

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Parish Finances
- Contemplate
Retreat
- Focus on minis-
tries
- Trix Edwards
remembered

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Franciscan Monthly

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A glance at Parish finances

Words by **Rob Lewis/Brian Smith**

Bryan Smith, the Treasurer, presented the Income and Expenditure report for June 2017 to the Parish at the Family Service on Sunday, 3 September 2017.

In summary, total income at R1,2m was R322,000 above budget, largely due to a receipt of R328,000 for the sale of the Stuart Henry House. Without that, income would have been R7,000 below budget.

The following was noted: -

- Plate collections were R68,000 below budget
- Tithes were R20,000 above budget
- General Donations were R22,000 above budget
- Investment income was R22,000 above budget
- Expenditure at R1,278m is R122,000 above budget.

The major expense variances from budget were:-

- R52,000 for Auditing fees for preparing a full set of audited financial statements
- R16,000 paid to our organists that were not budgeted for.

Overall, the Parish is operating at a loss of R80,000 against a budget loss of R279,000 again largely due to the income from the sale of the Stuart Henry House, without which our operating loss would be R462,000.

Bryan noted that the expenditure was well controlled, and that no unnecessary expenditure was being incurred. It was rather a lack of income that caused the shortfall.

It was noted that this was an unsustainable situation, utilizing our capital to subsidise operating expenses, and it was hoped that following Brian's report back to the Parish, and the positive effects of the Stewardship Campaign would encourage Parishioners to give more.

News from 85th Diocesan Synod

Words by **Helene Aiello**

The 85th Session of Synod for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa, Diocese of Pretoria was held on 14-16 September 2017 at St Mary's Anglican Church Pretoria North, a recently renovated large structure. Representing St Francis Waterkloof were Fr Danny Adonis, Fr Julian Kok, Revd Joan Jones, Benny Manana (lay representative) and Helene Aiello (alternate delegate)

Addressing the 85th Session of Synod in the Diocese of Pretoria Bishop Allan indicated that the theme for his charge to Synod is:

We will drink from these wells. *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2: 42)"*

The first Synod was held in 1878 and they occur every three years, the purpose of which is to provide overall guidance and future direction to Diocesan churches and their ministry.

The Bishop provided thoughts and inspiration that informed his choice of theme, historical/biblical background, the teachings of the Apostles (scripture) to applying it to post-modern society that we find ourselves living in.

Bishop Allan is to be commended for his steadfast and remarkable leadership, facilitation and worship during the 3 day Synod. It was an intense and enlightening experience for all who attended. Uplifting were the hymns with members breaking into spontaneous acapella choir.

News from Council meeting

The Parish council meeting was held on 31 August 2017 and the following are some of the issues discussed and agreed on:

Pretoria North Property

Gareth Evans has been tasked with advising The Diocesan Bursar, Paul Pretorius, that St Francis has decided to sell the property in Heatherdale thereby recovering the loan initially advanced to the Diocese to assist the Parish of St Mary's in Pretoria North.

Maintenance.

Quotations for the repairs to, and replacement of the glass in the louvre windows, replacing certain glass panes throughout the church with safety

glass, and repairs to the glass doors on the Western Side of the church to the value of R132,000 were tabled. These repairs will be undertaken by a reputable company, experienced in dealing with repairs to historical buildings, and delicate work such as we require for certain areas.

In addition, quotations for the upgrade of the electrical installations at Ministry House (formerly the Rectory) totaling R65,900 were tabled. Both quotations were accepted, noting that these costs will be paid for from the rental income of the Cellphone Tower income being held by the Diocese.

Jon- Reece Evans offers himself for Priesthood.

After discussions with Fr Danny and Fr Julian, Jon-Reece has agreed that his name be put forward to the Fellowship of Vocation, the body put together by the Diocese to examine a person's suitability and calling to the Priesthood.

It is important that the Parish grooms young people as part of growing the church agenda

Please pray for Jon-Reece as he considers this very serious next step in his career.

Parish gears up for patronal festival



Friar Michael

Hi – I'm Friar Michael

As your friendly Guide for the October 2017 St Francis of Assisi Patronal Festival, I will be telling you all about each event so you can plan to attend, lend a hand, contribute funds to, or help organize your favourite event so they will all be phenomenally successful! Stay with me as I tell you all about each one.

Please consider participating in our Patronal Festival by joining us for one of the following events:

- ⇒ **Eucharist Service** on Wednesday, October 4th at 7h00pm
- ⇒ **Organ Recital** on Thursday, October 5th at 07h00pm

- ⇒ **Gala Dinner** on Friday, October 6th at 07h00pm
- ⇒ **Prayer Book and Bible Blessing** on Saturday, October 7th at 10h00am
- ⇒ **Combined Parish Service** at 9h00am and High Tea at 11h00am on Sunday, October 8th
- ⇒ **Quiz Night** on Thursday, October 12th at 7h00pm
- ⇒ **Street Fete** on Saturday, October 14th at 7h00am
- ⇒ **Confirmation** on Sunday, October 15th at St Annes

Focus on Spring Organ Recital

Hello again. I'm Friar Michael

The first event I want you all to get excited is the Spring Organ Recital with Ockie Vermeulen and Ensemble and organized as follows:

- ⇒ **Date:** October 5th, 2017
- ⇒ **Time:** 19h00 to 20h00
- ⇒ **Location:** Saint Francis Church Sanctuary

- ⇒ **Cost:** R120
- ⇒ **Contact:** Diana Higgs, 084 505 3549 or Rusty Higgs on same number

There are less than 200 tickets available so please hurry up and snap up yours now!



Focus on Parish ministries

Content by **Joan Jones & Rob Lewis**

Worship Ministry

Eardley Twigg continues to assist the worship team on organ and piano at the 9.30am service, but we still need to find an organist who can play our wonderful organ, while working with the choir and worship team. Herman will play the organ at the Patronal Service, at which the WHPS choir will present two items. We will appeal to the Parish to join the Festival Choir to assist with the well-known St Francis hymns and songs. Herman will also run with the Carol Service practices this year.

House Ministries

There are currently 5 house groups operating, and Deacon Joan is looking to start other, new ones, with

Shepherd Musanhu considering starting a group after church on a Sunday. New parishioners continue to be visited, and communion is being taken to the elderly with the assistance of Linda Lewis.

Gezine Buiten and Sue Paine visit the elderly on a Thursday, and reports are that this ministry is particularly appreciated.

Stephanie Joubert continues her telephone ministry, calling the elderly for birthdays and anniversaries, and posting Pew Leaflets to the sick and those who are not able to come to church.

Of course, it would be wonderful if more people could assist with this wonderful ministry to the sick and elderly.

Environmental issues

Jill Daugherty continues to drive this portfolio with the World Environment Day on 18 June, followed by a picnic. Towards the end of October St Francis will again team up with Waterkloof Primary School to do the annual clean-up of the spruit in Waterkloof.

Intercessors Ministry

The Intercessors meet every Thursday at 5pm at the Church to pray for the Parish, our Leaders, the sick or bereaved, or for special concerns. They operate a prayer chain that can have up to 10 people praying instantly. The answers to prayer have at times been wonderful, and confidentially is taken very seriously.

Reflections on the Contemplative Retreat 28 – 30 July 2017

Words by **Heather Napier**

This retreat was held at Padre Pio House in Pretoria, where the accommodation was comfortable, the food nourishing, the atmosphere peaceful and the Chapel f-f-freezing!

The focus of the retreat was the Christian contemplative practice of *Centering Prayer*, as well as both *Lectio Divina* and *Visio Divina*, and *Taizé*.

Lectio Divina is the reading of a Bible passage thoughtfully and

prayerfully while *Visio Divina* means 'sacred seeing' as opposed to 'sacred reading', in which we studied a beautiful picture thoughtfully and prayerfully.

Centering Prayer is a period of 20 minutes in which one sits or kneels in silence and, with eyes closed, simply rests in God. It is a form of prayer in which one seeks to empty oneself of external thoughts and distractions, and to make a deep, internal connection with God. A sacred word or phrase may be used during the

prayer time to help one center and focus - not on the hundred and one frenetic thoughts that usually occupy our minds - but rather on quietness and stillness in God's presence.

In the evenings, we finished off our sessions with Lize von Staden leading us in some *Taizé* songs. These are beautiful, simple pieces of music with prayerful words that are sung a few times over.

The weekend retreat was a special time of drawing aside, seeking God and having deep communion with Him - even in a f-f-freezing chapel!

Parish holds wellness day and jumble sale

Words by **Dorah Semanya**

The Wellness, Health and Social Resource Ministry held a successful Wellness Day and exclusive jumble sale event on 17 September where they were showcasing some of their services to the community. They operate a Wellness, Health and Social Resource Centre.

The event went very well with a

good turn up. Our health team consisting of psychologist, doctors (including a gynaecologist) worked closely with Tumelong Mission team in providing Voluntary Counselling and Testing of HIV. We were also joined by the dermatologist on site, Tarryn Brits and her husband Bradley who is a physician. The beauty spa ladies were rendering the head, neck, shoulder, and full

body massage as a donation.

The exclusive jumble sale was organized to raise funds for the Maboloka Haven. This year's event was well-supported by parishioners who gave an assortment of goods to sell. A total of R7,064 was raised and will be channeled to Tumelong Mission. Many thanks to Olga Warambwa, Heatherlynn Lewis, and Diana Higgs for assisting with the preparation.



St Francis of Assisi Anglican Parish

381 Long Street
Waterkloof
Pretoria

Telephone: (012) 346 1106
E-mail: mail@st-francis.co.za

Publisher: The Rector, St Francis of Assisi Anglican Parish

Communications Team

Rob Lewis– Team Leader
Jill Daugherty– Editor -*Tidings*
Antony Jongwe– Editor -*Franciscan Monthly*
Dana Mahan– Web Master
Vincent Taylor
James Aiello
Franciscan Enquiries: antonyjongwe@yahoo.com

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St Francis of Assisi Mission

“To be role models of Kingdom values, immersed in Mission, Ministry and Social Justice”

St Francis of Assisi Vision

“We are a transformed and culturally diverse community of faith, bound together through caring, fellowship and worship, reaching out to influence our environment for Christ”

Parish Directory

Priest-in-charge:	Fr. Danny Adonis	0828808970
Assisting Priest:	Fr. Julian Kok	0827812963
Deacon:	Joan Jones	0834559489
Parish Administrator	Jane Hazel	0123461106
Parish Secretary	Zenobia Francis	07129418173
Youth Chaplain	Jon-Reece Evans	0768519875
Parish Caretakers	David Ntswane	0799560709
	Janet Phahlamohlaka	0722183374



‘Trix’ Edwards remembered

Words by **Jill Daugherty and Antony Jongwe**

On Tuesday 19 September 2017, the community of Waterkloof gathered in St Francis Church to celebrate the life of Beatrix ‘Trix’ Isabella Edwards.

Fr Danny conducted the service and Fr Julian gave the sermon. Deacon Joan was the crucifer and she read the lesson (the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew, 5: 3-11).

Herman played the organ while the choir in attendance led with singing, adding a soprano descant to two of the hymns.

Trix’s family were there, in particular her daughter Rose, while two grandsons, Dale and Ray Edwards, were the main pallbearers with members of the choir assisting.

It was obvious that Trix was a well-loved member of St Francis – appreciated not only for the many years she played the organ and led the choir, but also for remaining a vital member of the parish after she retired, attending mass twice a week and staying for tea and fellowship afterwards.

A number of parishioners shared their memories of the late Trix with the *Franciscan Monthly*:

Terri Brauer: “Her name was in fact Beatrix ,which means “one who makes happy” Those who loved her know this to be true – she hated to see those she cared about suffer in any way – including our clergy. She served under more than six priests.in this parish”.

Rob Lewis: “I always remember Trix as a gracious, beautiful lady, always taking time to greet you, ask how you were, saying how she loved the music, and always caring for those about her. Trix, for me, is the role model of how to grow old graciously, and I will hopefully follow her example so as not to become a “grumpy old man” !

James Aiello: “When I first became a Lay Minister at St. Francis after my 1998 arrival in South Africa, I was amazed to find that there was live organ music for the 7:30 service! At St. John’s in McLean, Virginia, the 7:45 service was totally without any sort of music, sombre, and prayerful. What a pleasure, then, to process down the aisle at St. Francis,

listening to the organ as adroitly and passionately played by Trix. I had to hang around after the service, just so I could hear her playing as the congregation filed out. We would smile at each other, and I’d pause after putting out the candles in the Sanctuary to tell her how much I appreciated her contribution. She would always blush and utter her thanks, turning her head away”



Beatrix Isabella Edwards
11 September 1930– 6 September 2017