



Ad Clerum

February 2017

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Septuagesima



“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but only one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain. Every man that striveth in the games is temperate in all things; now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible.....”

1 Cor 9:24ff – From the Epistle for Septuagesima.

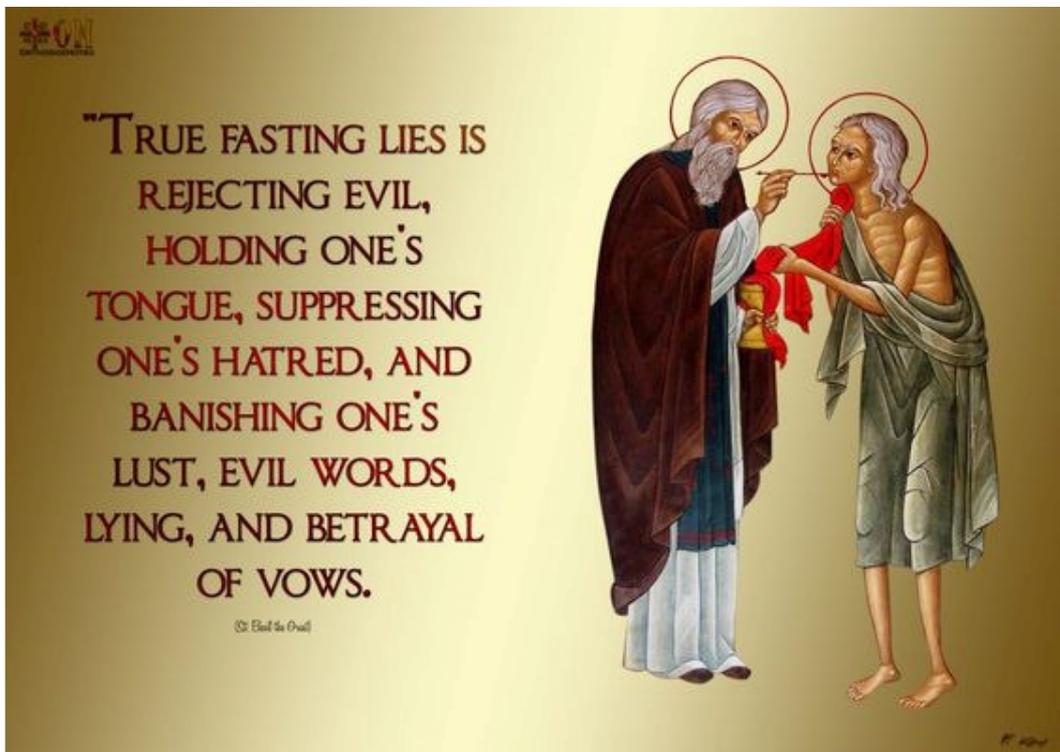
With Lent only three weeks away, the above Scripture exhorts all Christians to prepare themselves for the ‘Race of Faith’. This is an interesting concept, for Christians are often a little too meek and mild, and not nearly as competitive as they should be within the world. In this Scripture, St Paul is pushing us to excel in virtue and godliness, also in humility, and to become the most effective and efficient person we can be in our workplace, and every other part of our lives. He is calling us to be the best we can be at all things for the sake of Christ our Lord.

The starting point is always Faith. Here, time and time again, St Paul uses the image of an athlete to illustrate to us the need for discipline, self-control, focus on our spiritual goals and the building of a desire to excel in love, in prayer and service of the Gospel. The accomplishing of a ‘good’ Lent, therefore, will mean that we emerge a more

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effective Christian servants, disciplined, dedicated, unswerving in our humble loyalty to Our Lord Jesus Christ and ready (in fact, eager) to embrace any hardship or test that He may require of us. He is hoping to find in us true 'spiritual athletes', well-prepared, able to endure and stand upright against any temptation. Although a person may say that they are not the 'athletic type', or if perhaps they are elderly and physically inactive, our Lord is still calling upon us to develop and tighten up our spiritual muscles in order to run the 'Race of Faith'. We all know that this is a race that has to be run right to the end of our lives.

Individual preparation for the Lenten Journey is therefore most important. Is it right that we should only learn about fasting at a Bible Study once the Great Fast has already begun; or about prayer; or alms giving? No, these lessons need to be learned *now*, and decisions take *now*, so that our Lent has a purpose and drive that we might have missed before. One does the home work and preparation well *before* an examination....so too with Lent. Lent *is* the time of testing, and we cannot try to begin our preparation when already in the examination hall, or we will most surely be disappointed with the result.



In the picture above, we have some good advice from St Basil the Great, as he assists us to identify some of the obstacles we may be facing in our own lives. Isn't it amazing that the same things that upset our churches today are mentioned in his quote? Man never changes! As we get rid of some of the vices he mentions above we will be far closer to that person Our Lord is hoping we would become – we will, in fact, begin to show the fruits of holiness and become real contenders in the 'Race of Faith'!

I wish you a blessed and holy Lent, and triumph over the 'world, the flesh and the devil' in the power of the Holy Ghost.

+Michael

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Southern Africa

ARCHBISHOP SHANE JANZEN
PRIMATE OF THE TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN COMMUNION,
METROPOLITAN OF THE ANGLICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
CANADA



The Most Reverend Shane Janzen was elected Primate of the world-wide Traditional Anglican Communion (TAC) by its governing College of Bishops in Lincoln, England on Friday, October 14, 2016, and formally Installed as Primate at the Eucharist held Sunday morning at St. Katherine's Cathedral Church in Lincoln.

The 57-year old British Columbia resident is also Rector of the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Evangelist, and Metropolitan of the Traditional Anglican Communion in Canada (The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada).

Archbishop Janzen is a former high school teacher, as well as a constitutional scholar and advisor, and has held senior positions within the British Columbia government.

Archbishop Janzen recently visited Southern Africa for the Consecration of Bishop Andrew Mukuyamba, in Lusaka, Zambia. He replaces Archbishop Samuel Prakash, who has served as Acting Primate since 2012. Archbishop Prakash has rendered exemplary

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service to the College of Bishops during his time as Acting Primate, and we thank him for his dedication and Christian witness.

Bishop Michael Gill was elected the Secretary to the College of Bishops at the recent Meeting of the College of Bishops. He and Archbishop Janzen will work closely together.

Details of the meeting, and of the Traditional Anglican Communion can be found by visiting the website traditionalanglicancommunion.org

The College of Bishops in Lincoln October 2016



Archbishop Janzen with Bishop Andrew Mukuyamba, Fr Wellington Murinda and Bishop Michael Gill

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Some pictures of the College of Bishops at work in Lincoln.



Below: Bishop Roald Flemestad, Bishop of the Nordic Catholic Church, addresses the College of Bishops. This was an official conversation with the Nordic Catholic Church for intercommunion and co-operation. It was an important conversation, brought to the College by Bishop Ian Gray of the UK.



ORDINATION AT ALL SAINTS, KIMBERLEY

All Saints, Kimberley was the venue for the Ordination of three Priests and three Deacons. **Rev Angelo Ericksen** (All Saints, Kimberley), **Rev Denzil Philander** (St Mark's, Koffiefontein) and **Rev Lennox Busani** (St Francis of Assisi, East London) were ordained into the priesthood, while **Rev Vincent Lewis**, **Rev Paul Olifant** and **Rev Llewellyn Ericksen**, all of All Saints Kimberley, were made Deacon.

Rev Augustine Koluti and many people from the Eastern Cape Regional Deanery travelled to Kimberley for the ordination of Rev Lennox Busani, and the church was filled with the people of Kimberley and Koffiefontein as they rejoiced in the growth of their areas.

Rev Canon Willie Meyers is to be highly commended for skilfully developing ministries in his area of responsibility. The men are all studying through the University of the Orange Free State, and their state of anticipation and preparedness was lovely to see. I am confident that the TAC in the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape regions is in good hands and we will see consistent and lasting growth into the future.

We also thank others for travelling to the Ordination to give their support to those being ordained. Fr George Dimpene (St Phillip, Bloemfontein), Fr Barnad Lesenyeho (Holy Cross, Botshabelo) and Rev Phillip Semenyane (St James, Botshabelo) travelled from the Free State Region and were joined by Fr Sidwell Vena from St Mary the Virgin, Port Elizabeth.



The beautiful High Altar at All Saints, Kimberley. The ceramic tile altarpiece tells the whole story of the Crucifixion in minute detail, and dates from the time when Kimberley was a highly populated diamond mining town.

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The three Deacons are presented to the Bishop and to the people.



Lennox Busani, Denzil Philander and Angelo Ericksen answer the questions from the Bishop prior to their Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood.



Fr Denzil Philander receives the chalice.



Fr Lennox Busani is clothed with the chasuble.



Fr Angelo Ericksen receives his Priestly Orders from Bishop Michael. Fr Willie Meyers and Fr Augustine Koluti look on.



The newly ordained clergy are presented to the people together with their colleagues.

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF ST STEPHEN, THOKOZA

It is with great pleasure that we welcome the Priest and people of the Parish of St Stephen, Thokoza, on the East Rand, Gauteng.

St Stephens has already been established for three years, but has been without any Episcopal oversight and had no membership of any jurisdiction.

Members of St Andrew's Parish, Mondeor accompanied Bishop Michael and Fr Stewart Peart to meet the people at their church in Thokoza. We were able to give them insight into the TAC and offered prayers with the clergy and people. We then left them to make a decision as to whether they would like to become a member of the TAC, based on what they had seen and heard.



Fr Stewart Peart with some of the ladies of St Stephen's, and below, Bishop Michael explains the TAC to the people of St Stephen's





The Bishop with some of the servers together with Fr Joe Mdelela (left) and Fr Vusimuzi Edom (right)

On the **Feast of the Epiphany**, 2017, Bishop Michael once again visited St Stephen's Thokoza. This time, it was to formally welcome Fr Joe Mdelela and the Parish into the Diocese and the TAC, and to Confirm those who has been waiting for some time for that Sacrament, and their first Holy Communion. It was a very joyous occasion, and the singing at St Stephen's was truly magnificent. A large congregation had gathered for the service and we were able to give the Parish some liturgical glassware and linens, as well as the Altar Rail and kneelers in the picture below. This fitted very well into the church structure, and the people were deeply appreciative of this gesture by the Diocese.





The servers and choir are well prepared and enhance the worship



*The group Confirmed at St Stephen's, Thokoza on the Feast of the Epiphany
Below, Fr Joe Mdlela with his Lay Ministers and Fr Vusimuzi Edom*



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ST MARTIN DE PORRES – EKANGALA

The people and Catechist of St Martin de Porres have proven to be an innovative group of TAC believers. Tired of meeting in a classroom at the local school, Mr Solomon Sebopela (Churchwarden), Mrs Bella Manzini (Mothers Union and Mr Frans Masilela (Catechist) took the decision to purchase a piece of land and build a temporary structure. It has been a real act of Faith, and they are to be applauded for their dedication and initiative in this project.



The Parish of St Martin de Porres



A good sized congregation gather every Sunday at St Martin de Porres.



Catechist Frans Masilela (above) with his servers



Bella Manzini and Solomon Sebopela with Bishop Michael



The Bishop presents the Parish with gifts from the Diocese; a carpet and new Lectern, together with chairs, glassware and fresh altar linens.



Five new members joined the church and were welcomed by the Bishop and the members of the congregation. After the service, Bishop Michael accompanied the Churchwardens to take Holy Communion to the sick and bereaved.



The dedicated people of St Martin de Porres, Ekangala, Mpumalanga Province, outside their new church structure.

We ask that the Holy Spirit may guide and protect us this Lent. Let us pray for each other and all our people, that we may bring glory to Our Lord Jesus Christ by the service of our lives.

Bishop Michael Gill