



THE ST DOM CHRONICLE

HILLCREST, KZN

FEBRUARY 2012

(Established April 1991)

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

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Although the first month of the year is behind us, and we are already well into the “swing of things”, I would like to share with you a thought sent to me by an old friend, Alex Campbell, in his Christmas/New Year letter from abroad : “In a world in which so many children are suffering – from poverty and hunger, from HIV/AIDS, from ignorance – in a world that is still torn by war and oppression and discrimination in so many places – may we be reminded of the message of the One whose uncommon life still challenges us to be just and peaceful, compassionate and loving and inclusive. And once again, I encourage us all to perform but one small act of unconditional kindness for someone each day throughout this coming year. Then, perhaps, peace may come.”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Fatima Achim, Dennis Anderson, Timothy Anderson, Caterina Antoniotti, David Baker, Byron Baxendale-Small, Antonio Bertacco, Sebastian Bracco, Reece Brooke, Mike Buckle, Adam Cahill, Michael Cameron, Anna Carlier, Rodney Carr, Elaine Cheesman, Lisa Chelin, Malcolm Cobbledick, Shaun Coetzee, Riccardo Colarossi, Linda Connolly, Thelma Cook, Ann Cooke, Gregory Cooper, Jessica Ann De Villiers, Josee Doherty-Bigara, Robert Embleton, Pascal Fabre, Erwin Fransch, Diana Funga, Dario-John Giaini, William Gibson, Karin Gigante, Patricia Gregory, Rachel Griesel, Irene Grodzki, Edith Gunda, Lynn Halstead, Jarrod Haynes, Simone Henderson, Leanne Hikins, Megan Hoar, Jamaine Hogg, Mark Howard, Mikaela Howard, Shawn Hughes, Elwyn Hurst, Joan Hutchinson, Luke Janus, Bryn Jones, John Jones, Krystyna Kalinowski, Mizpah Kelly, Antony Kerdachi, Franciszek Kiepiel, Whitney Kilfoil, Jonathan Kilmister, Jeremy Kriek, Lisa Lambert, Paul Lloyd, Marie-Louise Lombard, Douglas Loubser-Goldblatt, Laura Luciani, Christine Makin, Ashley Malcolm-Smith, Jan Manden, Jean Matthews, Christopher McCabe, Robert McConnell (the younger), Ursula McDonald, Pat Meier, Mpilo Mfeka, Christopher Morris, Julie Muchna, Richard Newton, Luthando Ngubane, Jessica O’Flaherty, Deon Olivier, Megan Palmer, Eric Partridge, Renee Poole, Leigh Randall, Leonard Raymakers, Byron Reynolds, Debbie Rogers, Jessica Rogers, Julie Ronald, Tracey Rooi, Ella Roos, Bernadette Schauerte, Dieter Schauerte, Marcia Schillaci, Troy Schulz, Pascal Seliger, Paul Sims, Bradley Sparks, Wilfred Sparks, Hayley Stellenberg, Natalie Stellenberg, Samuel Strachan, Susan Surgeson, Aimee Swart, Tamra Thurston, Ryan Topper, Katherine Trusler, Rob Upton, Michele Uren, Beryl van der Merwe, Paula van der Merwe, Chantelle Velleman, Mary Ann Wanliss, Sebastian Wernig, Noel Whiting, Valerie Willemse, Jade Wilson, Molly Wilson and Brad Zietsman. Our special wishes go to our parishioners who are celebrating milestone birthdays : Estelle Gregory on her 30th. Lyle Cooke, Bridgette Fabre and Thuthuka Nxumalo who turn 40, Eileen Sharp on her half-century, Courtney Tarboton who turns 60 and Mary Broderick on her 80th.



- Samantha Anderson who obtained her Bachelor of Biomedical Science Degree, passing summa cum laude!
- Kyle Koenig on his appointment as Deputy Head Boy of Hillcrest Christian Academy.
- Kerry Smith and Paul Stanley on their engagement.
- Beryl and Grattan van der Merwe who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on 27 January.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS : Noel Whiting, Paul and Yvonne Poilly and family, Kevin and Verna Roussel, Donna and Mitchell Brooke and family and Peter Baker. We hope that you will enjoy being part of St Doms family.

OUR BEST WISHES go to

- Dave Ebsworth and Jenny Meillon for a speedy recovery after their recent operations.
- Hilda Croot who is relocating to the UK to re-join her family.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY goes to

- Dawn Lopes and her family on the death of Eugene, truly one of nature’s gentlemen, who faithfully served St Doms as a Eucharistic Minister for many years.
- Vanessa Azzopardi and her family on the death of her Mum, Vera Graham, a courageous and remarkable woman.
- Franco and Angela Chelin, Karen Bosman and their children on the death of Marie-Therese, after a long illness which she bore with tremendous courage. Marie-Therese and her late husband, Ludo, were both involved in, and worked tirelessly for, the Society of St Vincent de Paul and Hillcrest Residential Hospital. Despite her battle with

cancer, Marie-Therese continued to make track-suits and knit jerseys for distribution by the members of SSVP. Her courage, humour, and great faith were a shining example to us.

Have you checked our website recently? Go to <http://www.stdom.co.za> for some really interesting information, updates and links.



To all the parishioners, from the St

Vincent de Paul Society for your generosity in supplying food, sweets and gifts which they distributed to the less privileged members of our community.

- Everyone who supported the Embocraft and Poverty Aids and Unemployment Committee Raffle which raised R22 000, which was matched by a donor at the draw! The funds raised will be put to good use, particularly in teaching skills to those who are unemployed.
- The altar servers and parents who participated in the Mass on 14 January at St Anthony's parish to celebrate the launch of ADASA (Archdiocese of Durban Altar Servers' Association). We are proud to say that St Doms was well represented at the celebration which was enjoyed by all. Each altar server who attended was presented with the ADASA insignia which is a pectoral crucifix which they will wear every time they serve at the altar.
- Everyone who registered their children for Catechism and/or LifeTeen. If you haven't yet done so, it is not too late – please contact Mychelle Taylor on 072 4530912 or Mary Ann Wanliss on 083 5570072.
- Mike Buckle who has put an unbelievable amount of time and effort into marketing and promoting The Catholicism Series.
- The members of the Social Life committee who organized our first social activity for the year, Minute to Win It on 28 January. Thanks too to everyone who attended.
- The children and family choir who lead the Children's Mass on 29 January.
- The members of SSVP for selling boerie rolls after Mass on 29 January and to everyone who supported their fund raising endeavours.

God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.

LITURGICALLY SPEAKING

- ✦ Our intention for the first Evangelisation Through We look forward to seeing
- ✦ We remind you that the



Saturday Mass at 08h00 on 4 February is Love. This will be followed by the Rosary meditation. you there.

Communion hymn is meant to be sung by the entire congregation, whether you are going up to receive Communion or are still seated in the pew.

- ✦ At the church entrance is a box with the names of the saints, which has, once again, been lovingly prepared by Dev Rider. Please take one of the saints' names – not only will this give you the opportunity to learn more about them, but the saint whose name you draw from the box, will be "your" saint to intercede for you during the year.
- ✦ Lenten wrist bands will be on sale from 19 February at a cost of R10,00 each. This is a good way to keep us focused during Lent. As there are a limited number available, please don't delay in buying yours.
- ✦ Lent starts on Ash Wednesday (22 February) which, as you know, is a day of fast and abstinence. To accommodate everyone, Mass will be celebrated at 09h00 and 18h00. Please bring last year's palms and your Lenten resolutions to burn in the fire.
- ✦ The parish Lenten retreat, lead by Father Sylvester David, will take place on 25 February from 09h00 to 13h00. We suggest that you diarise this date now so as not to miss out on a challenging and uplifting spiritual experience.
- ✦ During Lent, please bring your rosaries to Mass with you as a decade of the Rosary will be said before each of the weekend Masses.
- ✦ Our Lenten devotions will take place every Wednesday at 18h00, starting on 29 February. As they are in the early evening there is no reason why the whole family should not attend.
- ✦ This Lent why not make that extra effort to attend a weekday Mass? For those who are not working, Mass is celebrated every Tuesday and Thursday at 09h00 and those who are working should be able to attend either the 06h00 Mass on Wednesdays or the 17h30 Mass on Fridays. The benefits you will enjoy from your extra effort during Lent, will far outweigh the sacrifices you make

Shortly after a big snowstorm, I walked a couple of blocks to the supermarket to buy soup and bread for my supper that night. On the way home, going past a city building, I saw a tree, totally bare of leaves, but with birds – as many as twenty or so, sitting on its branches. Now they weren't ordinary birds, these were Robins. These Robins were like ornaments on a Christmas tree, sitting with their red breasts visible, contrasting with the snow and ice on the tree branches. I was in awe that in mid-winter, with the cold, ice and snow, a sign of spring was in my midst! That is how, I believe, God shows us that life is eternal. As our season of Lent begins, the storm clouds begin to develop around Jesus' ministry and person. The journey of Lent will highlight the conflicts and conspiracies, trapping Jesus into the hands of his foes, bringing on Jesus' death. But our God is the God of Life! And so, as we journey in Lent, our sins, our faults, need not bring us to destruction and death, for our God is the God of the Living, our God forgives us our sins so that we will have life and live for others. We ought to be in

wonder, in awe of our God who values life – renewed Life! - Fr Lou Ruoff, St Ann Catholic Church, Virginia, USA.

The Dalai Lama, when asked what surprised him most about humanity, replied “Man. Because he sacrifices his health in order to make money. Then he sacrifices money to recuperate his health. And then he is so anxious about the future that he does not enjoy the present; the result being that he does not live in the present or the future; he lives as if he is never going to die, and then dies having never really lived.”

WITNESS THE CATHOLIC FAITH AS YOU’VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!

On 16th February the Spiritual Life Committee will launch the long-awaited ‘Catholicism Series’, a multi-part documentary series by Fr. Robert Barron, a popular and easy-going speaker who spent two years travelling the world with a crew of seasoned network television producers to produce this series. Father Robert is an acclaimed author, theologian and podcasting priest from Chicago, and one of the world’s great and most innovative teachers of the Catholic faith. He is the founder of ‘Word on Fire Catholic Ministries’. Father Robert is also the *Francis Cardinal George Professor of Faith and Culture* at Mundelein Seminary and a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. **Catholicism** illustrates the history and treasures of a global religion shared by more than one billion people around the world. The series is filmed in stunning high-definition and spans more than 50 locations in 15 countries. “The filming of the **Catholicism** series was one of the most exciting and rewarding periods of my life,” said Fr. Barron. “Our team travelled the globe to capture some of the beauty, truth, and texture of Catholicism. I am thrilled that people across the world will have the opportunity to share in the series, and I hope to engage the imaginations of both Catholics and non-Catholics.” “This series changed the way I think and act. The global settings were stunning, but it was Fr. Barron’s brilliant insights on life’s most challenging issues that shook me to the core,” admitted Mike Leonard, the Executive Producer. “Whatever your belief or background, there is much to gain from this deep and profound excursion into spirituality, logic and the human experience,” he added.

In this sweeping documentary, Father Barron tells the story of Catholicism around the world using art, architecture, literature, music and all the riches of the Catholic tradition. The production crew travels to some of the most magnificent and sacred sites in Jerusalem, Rome, Krakow, Warsaw, New York, Istanbul, Ephesus, Lourdes, Mexico City, Athens, Corinth, Uganda, Manila, Sao Paolo, Auschwitz, Kolkata, Philadelphia, Chicago, and beyond. The team was granted exclusive access to film privately in many locations inaccessible to the general public. Highlights include some of the world’s architectural and artistic masterpieces and most sacred places: The Dome of The Rock, the Hagia Sophia, the tomb of Mother Teresa, The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, rare views of the Pantheon, St. Peter’s Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Pope’s private gardens, Chartres, Notre Dame, and Cologne Cathedrals, as well as one of the largest religious celebrations on the planet, the feast of the Ugandan martyrs.

Aimed at everyone from 16 to 106, both Catholics and non-Catholics who want to learn more about the faith, and RCIA candidates, the course is divided into 10 parts which cover:

- ❖ **The Incarnation – God became Man**
- ❖ **The Teachings of Jesus**
- ❖ **The Majesty and Mystery of God**
- ❖ **Mary, Mother of God**
- ❖ **Peter, Paul and the missionary adventure**
- ❖ **The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church**
- ❖ **The Eucharist and Worship**
- ❖ **The Communion of Saints**
- ❖ **Prayer and the Life of the Spirit**
- ❖ **World without end – the Last Things**

Starting on 16 February and running through to 3 May, with breaks for Easter, the course will take place each Thursday evening in the hall from 19h00 to 20h30. Registration is essential as, for comfort’s sake, we can accommodate a maximum of 80 people in the hall. For those of you who are too late to register, a re-run will take place later in the year. But don’t delay – take control of your spiritual life now by ensuring that you register for this life-changing experience!

Life is like riding a bicycle – to keep your balance you must keep moving. – Albert Einstein

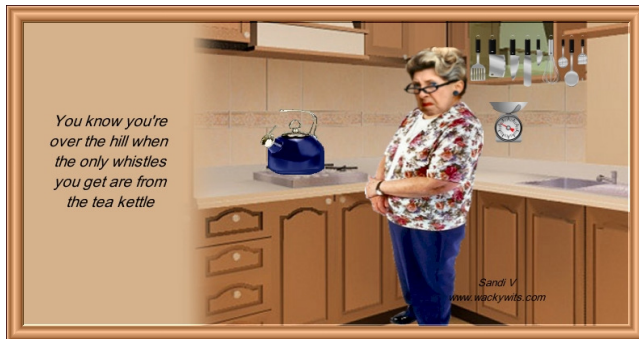
YOUTH TALK adapted from Lifeteen.com by Natalie Aleman : I was the kid who knew Santa was real but I never had pictures with him. This was not because my parents were against him but because, in our culture, we celebrated ‘El Día de los Tres Reyes’ (Three Kings Day). In some cultures Christmas is reserved for prayer, and Three Kings Day is when gifts are received and exchanged. The tradition was that since they brought gifts to Jesus, we would get three gifts from them on the morning of January 6th (under our beds and *only* if we left grass and water for the camels outside . . . of course.)

I didn’t understand why they simply didn’t place my gifts in a box and ship it. It would have saved them time and the hassle of having to ride camels through my neighborhood. But frankly, the question I should have asked myself was what made them hand deliver their presents, not to me, but to the baby Jesus. The Magi brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Christ Child and they made themselves present to the infant Jesus. Anyone could have delivered the gifts on behalf of the kings, but they chose to travel for months just to see a “child with Mary his mother”

([Matthew 2:11](#)); now that's a commitment. What astounds me is that they traveled thousands of miles and they left empty handed. The only thing they came to do was worship the newborn Christ and give Him gifts.

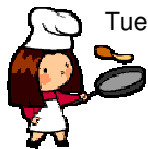
How often do we go to Mass with the only purpose of worshipping God and not expect anything in return? If we're focused on what we can get out of God and not what we can give to Him, then our worship is selfish. Shifting our focus on what we can give Him frees us to receive His love the way *He* wants to give it. The Magi did exactly that, and to Christ the true present was their presence. Ultimately, the best gift we can give to God is our hearts, and in return He gives us His. He doesn't want just our time, our talents, or our money – but more importantly – to make ourselves present to Him. Jesus talks about this and says, "Father, they are a gift to me." ([John 17:24](#))

The Magi came and knelt before the child Jesus, because He alone was worth their worship. He wants us to give Him our entire being. That is what He desires the most and He is worth our worship and adoration. Make yourself present to Him and give Him the present He never stops asking for: your heart.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

- Great news for our parish is that Sean Lategan has been appointed St Doms Youth Minister. Sean has proved himself in the time that he has been working with the Youth and we are sure that his appointment will enable him to develop and grow the Youth/Young Adults groups. We are also pleased to advise that Riccardo Colarossi has joined the team of Youth Leaders – so we are sure that 2012 is going to be a really exciting year for our young people.
- More exciting news – and a huge scoop for us at St Doms – is that, through Steve Edwards' intervention, the leaders of LifeTeen in the USA are coming to Durban to facilitate a Young Adults Leaders Training Conference. LifeTeen core teams from the greater Durban area will be meeting at St Doms on 11 February. Please pray for the success of the Conference.
- You are invited to attend the Tuesday Forum at 10h00 on 7 February, which will be addressed by a speaker from the Hillcrest Crisis Centre. The Tuesday Forum will take place every three months, the aim of which is to give parishioners an opportunity to learn more about various interesting subjects. Watch the bulletins for details.
- We are delighted to advise that Anna de Sousa has joined the Catechism Teachers team as the Grade 6 teacher.
- Wayne Redman and John Schimper, heading up the Family Life Enrichment team, have various projects in hand for this year – watch the bulletins and website for details and keep in mind their slogan "Faith@home".
- Unfortunately, due to her various commitments which entail a great deal of travelling, Helen Bellew finds herself unable to devote as much time to SSVP as the role of President requires. She has resigned from the Presidency, which has been assumed by Paul Mazoue – for this year. Paul is no stranger to the role and we know he will continue to lead the Society with great devotion. Our thanks go to both of them – to Helen for her dedication and hard work – and to Paul for stepping into the breach.
- Tickets will shortly be on sale for the St Patricks Evening (17 March), the price of which will include dinner and entertainment provided by, amongst others, the well known, Colin Penn and the Pennants. We suggest that you make your booking early to ensure that you don't miss a great evening's entertainment.



Tuesday 21 February is Shrove Tuesday and, we invite you to bring your families and friends to the hall from 18h00 to enjoy a selection of savoury and sweet pancakes and some liquid refreshment in congenial company, before we begin the Lenten fast. Anyone who is willing to assist with making pancakes or fillings, is asked to contact Colleen Kilfoil on 031 7652919.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER : We are privileged that the Women's World Day of Prayer service for the Highway area will take place at St Doms on 2 March. The host country is Malaysia, the theme being "Let Justice Prevail" and the service will start at 10h00, after which tea will be served in the hall. We are calling all the ladies of the parish to show what a wonderful and hospitable parish St Doms is – not only in making our guests feel welcome, but also by providing a sumptuous spread for them. Donations of eats will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Michele on 031 7671624 or 0826280617 if you are able to assist.

FIRST STEPS DAY CARE CENTRE : Enrolments are open for children from the age of 6 months to four years, either full-day or half day, for the day care centre operated by Jenny and Kerry Smith in Kloof. The children are

cared for in a loving, caring, Christian environment, by trained helpers, with cooked nutritious meals provided for those who are at the centre all day. And a big advantage is that the centre does not close during the holidays except for mid-December to mid-January. For more information, call Jenny (071 6084339) or Kerry (079 5151827).

LAST LAUGH "Answering Machine for Grandparents: Sorry we are not at home at present, but please leave your message after you hear the beeeep. If you are one of our children, dial 1 and then select the option from 1 to 5 in order of "arrival" so we know who it is. If you need us to stay with the children, press 2. If you want to borrow the car, press 3. If you want us to wash and iron your clothes, press 4. If you want the grandchildren to sleep here tonight, press 5. If you want us to pick up the kids from school, press 6. If you want us to prepare a meal for Sunday or to have it delivered to your home, press 7. If you want to come here for dinner, press 8. if you need money, press 9. If you are going to invite us to dinner or a show – start talking, we're listening!!!.

FEBRUARY 2012	TIME	EVENT
Wednesday 1st	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	19h00	Ladies Guild Meeting
Friday 3rd	17h30 to 19h00	Youth Group
Saturday 4th	08h00	First Saturday Mass and Rosary – Evangelisation Through Love
Sunday 5th	08h00	Tea after Mass hosted by Noel and Bronwyn Swart
	17h30	Tea hosted by Nicki Hughes
Monday 5th	17h30	SSVP meeting
	18h00	Choir practice
		RCIA
Tuesday 7th	10h00	The Tuesday Forum
	18h00	Folk Group practice
		Liturgy Committee Meeting
Wednesday 8th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
Friday 10th	17h30-19h30	Youth Group
Saturday 11 th		LifeTeen Leaders Conference
Sunday 12th	08h00	Tea after Mass hosted by Krystina Kalinowski and Edna Leo-Smith
	10h15	Hillcrest Hospital Communion Service – Assistance is required
	17h30	Lisa Redman hosting tea after Mass
Monday 13th	18h00	Choir practice
		RCIA
Tuesday 14th	18h00	Finance Committee meeting
		Folk Group practice
	19h00	Social Life Committee meeting
Wednesday 15th	06h00	Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Parish Pastoral Council meeting
Thursday 16th	19h00	Catholicism Series
Friday 17th	17h30 to 19h00	Youth Group
Sunday 19th	08h00	Rosemary Waldburger and Anne-Marie Sparks hosting tea after Mass
	17h30	Tea after Mass hosted by Pam Dawson
Monday 20th	17h30	SSVP meeting
	18h00	Choir practice
		Spiritual Life Committee Meeting
		RCIA
Tuesday 21st	18h00	Shrove Tuesday – Pancake evening
Wednesday 22nd		Ash Wednesday
	09h00	Mass
	19h00	Mass
Thursday 23 rd	19h00	Catholicism Series
Friday 24th	17h30 to 19h00	Youth Group
Saturday 25th	08h00	SSVP packing food parcels – Helpers are welcome
	09h30	PUA Committee meeting
	09h00-13h00	Parish Lenten retreat
Sunday 26th	08h00	Tea after Mass hosted by Jackie and Lyle Cooke
	17h30	Peter and Denise van Wyk hosting tea after Mass
Monday 27th	18h00	Choir
		RCIA
Wednesday 29 th		Mass : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 18h00
	18h00	Lenten Devotions