

Friday 8th April, 2022

ST THOMAS PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

Dear St Thomas Family

As Lent draws to a close, we give thanks to God for our excellent Lent Course, "Exploring Prayer" by Archbishop Justin Welby; our Thursday Intercessions – Fast, pray, Give; and all those who joined in daily prayer at 5pm to pray for Peace in the Ukraine and for our Country. This Sunday is Palm Sunday, as we begin our journey with Christ from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem through his passion and death, climaxing with the resurrection on Easter Day. We have a rich and full week ahead of us

PALM SUNDAY preparations:

All ages please come along and share in the festivities of making Palm crosses at 9.30am outside the Koinonia Room. If you have never done it before, come and learn as others share their skills with you! If possible, bring a pair of scissors.

On Sunday, the 7.45am congregation meets in the church as normal, but the 9.30am congregation will gather outside the Koinonia room for a symbolic Palm Sunday procession to the church – waving palm branches, crosses, flags (but alas no donkey!)

Welcome to New Members 2022:

This Sunday at both services we will welcome those who have joined our church family this year. After the 9.30am service, there will be a special "Welcome tea" with one of Denise Woodman's speciality cakes.

Make a point of finding and greeting: Ralph Kelly, Michele Bakker, Alia Latib, Dr Gwen Kandawasvika, Margaret Caine, George and Eunice Gibbs, Lelethu Qokoqa, Heather McEnhill.

Chocolates of Love:

This year, we did not have a special Lent appeal. However, we invite you to bring a gift of **chocolate Mashmallow Easter Eggs** to all Holy Week services starting on Palm Sunday, which will be given to the girls of **St Michaels' Home and Leliebloem**. Please place in the container provided in the church entrance porch or deliver to the office during the week. Let's share some Easter cheer!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES April 2022

Saturday 9 April: PREPARATION FOR PALM SUNDAY

9.30am Come and make Palm Crosses outside the Koinonia Room. Bring scissors. Young and old...all are welcome!

10.30am Rehearsal in the church for the Choral Reading at 7.45am service with Wendy Goddard

11.30am Rehearsal in the church for the Choral Reading at 9.30am service with Wendy Goddard

Sunday 10 April: PALM SUNDAY

7.45am Eucharist

9.30am Procession and Eucharist (Newcomers Welcome Tea)

HOLY WEEK:

Wednesday 13th	9.30am	Eucharist (no Lent Course)
Maundy Thursday 14th	7.00pm	Taizé Service with Foot washing
Good Friday 15th	9 - 12am	Three Hour devotion <i>"Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"</i> <i>Come and hear the stories of those who were there...</i>
Easter Day: 17th	6.30am	Easter Vigil and Eucharist
	9.30am	Easter Eucharist Celebration / Junior Church
Easter 1st 24th	7.45am	Holy Eucharist
	9.30am	Holy Eucharist / Junior Church

Pink Flyers with this Holy Week Service information will be available in church on Palm Sunday. Please take one and feel free to invite your friends.

Easter Vigil Readers: We need **8 readers** for the 6.30am Easter Vigil. Please sign the list on the clipboard in the church entrance. Take the copy of your reading to practice. Copies will be ready in a file for you on Easter morning.

Congratulations:

Congratulations to **Zuby** (choir member) and **Dolly Okonkwo** on the birth of their precious daughter, on 5 April. Her name, **Chiziterem**, means "God sent me". She is welcomed by her older sisters: **Kamsi**, **Chisimdi** and **Chimerika**.

The Gift of Music Concert

Excitement is building up for "**The Gift of Music**" concert, a festive concert to celebrate the newly refurbished organ. It will be a wonderful celebration of music that will appeal to all tastes. Sonja is putting together a fantastic programme. Tickets are **R120-00** and because it is a celebration, the ticket price includes a cheese and wine after the concert. There will also be a prize draw during the short break between the two halves of the concert, all tickets purchased will be entered into the draw and you have a chance of winning some great prizes.

I will be selling tickets on Sunday, please get your tickets, we would love to see you there and don't miss out on what will be a wonderful occasion.

Feel free to download the poster and share it or share our event on Facebook with your friends and colleagues.

From the Youth Desk

Good Afternoon wonderful family of St. Thomas.

Last week Friday we enjoyed our first meet and greet where we enjoyed a time of fellowship together with amazing conversations and games to break the ice. We also touched on the story of Ezekiel 37: 1

"I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live and return home." - Eze 37:1. Here Ezekiel is shown by God that our Creator has the power to revive dry bones to full of life. Ezekiel's prophecy is linked to the people of Israel being in exile due to the armies of Babylon, and God our Creator shows him that God will bring the people back to the land and it will be full of life. We stand on the precipices of having gone through our own period of exile due to the COVID pandemic, and now standing over the valley prophesying and trusting in God's power to bring the youth back not only here but in all our churches.

With that being said, we will be holding off on meeting the next couple of weeks due to the Easter season and will be returning on the 29th of April. In this time, we would be advertising that we are opening again and are super excited to get youth ministry up and running at St. Thomas parish.

We would also like to meet with the parents of teenagers on Sunday the 24th of April at the 9:30 service after church, please.

Kind regards
JP

The Rev Dr Claire Nye Hunter

Rector, St Thomas's Church

61 Campground Road

Rondebosch 7700

Tel 021-685-6752 (w)

071-417-0145 (mobile)

