



**CHRISTIAN
LIFE COMMUNITY
SOUTH AFRICA**

January 2020

MASITHETHE

GREETINGS FROM CLC PORT ELIZABETH

We have two groups in Port Elizabeth which meet fortnightly. At the moment, Kaye is guiding the members of the CLC NAZARETH group members through the Spiritual Exercises as a retreat in daily life. The members of the newly-formed CLC ST. AUGUSTINE'S GROUP are in the middle of the six introductory meetings.

Members of both groups serve in various ministries in their parishes, and members of the CLC Nazareth group contribute to the national CLC EDUCATION SUPPORT project through supporting MASINYUSANE with a supply of toiletries. In addition to this, Colleen meets weekly with pupils from Walmer High who have been entered in the 2020 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD. They are guided through tutorials on the Olympiad material, and Kaye and Margot assist Colleen with the tutoring.

In November, our Advent Day of Prayer at Schoenies proved a meaningful experience for all who members and friends of CLC who attended.

Some our members (Clara, Kaye, Tiksie, Margot, Colleen and Hedwig) celebrate birthdays in November, December and January, so after our pre-Christmas meeting we celebrated our gift of life together over a bring-and-share supper.

On Saturday, 25 January members of both CLC groups in Port Elizabeth came together for a time of sharing over tea and eats.

Kaye has been accepted for training by JISA in giving the Spiritual Exercises. She has our prayerful support as she begins the first module in early March.

SAVE THE DATE

**National Assembly
St Pius Centre
EAST LONDON**

24th - 27th September 2020

This year we will be having a National Assembly, and we would love to see you all there! Please save the date and start planning for the costs through saving, fundraising, and speaking within your groups and regions about your availability and needs. It is a long weekend, so booking flights early is essential.

The approximate cost for 4 nights, 23rd to 27th, per person sharing, with meals, is R2300. Limited single rooms are available for an extra cost. The programme will start at 10am on the 24th, so early flights on the 24th are possible if required.



Scenes and people from our ADVENT day of Prayer

Project 173 has recently been sent around by the World Exco. The document is for preparation to celebrate World CLC Day in March, with the theme of “*Young people are an indispensable part of the CLC apostolic body*”. You can find the document sent along with this edition of Masithethe, and soon it will be on our website too. The message ends with this prayer for us to pray together as a world community:

*Fill our souls of your Holy Wind,
Open our heart with your grace,
Give us your courage and creativity,
Send us to collaborate with others,
Send us to love and serve in everything,
Inspire young people to discover our gift,
Inspire us to give all our gift to the next generation
Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam.*

Reflections on Spiritual Growth in CLC

by Kaye Henrick

For some years I have been concerned how we, as CLC, give practical expression to making the experience of the full Spiritual Exercises accessible to the members. In our General principles it is stated that “we hold the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius as the specific source and the characteristic instrument of our spirituality”. (GP 5). We also require that members desiring to make permanent commitment to have completed the full Exercises in some form. In GP 12, “regular spiritual direction, and annual interior renewal, (retreat), in accordance with the sources of our spirituality” are recommended as our way of life.

The concern that I am putting to the community, is how do we, as a community make this possible? Annual retreats by Ignatian directors are expensive, especially outside Johannesburg, and it is difficult to arrange a growth programme. In some areas individual spiritual direction is just not an option, as there are few if any, spiritual directors.

When I made my permanent commitment in December 2011, Fr. Graham, EA, and Jane Hulley, national coordinator at the time, asked me what my vocation for CLC was, and I said that it was to do whatever I can to empower and develop CLC members to become lay spiritual leaders! For me it has been a journey of integrating personal Ignatian Spirituality and apostolic mission, allowing one to inform the other and the journey goes on!

I believe that we have CLC members who are capable of guiding and directing in retreats, either due to training or life experience. I also believe that we have members who, with encouragement and perhaps, some training, could step up to this. There are training possibilities available, Jisa and others.

The questions I put to the community and our National and Regional Exco’s are:

How can we develop members for this work?

Through individual and communal discernment who do we have in the CLC membership who can direct in retreats, or be assisted to do this?

What are we called to do regionally or nationally to facilitate this?

Reflect, pray, discern and listen!

Community Banking Details

National Account

CLC National Secretaries
Standard Bank, Newton Park.
Branch Code: 050017
Acc No: 004874625

Education Project Account

CLC National Secretaries
Standard Bank, Newton Park.
Branch Code: 050017
Acc No: 044323921

Eastern Cape

Christian Life Community EC
Nedbank, Savings Account
Acc No: 2447009798

Gauteng

Christian Life Communities
ABSA, Savings Account
Acc No: 630465901

Western Cape

CLC Western Cape
Nedbank, Savings Account
Acc No: 2250025088