into the rest of our day and week.

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

(taken from the message from the Jesuit Institute South Africa) : As we know, the Catholic church formally began the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy on 8 December. Jewish tradition inspired the Catholic Church to start celebrating the Jubilee or

Holy Years, starting with Pope Boniface VIII in 1300. During Holy Years, the Church seeks to emphasise one of her more profound characteristics. In the document "Misericordiae Vultus" (The Face of Mercy) in which he announced the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis wrote "Perhaps we have long since forgotten how to show and live the way of mercy" With the symbolic opening of the massive bronze Holy Doors in St Peter's Basilica on December 8, Pope Francis is calling on us, as the Church, to take up the call to mercy and to open the doors which we have kept locked. We need to seek mercy where we need it and offer God's merciful love, generously and without reserve, to others.

WANTED – a retired person with time, expertise and patience to repair sewing machines. If you fit the bill, please call Linda at Embocraft on 031 7653697.



ST DOMS' FITNESS CLASSES will resume on Wednesday 13 January in the hall, starting at 08h30. New members are most welcome. This is a great way to make new friends and have fun whilst keeping fit. For more information, please call Peggy Wood on 031 7640648 or 083 3303071.

RETREATS : St Dominic's House of Prayer on the Bluff offers a number of retreats and workshops during the year, which may be of interest to you. A brochure is on display on the noticeboard advertising the retreats for the first half of the year. For further information, please log on to their website www.stdominicsbluff.org.za.

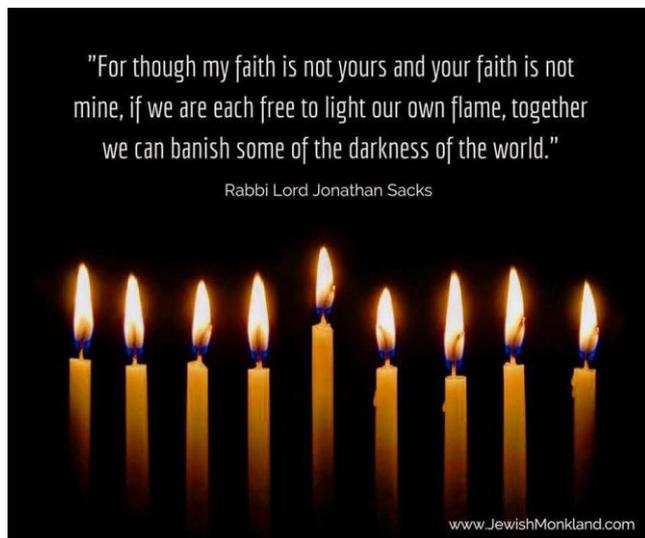
A LETTER FROM JESUS

Recently there was the annual birthday celebration in my honour. There were people shopping for gifts, radio announcements, TV commercials and people everywhere were announcing that my birthday was getting closer. The celebration began many years ago. At first people seemed to understand and be thankful for all that I did for them, but now no-one seems to know the reason for the celebration. Family and friends get together and have a lot of fun but they don't know the meaning of the celebration. Do you know that when the great day came, I was left outside. The door was closed in my face and I wanted to be there to share with them. Since I wasn't invited, I decided to enter the party without making any noise. I went in and stood in a corner. They were all drinking and laughing and having a grand time. Then they all began to share gifts. I understood then that I was unwanted at that party and quietly left. Every year it gets worse – people only remember the gifts, the parties, but very few remember me. I would like you to recognize that two thousand years ago I came to this world to give my life for you on the cross, to save you. I only want that you believe this with all your heart. Today I am sending out invitations to my own celebration. I want to know if you wish to attend and I will make a reservation for you and write your name with golden letters in my great guest book. Those who don't answer the invitation will be left outside. Be prepared because when all is ready, you will be part

of my great party. I love you! Jesus

WORLD YOUTH DAY : Many thanks to all the parishioners for supporting the cake sales which are held on the last Sunday of the month to raise funds for Jaime-John Hughes and Zoe Purcell who will be attending World Youth Day in Krakow later this year. The next cake sale will take place on 31 January and we look forward to your continued support of their efforts.

I work in an open-plan office. One day recently I happened to look up from my computer and saw a black-veiled figure at the work station opposite me, which is in a corner of the main office. The figure suddenly disappeared and shortly after reappeared. Perplexed by this strange apparition, I went around to the other side of the work station to investigate, only to discover one of our Muslim clients who was saying her prayers and was prostrating herself on the floor! Whether or not we agree with this, I wondered how many of us would be prepared to display our faith as openly.



YOUTH TALK : I Never Knew A Bikini Could Hide So Much – from an article by Kaylin Koslosky

Do you know what's funny about dressing modestly? It is the hardest thing to start, yet then becomes impossible to stop. My journey with modesty happened in stages, coming from an internal battle between wanting to fit in and be seen as attractive on the outside, and wanting to find love and be seen as beautiful for who I am on the inside. One key moment within this journey occurred while lying at a pool sun tanning in my new bikini. I began to observe the scene. Women of all shapes and sizes were walking or lying like me in bikinis. I noted some girls walk by with their arms draped across their stomachs. Other young women strutted confidently along the pool edge. One thing which struck me about each of them was that it was hard to look at a woman barely wearing clothes and seek the beauty of her heart when it is the beauty of her body that she is broadcasting. As I continued to glance around the pool, I noticed a beautiful young woman in a one-piece costume. It was easily noticeable because of the rarity of it. She had a child with her and her

husband sat and laughed beside her as they talked. I was mesmerized. For whatever reason, it was in this little family that I discovered one fundamental truth about modesty that I had been missing. *You do not veil yourself because you believe you are ugly, you veil yourself because you know that you are beautiful.* Modesty is not about hiding faults, it is about veiling beauty. In veiling her beauty this young mother allowed me to notice other things about her – her smile, her adorable family, her nurturing heart. Modesty veils physical beauty in a world obsessed with it, in order to reveal the inner beauty that is often overlooked. It gives rise to confidence and a greater capacity to love yourself and others by recognizing your own worth without needing the affirmation of each person that sees you.

Now is the time to let go of the worn-out, the painful and the sad, and to cross the threshold into a new era of promise.

ST DOMS SUPPER CLUB will resume in February with the first outing for the year being at Oscars on **Saturday 6 February** at 19h00. This is open to all parishioners and is a great way to enjoy a Saturday evening out in congenial company. Please advise Linda in the parish office if you wish to attend.

LAST LAUGH

Forrest Gump died and went to Heaven. At the Pearly Gates who was met by St Peter who said "Well, Forrest, I have heard a great deal about you. I must tell you though that we now have an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it to get into Heaven." Forrest replied "Nobody told me about the entrance exam. I sure hope it ain't too hard." St Peter continued "Yes I know, Forrest but there are only three questions. First What two days of the week begin with the letter T? Second: How many seconds are there in a year? And third "What is God's first name?" Forrest left to think about the questions. He returned the next day and saw St Peter who asked "Now that you have had a chance to think, what are your answers?" Forrest replied "Well, the first one is easy – the two days in the week beginning with the letter T – that would be today and tomorrow." The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed "Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you have a point, so I will accept that answer. How about the next one?" "How many seconds in a year? Now that one is harder," replied Forrest, "but I think and I guess the only answer can be twelve" Astounded, St Peter said, "How in Heaven's name did you come up with twelve?" Forrest replied "Shucks, there's got to be 12 : January 2nd, February 2nd...." Hold it," interrupted St Peter. "I see where you are going with this – it was not quite what I had in mind but I will have to credit you for that one, too. Now for the last question, can you tell me God's first name?" "Sure," Forrest replied, "It's Andy" "Andy?" exclaimed an exasperated St Peter. "How in the world did you come up with the name Andy?" "Shucks that was the easiest one of all. I learned it from the song "Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells me I am His own".

ST DOMINICS' JANUARY 2016 DIARY

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday 1st	08h00	Feast of Mary the Mother of God – Holy Mass
Sunday 3rd		Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
	08h00	Bilingual Mass - Tea after Mass hosted by Brian and Michele Uren
	17h30	Brigitte Richard-Coombes and Wanita Black hosting tea after Mass
Friday 8th	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Benediction
Sunday 10th		Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord
	08h00	Noel and Bronwyn Swart hosting tea after Mass
	10h15	Hillcrest Government Hospital service – Helpers are needed
	17h30	Tea after Mass hosted by Jason and Danielle Halstead
Monday 11th	18h00	Choir Practice
Tuesday 12th	18h00	Finance Committee Meeting
		Liturgy Committee Meeting
	19h00	Social Life Committee Meeting
Wednesday 13th	08h30	Fitness Classes resume
	18h30	Folk Group Practice
Friday 16th	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Benediction
		Edge starts
Sunday 17th	08h00	Pam Montile and Rose Waldburger hosting tea
	10h30	Mass at Embo and celebration for Father Brian's birthday
	17h30	Tea after Mass hosted by Tracy and Cavan Kriek
Monday 18th	17h30	SSVP meeting
	18h00	Choir practice
Tuesday 19th	15h00	Catechism starts
Wednesday 20th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Friday 22nd	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Rosary
	17h30	EDGE
Saturday 23rd		Father Brian's 75 th birthday
		Camino Workshop
Sunday 24th	08h00	Rod and Rose Carr hosting tea after Mass
	11h30	Bring and Braai birthday celebration for Father Brian
	17h30	Tea after Mass hosted by Pearl Mackie and Maria Walker
Monday 25th	18h15	Choir practice
Wednesday 27th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Spiritual Life Meeting
		First Holy Communion Parents's meeting
Thursday 28th	18h00	First Reconciliation Parents' meeting
Friday 29th	17h30	Power Hour including Holy Mass and Benediction
Saturday 30th	08h00	SSVP Packing – helpers are needed
	09h00	Community Services Committee meeting
Sunday 31st	08h00	Wally and Elaine Lage hosting tea after Mass
		World Youth DayCake sale
	17h30	Tea after Mass served by Natasha Oldridge and William Marshal