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**THE AnglicAn pARish**  
**Of**  
**Germiston**  
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**MISSION STATEMENT**

***As Christian Disciples we are all called to:  
Proclaim the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Celebrate the Love of God  
Demonstrate the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit***

We will achieve this by:-

1. Continuously striving to ensure our worship, outreach programmes, church buildings and programmes are the best we can make them, involving all parishioners and remaining appropriate to our times, yet within faithfulness to the Anglican tradition .
2. Constantly looking for, implementing and improving our opportunities for personal growth and leadership development, in particular through courses and home cells.
3. Engaging within the parish family as well as the greater community in which we live, being open to opportunities to show compassion and sacrificial love.
4. The warmth of our personal approach within the church should ensure that all who come into contact with our Parish, experience a sincere invitation to be part of it.

***Serving God and serving one another.***



within this country is automatically a member of the ACSA and vice versa.

This should not be confused with the *Church of England in South Africa (CESA)* which is not part of the Anglican Communion (though it is in full communion with the Anglican Church), and not connected to the Church of England or the Archbishop of Canterbury.

### **WHAT IS A PARISH AND DIOCESE, etc?**

We are the *Parish* of Germiston (a parish is a geographical area). Within the parish are 3 places of worship, each congregation is part of the wider parish. Our parish logos appear on the front cover.

The Germiston Parish started in 1897 and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest parish on the East Rand. The oldest in the Diocese is Boksburg (1890) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest is Heidelberg.

We are part of the *Diocese of the Highveld*.

Our Bishop is currently Bishop Charles May with the Administrative centre in Benoni. The Diocesan offices are situated within the complex of St Dunstons Cathedral.

Germiston is part of the *Archdeaconry of the East Rand*, (which are Boksburg, Primrose & Reiger Park), an administrative unit under an Archdeacon, and are also linked with the Archdeaconries of Vosloorus and Katlehong as the Southern Region of the Diocese.

### **WHERE IS THE CHURCH?**

The parish has three places of worship; which are –

- In Germiston: St Boniface Church  
133 Meyer Street, Germiston.
- In Lambton: St Mary & St John Church  
65 Fourth Avenue, Lambton
- In Rose Deep St Mark, a Chapelry in RoseDeep, situated in the informal settlement of Marathon.

### **WHAT TIME ARE THE SERVICES?**

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

- 08H00 St Mary & St John – Said Mass with Hymns  
Junior worship & Youth worship take place at the same time.
- 09H15 St Boniface – Sung High Mass.  
Junior worship & Youth worship take place at the same time.
- 11H30 St Mark - English & Xhosa service: mass usually every 2<sup>nd</sup> week & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at **St Boniface**; Morning & Evening prayer at the chapel of St Mark.

#### **WEEK DAY SERVICES**

##### **St Mary & St John**

Wednesday: 09h00

##### **St Boniface**

Thursday: 09h00

### **WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MASS, COMMUNION AND EUCHARIST?**

No difference. These are three names for the same service.

*Mass* is derived from the Latin ending of the service "*Ite missa est*", meaning "*Go, it is over*". The name is convenient because of its shortness and because unlike the other two names it does not also refer to a particular part of the service.

*Communion* (from Latin) refers to the act of our being joined with Christ and all Christians when we receive the bread and wine.

*Eucharist* (from Greek) means thanksgiving and refers to that part of the service where the priest concentrates the bread and wine by saying a prayer of thanksgiving over them.

### **WHAT WILL I NEED?**

Nothing. Books are supplied in church. For use in church we have chosen the Revised English version of the bible.

For mass we use (the blue book) "An Anglican Prayer Book, 1989" commonly abbreviated to APB. This is not only a revision of the language, but more importantly recovers the earlier understanding of the service, and allows greater

freedom and variety of worship. If you would like your own copy – we can purchase one for you from the Diocesan Office.(current price R120)

The APB service is used for all services.

### **WHAT MUST I WEAR?**

We want everyone to be free to follow their own sense of what is fitting, and not feel judged by others for it.

### **MAY I RECEIVE COMMUNION?**

If you are from another church and receive communion there (and are baptised) you may receive communion. If you are Anglican you will need to have been confirmed or have been admitted to communion.

You may receive communion in different ways, either receiving the host (bread) directly onto your tongue, or into your hand, and either drinking the wine from the chalice, or dipping you host into the wine.

### **WHAT IF I'M NOT RECEIVING COMMUNION?**

If you are not receiving communion you may still come to the rail for a blessing. Fold you arms across your chest to indicate that you are not receiving or bring up a prayer book.

### **WHAT IS THERE FOR THE YOUNG?**

#### **YOUNG PEOPLES WORSHIP**

We no longer refer to Sunday School in this parish. Instead we talk about Junior & Youth Worship. This is to emphasise that the reason for the child's being there is not so much to learn about God as to begin a life of worshipping God. Worship has 2 phases: Junior Worship and Youth/ Teen Worship.

#### **Junior Worship:**

This is for those aged 4 to 12 years of age with age appropriate teaching. Children who are regular attendees & aged 8 or older may be admitted to communion.

#### **Teen/ Youth Worship:**

This is for young people aged 13 & upwards. In Teen Worship, they attend adult worship from the Peace on, receive communion and are prepared for confirmation.

Youth Worship runs concurrently with the 8:00 service at St Mary & St Johns, and the 9:15 service at St Boniface.

### **WHAT ABOUT BAPTISM?**

**Baptism of Children:** - Children are only baptised when their parents and sponsors/ godparents have undertaken to bring them up to know and love God. Before the baptism, we require that the parents (and the sponsors or God-parents if possible) undergo a period of instruction in what this response involves. These courses run from time to time, and will be advertised on the weekly broadsheet.(usually every 3 months)

**Baptism of Adults:-** adults (except for some special reason) will only be baptised at the same time as being confirmed by the Diocesan Bishop.

### **CONFIRMATION AND ADMISSION TO COMMUNION**

Confirmation is the moment when a mature Christian undertakes his or her own commitment to discipleship of Christ. Because it used to be also the moment of admission to communion, children were often confirmed at 12 or younger. Children can now be admitted to communion from the age of 8 years. This is preceded by a short course on the communion service.

Confirmation is therefore delayed till the person is mature and can take responsibility for his/her own decisions. In this Diocese only those over 16 years of age are confirmed by the Bishop. Confirmation courses are run every year, please speak to the clergy if you have further queries.

## DO ANGLICANS HAVE CONFESSION?

The Anglican Church practices the sacrament of confession or reconciliation to a priest, with the rule, that "all may, none must, and some should". That is to say there is no requirement that anyone must confess to a priest. However if you should ever want to, contact a priest and they will arrange a time with you.

## WHAT ARE THE RULES ABOUT GETTING MARRIED?

1. The couple will need to attend a preparation course.
2. At least one of them should be a baptised Anglican living in Germiston and a member of the parish (some people from outside Germiston belong to the parish).
3. If both live outside the parish, and have not been members, then they will need a letter of approval from the priest of the area where one or the other of them lives.
4. They don't have to be confirmed. They should both be baptised, though special arrangements can be made for a baptised person marrying a non-baptised person.

## WHAT ABOUT A DIVORCED PERSON?

The church does now marry those who have been divorced. There is however a special process and anyone in this situation need to see the priest at least four months before the intended date to complete this process.

## WILL THE CHURCH MARRY ME IN A WEDDING CHAPEL?

In our Diocese this is permitted, with the condition that the couple have their marriage blessed at a service within the parish as soon as possible after the wedding. Special permission is required from the Bishop of the relevant Diocese where the chapel is situated.

## WHAT ABOUT FUNERALS?

There are no requirements about whose funeral may take place in church. ***There is no charge for the service*** for parishioners, but see items 2, 3, 5 and 6 below.

For a service, you (the family) will need to consider:

1. Whether you would like a funeral Mass (Requiem about 45 minutes long) or a straight funeral.
2. What you want to do about flowers. If you like, the church flower ladies can do them for you. You will need to say how much you want them to spend.
3. What hymns you would like sung (there is always a fee payable to the church organist)
4. If you want someone to give a eulogy or the priest to read out a tribute or neither.
5. If you would like tea and eats in the hall (there will be a fee charged per head) Refreshments need to be supplied by the family.
6. There is also a fee for the vergger (if there is one) who opens up, prepares and locks up the church. Non parishioners are expected to make a donation to the church.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES

The rubric (instructions of the Church) states "*This service is not to be used instead of the Funeral Service*". In other words there must be a funeral service where the body is present. A memorial service may be held when the funeral takes place elsewhere, when a separate (more intimate) funeral service is held, or where the body is not available, e.g. missing without trace or committed to Science or Organ donation.

## WHY MUST THERE BE A FUNERAL SERVICE

As we proclaim at the Eucharist everything in heaven and on earth is God's. Our bodies belong to God. We cannot dispose of them without Him. So the body is

brought into church where God is thanked for the life that filled it and the body is then committed to its burial place or cremation.

**Psychologically Better.** It is also far better in terms of the grieving process and closure for the body to be present.

### **CREMATION AND THE ASHES**

We have a columbarium situated under the high altar of St Boniface church, where ashes in caskets are placed after a short service. There is a small fee for the niche.

Family may visit the columbarium on arrangement with the parish office or clergy.

### **WALL & GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE AT SSMJ LAMBTON**

This is not linked to the columbarium and anyone may be commemorated with a plaque on the wall; details of purchase of plaques are in the office. Ashes may be buried in the garden & marked with a memorial stone. Please speak to the clergy to discuss this service.

### **WHAT IS DONE ABOUT CARING FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY?**

**For those in immediate need;** there is a group of people who will pray for anyone who is in immediate need. See the enclosed directory for the number to contact for the **prayer chain**. This telephone chain operates 24 hours around the clock and confidentiality can be maintained if desired. Otherwise those in need will be included on the broadsheet/pew leaflet to be prayed for at services.

**For the chronic ill;** the members of the **Guild of St Raphael** undertake to pray regularly for those who are frail, suffering from cancer, the after effects of a stroke or any other such chronic illness.

Those in need of **CARE** within the Parish will be assisted by clergy, who will assign someone to assist them.

The laying on of hands with prayer for the sick is available at any time by arrangement with the priests. The ministry of prayer and listening is available after each service as well. Trained Diocesan Counsellors are available.

### **HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD?**

**Prayer and Study Groups:** there are a number of these groups that meet in the parish. See the directory, pew leaflets or church boards for details.

### **DO YOU HAVE ANY FELLOWSHIP GROUPS?**

The women's AWF is in recess while a new Women's fellowship group is being formed. This group will handle teas after church, catering, visiting & caring in general for the people & 'things' of the church. Please contact the relevant portfolio council members whose numbers & names are on the notice boards.

### **SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

This parish is actively involved in community projects

Currently we are supporting a day care centre in Good Hope - extension 5 Dukatole - catering for 68 children, where we pay the cook & teachers stipends & supply the weekly food. We continue to support the Bambanani nursery school in Dukathole materially, but have handed over the running of the school to the community.

We run a 'support a child' feeding scheme at the Ekurhuleni primary school where 180 children receive weekly sponsored food packs to take home. The parish supports on a stipend, Child Advocates who assist the community to obtain grants, birth certificates, traces missing children & assists families in many ways.

As a parish we work with the Home Based Care givers from Bambanani HBC in a weekly 'soup run' where soup, bread & fruit is delivered to 100 sick & elderly people under the care of the HBC in the Dukathole township. These projects have been functioning for 12 years very successfully under a dedicated Social responsibility group of parishioners.

If you would like to help in any way please speak to the clergy or contact the relevant people.

## WHO RUNS THE CHURCH?

The church is run by its members who meet at least once a year in vestry to elect a council to represent them and to raise any issue they want to. Any group of ten members or more may have a vestry called if they feel the need to do so.

The executive function is in the hands of the 2 Parish Church wardens. The parish Counsellors are each delegated a portfolio to look after on behalf of the congregation. These portfolios are: **worship, fellowship**, maintenance of the **property's, fund-raising and social responsibility**. Together with the Rector, the 2 Wardens are the Executives of the Parish and look after many areas.

See the notice boards for the counsellors on portfolios. The Parish council meets once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

## WHO DO I TALK TO?

If you are unhappy about some aspect of the Parish, talk to a parish councillor, warden or one of the clergy. Beyond that the channel is to the Archdeacon and then the Bishop.

The final courts of Appeal are the Diocesan Council which meets three times a year, and the Synod, which meets every third year. Both of these bodies bring together all the parishes of the Diocese.

## WHAT CAN I DO FOR THE PARISH?

**Time and Talents:** There are many ways in which you can offer to serve the church with your time and your talents. Every year on Dedicated Giving Sunday we ask members of the congregations to offer themselves anew in one or more ways. It may be by assisting with maintenance, fundraising, banking, flower arranging, gardening, serving tea, and sewing, or by serving in the choir, as an altar server, as a welcome/sides person joining one or more groups etc. You will find you gain much from the community as you put more into it.

At present there are active Servers guilds, choir groups, sacristans who prepare the church for services, flower arrangers, prayer groups & prayer chains, welcomers/sides/persons, social responsibility groups & help with teas & catering groups.

## WHO MUST I CONTACT?

The directory will tell you who to contact for the various groups and activities. Or contact the rector or clergy (contact numbers on boards & pew leaflets) or Karen Willis in the parish office on 011 825 5328. The office hours are Monday to Friday 09h00 to 13h00.

## WHAT ABOUT MONEY?

No charges are made for the services of the church. For the most part they represent gifts of God which no amount of money could pay for, and for which it would be insulting to God to charge, since he gave himself freely and completely in Jesus Christ.

However, money is necessary if the church is to continue to function. We require money to cover all the day to day expenses, such as, maintenance of the buildings, water & lights, municipal charges, transport, salaries of priests and office staff, cleaners and the gardener, pension funds, bank charges, funds for training new clergy and of course to assist in keeping the Bishop and his office going. Then we also require funds to support our on-going social projects.

Collections are taken at services. However, the council relies on pledged / dedicated giving (DG) in order to budget for expenses. Therefore on Dedicated Giving Sunday in November each year, you as a parishioner are asked to pledge a monthly amount for the following year, which enables the treasurer & wardens to draw up a budget for the year ahead. This budget is approved by the vestry (that is the congregation). We do not believe in the tithe as an absolute rule. St. Paul teaches us to give cheerfully and generously.

We would like members to support the church in this way. Complete a pledge form, and should you require we will forward a set of monthly DG envelopes to

you. If you mislay your envelopes, please contact the parish office to ask for replacement envelopes.

***However, we do prefer EFT's as this helps to reduce the high bank charges. Please know that DG is strictly confidential, known only to the Parish secretary & Treasurer who work with bank statements & money deposited.***

**Bank details are as follows**

*St Boniface Church: A/C 020345348; Branch name: Germiston; Branch code: 011642*

If you are unable to meet your monthly pledged amount, please put in a lesser amount that you can afford, rather than just stopping your pledge. This will assist the parish to keep up with its own monthly commitments. No accounts are issued for DG, but if you wish to check on your status please phone the parish secretary who will look it up for you. If you skip a month, you can make up that amount or a lesser amount using the envelopes with a note to the treasurer on the envelope

We do hope you will find this parish worth supporting. We want everyone to feel ownership of it and to be part of running it, and to feel that they are treasured here.

***Please note: DG amounts are confidential & not known to the clergy; your DG pledge is between you and God. It is your undertaking to give an amount to God's church.***

Another way of supporting the parish is through bequests. Please consider this too as part of your last will & testament.