



# CATHOLIC NEWS BULLETIN

## ARCHDIOCESE OF DURBAN

JUNE 2021



### WELCOME ARCHBISHOP SIEGFRIED

It is very rare indeed that an outgoing Archbishop is given the privilege of welcoming two successors within 2 short years. Archbishop Abel was received officially by the Archdiocese on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at a Mass of Reception held on the fields of St Henry's College, Durban.

It is now my privilege to welcome Archbishop Siegfried Mandla Jwara C.M.M. whose appointment by Pope Francis was announced on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

A son of the Diocese of Mariannhill and a member of the Congregation of Mariannhill Missionaries, Archbishop Jwara is no stranger to the Archdiocese as he spent a term or two as Superior of Abbot Franz House, the CMM Formation House in Merrivale.

As we welcome Archbishop Jwara, we assure him of our loving and prayerful support in this challenging time when Covid-19 is still rampant even as the Church at universal level, at Conference level and at local level is setting out on a programme of renewal as initiated by Pope Francis calling on every Bishop to initiate a Synodal process in his Diocese so that when the Synod on Synodality is held in Rome in 2023, he and the Bishops gathered with him will have before them the views of the Lay Faithful, the Clergy and the Bishops from every corner of the world.

At the same time at Conference level we will be implementing the vision of the new Pastoral Plan – an Evangelising Community serving God, Humanity and All Creation.

Dear Archbishop Siegfried, welcome and may God bless you abundantly as he holds you close to his heart.

*+ Wilfrid Cardinal Napier OFM*

## CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

We have pleasure in announcing the appointment of the following Parish Priests with effect from 1 July 2021:

- Fr Denardo Gnanapragas            Isipingo
- Fr Mndeni Hadebe                    Ntshongweni
- Fr Sifiso Ndlovu                     Pinetown
- Fr Mhlengi Ngcobo                 St Vincent, Pietermaritzburg
- Fr Siyabonga Mbeje CMM         Bellair-Queensburgh
- Fr Sylvester Namale CMM         Raisethorpe, Pietermaritzburg

We thank you for accepting this pastoral charge and pray that the Lord may guide you in the exercise of your ministry.

## COVID-19 ADJUSTED LEVEL 4 LOCKDOWN

On 17 May 2021, the Chancellor, Father Brett Williams, wrote to all parish priests concerning the protocols and procedures in the event of a third wave of COVID-19. In his letter he explained the importance of following the Archdiocesan Guidelines and those given by the Ministry of Health. Unfortunately, the third wave is now upon us and from Sunday last, the President took the country to an adjusted Level 4 Lockdown.

Consequently, all our Church gatherings for the celebration of Holy Mass, baptisms, weddings, catechism, RCIA and meetings are suspended. The only exception is funerals, which must be limited to a maximum of 50 people. Considering the rapid and easy spread of this Delta variant of the virus, no Requiem Masses may be celebrated.

Please keep the Vicar General informed of any problems that may arise.

With every blessing for your safety and that of your parish, I remain  
Sincerely yours in Christ

+ *Wilfrid Cardinal Napier OFM*  
**Apostolic Administrator**

1 July 2021

## DIRECTIVE

**Guided by the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM, 149, 2002) and a few other Liturgical and Canonical instructions on the naming of the pope and the diocesan bishop in the Eucharistic Prayers during the Mass, I hereby recommend that all priests, in the Archdiocese of Durban, during the celebration of the Mass begin to include the name of the Archbishop-Elect.**

e.g. **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER III**

“Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant **Francis** our Pope, **Siegfried (Jwara)** our Archbishop-Elect, **Cardinal Wilfrid Napier** our Apostolic Administrator, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.”

Once Archbishop-Elect Jwara takes the Canonical Possession of the Diocese, from the day of his Installation, then we will mention him as.... **Siegfried (Jwara) our bishop**, during the Eucharistic Prayer. Remember again that the GIRM recommends that the Local Ordinary’s baptismal name be used when he is named during this moment of prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ

+ **Wilfrid Cardinal Napier OFM**  
**Apostolic Administrator**

30 June 2021

## CARDINAL’S CORNER

### **Responding to Covid-19 in KZN**

One of the most positive effects of the Covid-19 pandemic is the way in which the Churches of our Province have come together in an informal formation called Covid-19 KZN Churches Respond. This initiative has seen Churches who in the past did not even know each other, suddenly discovering what the slogan “Unity is Strength” means in practice.

Within days of the announcement and after two critical meetings, the first consisting of Church Leaders and their close collaborators, the other of Church and Religious leaders together with the Premier and the interested members of his Cabinet. What they had in common was the determination of the Churches to play their part in meeting the challenges posed by the pandemic which was about to break upon us.

The first thing was for the Church Leaders to agree to respond as a body to the protocols which government had issued in an attempt to stave off a total disaster on the scale of what had happened in northern Italy.

Accordingly, there was unanimous agreement to observe and implement the safety protocols and to let government know that we were doing so. The second major concern was how the Churches would celebrate Easter under the strict lockdown conditions. That was days before the total lockdown was declared.

What was truly admirable was the spirit of openness to accept what government had decided on the basis of the best scientific information available.

The second major consequence was the decision that the Churches would come together to react to the pandemic, rather than each ploughing a lone furrow. This response took the shape of the Steer-Com of a loose association of Churches formed to tackle the challenges of Covid-19 together rather than individually.

Almost overnight relief efforts were initiated, funds were secured from wherever they were available, and the major Churches each undertook to contribute an amount of R100,000 in order to get the first relief food parcels/buckets into the hands of desperate families and homes who were suddenly without employed members or livelihoods from street trading.

That initial financial commitment was soon superseded by generous donors from all corners of the Province, so much so that by the end of 2020, Steer-Com had distributed relief in excess of R12 million. Talk about a minor miracle happening right before our eyes.

Meanwhile, other elements in our loose association of Churches were busy setting up LEANs (Local Ecumenical Action Networks) whose task was to enable Churches in local areas to replicate what was being done at Provincial level.

Throughout this process we have been brutally reminded that good as our individual Church structures are at assisting the poor, in the situation created by Covid-19 those separate efforts would not suffice.

That is why the formation and strengthening of LEAN's continues to be a central aspect of the Churches continuing response to Covid-19.

It is our appeal as Church Leaders in KZN that every parish or local community engages with the teams from KZN covid-19 Churches Respond as they attempt to set up a LEAN in each area where there are people in need.

I am therefore asking every parish priest to be alert and open to any requests for you to become active in the LEAN in your area. Some of you are already involved. Please encourage your Brothers to do the same.

With prayers and best wishes that you all keep safe.

*+ Wilfrid Cardinal Napier OFM*  
**Apostolic Administrator**

## **DENIS HURLEY CENTRE UPDATE**

### **HOW HAS THE CLINIC BEEN COPING WITH COVID?**

The primary healthcare work of the DHC has carried on quietly and steadily through the pandemic. There continues to be much attention – understandably – to the risks of COVID. But the most pressing health problems faced by the homeless and the refugees of central Durban remain the same as before: HIV, TB, opportunistic infections and the regular everyday illnesses that for poor people can become much more serious because of the situations in which they are.

We have mentioned before the fact that we have not encountered a single COVID-related death among the thousands of patients we see throughout the year. And most of our clinic team have now been vaccinated as part of the first phase of the SA vaccine roll-out. But we have even more than that to be grateful for.

Many homeless people are susceptible to TB – a life-threatening airborne disease that does have a treatment. In the past, we have struggled to keep homeless people, whose lives are often chaotic, adherent to a six-month daily medication programme. But we are proud to be able to report that in the last 12 months we have successfully accompanied 25 people to become clear of TB – much higher than in previous years!

This is in part because of Nonhlanhla Nhlangulela, the dedicated clinic social worker, and Mpume Fuze at our Dalton site. They oversee a daily observed treatment strategy (DOTS) which currently helps 120 people who are taking ARVs and/or TB medication. If someone does not appear for their daily medication, they can be found through our mobile clinic so that we get them back on track as soon as possible.

A recent vote of confidence in our clinic work came in the form of a substantial donation from the CAPRISA Cares foundation. The organisation's work on TB and HIV is world-renowned and their head, Prof Salim Abdool Karim, was a key adviser of the president at the start of the pandemic. The grant comes from funds contributed by CAPRISA staff members who voted that the DHC (alongside two other organisations) was a worthy recipient. This will help fund almost half a month of our clinic activities – it costs us about R120,000 (\$3,500) to see over 1,200 patients each month.

## **DIOCESAN DIARY**

### **July 2021**

- |   |  |          |
|---|--|----------|
| 4 | Confirmation: St Martin de Porres Eshowe | Cardinal |
| 5 | Chancery Meeting                         |          |
| 6 | Caritas SA Board Meeting                 | Cardinal |
| 7 | Seminarians Commission                   |          |

8	Seminarians Interviews	
9	Building Committee	
12	Ntshongweni Evaluation Committee	
16	Napier Centre 4 Healing	Cardinal
18	Confirmation: Imbali	Vicar General
19	St Benedict School Mass	Cardinal
20	St Philomena's AGM	Cardinal
21	Caritas SA Assembly	Cardinal
22	Caritas Durban Executive Meeting	Cardinal
23	Confirmation: Bluff	Cardinal
24	Eshowe Diocese	Cardinal
25	Confirmation: Raisethorpe Pmb.	Vicar General
26	Finance Board	
30	Confirmation: Bluff	Cardinal
31	Holy Trinity Parish, Berea	Cardinal