

# DUMELA

Voice from the Vice Province

Most Holy Redeemer

DECEMBER 2008

## Bethlehem, House of Bread

*“You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times” (Mic. 5:2)*

As Micah predicted, Christ was born in Bethlehem, a small town approximately thirteen kilometers south of Jerusalem. It was also called Ephrathah in ancient times. The name Bethlehem means “house of bread”. The town is situated among fertile wheat farmlands, which makes this name very appropriate.

Bethlehem has a long history. Jacob buried his wife Rachael there and erected a memorial pillar next to her grave. Ruth was living here when she met Boaz and married him, and on a clear day she could see her country Moab across the valley of the Jordan. Bethlehem was also the town of David’s youth. David yearned for the water from the well of Bethlehem when he was a fugitive from the wrath of Saul.

From the ancestry of this David, God would bring forth His Son to become the Saviour of this world. He would become the bread of life, the fountain of living water to quench the eternal thirst of humanity. When a pilgrim wants to enter the birthplace of Christ in Bethlehem today he has to bend down low to pass through the opening that serves as a door. Similarly, all of us will have to bow down during this Advent-time before the Child of Bethlehem so that we can bring him the true homage that belongs to him. His name is Immanuel, which means “God with us” (Mt 1:23). He speaks to us about God’s immeasurable love, and tell us exactly how much God loves the world. Is this love not compelling us to love one another as confreres, sons of Bertoni who have professed the same dedication and commitment to Stigmatine charism?

My wish and prayer is that, he who was born in Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago, be born in the heart and life of each one of us. Due to the busy life of today we may tend to lose this aspect that Christ must be born anew in our lives. I concur with what St Irenaeus said: “Because of God’s love for humanity, Jesus Christ became what we are in order to make us what He is.” May we allow him in our lives, and truly become what He is.

*I thank you, holy Child of Bethlehem, for being born in me so that I can become part of Your Spirit, and so that my entire life can be a celebration in your honor.*



**St. Gaspar Bertoni**

1777 - 1853

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **VP Superior Reflection.**
- **New Archbishop for Pretoria.**
- **Life of Postulants.**
- **What's new in 2009 Know your community!**



On the same vein of festive mood, the Vice Province in Pretoria Archdiocese would like to extend the deep heartfelt thanksgiving to the retiring Archbishop of Pretoria, His Grace George F. Daniel for his selfless 33 years of service to the Church and to the people of Pretoria. Archbishop Daniel has been Archbishop of Pretoria since 1975. The Holy Father has accepted Archbishop Daniel's resignation upon reaching the age of 75. His episcopacy has seen him go through the tough and dark year of apartheid. He led with example of humility and simplicity. He was always close to the Stigmatines, a father and a leader to us all. He has ordained more than half of the confreres in the Vice Province. We will surely miss him, but we wish him a well deserved retirement filled with joy and satisfaction.

With joy we will welcome and cooperate with the new Archbishop, His Grace Paul Mandla Khumalo CMM.

At 12 Noon, on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2008, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI announced in Rome that the Right Reverend Paul Mandla Khumalo CMM had been appointed as the new Archbishop of Pretoria and Military Ordinary to the South African National Defense Force.

Archbishop-elect Paul Mandla Khumalo, who has been the Bishop of Witbank since January 2002, will take over the Archdiocese from Archbishop George Daniel on the afternoon of Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at the Sacred Heart Cathedral.



Paul Mandla Khumalo was born at St Wendelin in the diocese of Mariannhill on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1947. He was ordained priest on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1973. He worked in the parish of Umzinto before further studies in Canada. He has served as Vocations Director for the Mariannhill missionaries, Master of the Novitiate and a parish priest in Mariannhill. In 1993 he was appointed the Provincial Superior of the Mariannhill Missionaries in South Africa. In 1996, he was appointed Vicar General of his Congregation and sent to Rome.

2008 has been a year with a difference. May it end on the high note for each of us.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!  
Heri ya Noeli kwa wote!  
Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti quanti!  
Masego a Keresemose le Boitumelo jwa ngwaga o o montsha!*

Fr Patrick Rakeketsi  
Vice Provincial Superior

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### PASTORAL WORK AS POSTULANTS

Our Postulancy is in the community of Brits, which consists of three members namely: Fr Nel Matlala– as superior of the house and also in charge of St. Joseph Parish; Fr Benedict Leseteli is the formator and Deacon Paul Tatu who is on ministerial experience. We entered the community in July, Felix S. Magombo from Malawi and Mwamba James Mulenga from Zambia.

There are various programs that we are doing or involved in as part of the Postulancy program; this covers the spiritual aspects, intellectual and physical growth. On the intellectual level, we have inputs from different confreres. Tuesdays are normally reserved for pastoral experience. We also take care of the house, helping in different chores. This is to help us and prepare us for the future as Stigmatines. We engage with the youths of the parish in catechesis and formation.



We are involved in different activities also in the community of Oukasic (Brits). With the rampant scourge of HIV / AIDS we offer our support and care. We work with the infected patients, their families, there is also caring for the aged, the disabled and orphans. Part of our ministry is to help these people to feel loved and that they are not alone in this world. We are doing this work with trained home-care based workers and social workers from the department of social services from the government. There is much of government aid in this area in terms of food parcels and grants.

We too were taken for a training course by the department of social welfare. We entered an eight weeks workshop on every Tuesday. In this workshop we were introduced into various ways of looking after those who are in need of our help. We were taught how to look after all different kinds of issues from drug abuse, drug dependency, peer pressure counseling skills, goal setting, facilitation skills, conflict resolution and effective communication. These proved to be needed and they add on our future bearing in mind our preparation of religious life and priesthood. They enhance our future ministries in the charism of the Stigmatines.

*I hope you can notice us here with the team of care givers after our eight weeks course, when we were offered certificates.*



James and I (Felix) say good bye and wishing you all happy moments all throughout 2009.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Felix Magombo*

## MOST HOLY REDEEMER

### Vice Provincial

#### CURIA

VP Curia: [holyredeemer.curia@yahoo.com](mailto:holyredeemer.curia@yahoo.com)

Tel: +27 12 542 1263.

Fax: 0866032016 / 012 542 4741

Vice Provincial: **Fr. Patrick Rakeketsi CSS**

Email: [prakeketsi@yahoo.com](mailto:prakeketsi@yahoo.com)

Cell: +27 73 380 5629

Tel: Curia +27 12 542 1263

Vicar: **Fr. Lino Vinco CSS**

Email: [linovinco@yahoo.com](mailto:linovinco@yahoo.com)

Cell: +27 827 420622

Tel: Mmakau +27 12 70 3390

Secretary: **Fr. Nel Matlala CSS**

Email: [matlalasnel@yahoo.com](mailto:matlalasnel@yahoo.com)

Cell: +27 827 825 908

Tel: Brits +27 122 524 388

Bursar: **Fr. Daniel Giacomelli CSS**

Email: [daniel.giacomelli@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel.giacomelli@yahoo.com)

Cell: +27 766 317 514

Tel: Wildwoods +27 125 421 601

Stigmatine website: [www.stimmatini.org](http://www.stimmatini.org)

## INFORMATIONS

### COMMUNITIES FROM JANUARY 2009

#### BOTSWANA – Notwane

**Fr Severino Salvoro** – Superior and parish priest of St Bernadette.

**Fr Frank Phiri** – Bursar, Director of St Gaspar Bertoni Centre.

**Brother Terry Mwamba** – Deacon.

#### SOUTH AFRICA – Brits.

**Fr Sammy Mabusela** – Superior and parish priest of St Joseph (Brits)

**Fr Patrick Phiri** – Bursar and parish priest of St Therese (Mothotlung)

**Fr Benedict Leseteli** – Formator of Orientation and Postulancy stages.

#### Mmakau

**Fr Lino Vinco** – Superior and parish priest of Maria Mater Ecclesiae (Ga-Rankuwa Zone 4 and new areas).

**Fr Mark Phiri** – Bursar and parish priest of Christ the New Man (Ga-Rankuwa Zone 3) Holy Cross (Ga-Rankuwa Zone 1) Most Holy Redeemer (Mmakau) and chaplain to university of Tshwane and Medical University and the Hospital).

**Fr Paul Tatu** – Assistant of Fr Mark Phiri.

**Brother Lino Bokaba.**

#### Pretoria North

**Fr Joseph Delama** – Superior and chaplain to the Italian community.

**Fr Daniel Giacomelli** – Bursar and parish priest of St John the Baptist (Pretoria North).

**Fr Angelo Dusi** – Vicar of Catechesis in the Archdiocese.

**Fr Nel Matlala** – Parish priest of Soshanguve South communities (St Anthony, St Mary Magdelene, St Ambrose, Holy Spouses and Sts Ann and Joachim).

#### Wild Woods House of Formation

**Fr Sylvester Motlhokoa** – Superior and parish priest of Winterveldt communities (Holy Rosary, Queen of Peace, St Martin de Porres, All Saints, Guardian Angels, Holy Family, St Luke and St John the Baptised).

**Fr Patrick Rakeketsi** – Curia and administrator of the formation house.

**Fr Anthony Mashaka** – Formator (from June 2009).

#### TANZANIA – Dar es Salaam

**Fr Sandro di Tullio** – Superior and parish priest of Mtoni parish.

**Fr Richard Rathari** – Bursar and assistant parish priest.

**Fr Fabiano Lambulira** – ministries (from June 2009).

#### Morogoro House of Formation

**Fr Harrison Mulenga** – Superior and Formator of Scholasticate.

**Fr Harry Kalonga** – Bursar and pastoral animator.

**Fr Vitalis Phakisi** – Formator (from June 2009).

**Fr Clement Senekane** – at LUMKO on special ministries.

**Fr Bernard Rakeketsi** - experimental pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Bethlehem.

**Fr Gianni Piccolboni** has been asked by the Provincial Council to direct the Missionary Office in Verona, Italy.

**Merry Christmas** Thank you for  
your friendship, love &  
dedication during 2008!

I wish you a blessed  
Festive Season filled  
with joy and peace.

May 2009 be a year of  
prosperity, good health  
And fruitful life for  
you and your loved  
ones.

Lots of love

*VP Superior and the  
Council*

