

The Year of the – WORD

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hewbrews 4:12 | NIV



'I am the light of the world' (John 8:12)

BIBLE CHALLENGE

(Answers will be in next week's leaflet)

1. Who sent his sons to Egypt to buy grain?
2. Who was the father James and John?
3. What did Aaron have that budded?
4. At Pentecost, where did the 120 people meet?
5. How many of Joseph's brothers initially went to Egypt to buy food?
6. Which disciple is believed to have lived the longest?

Previous week's Challenge answers

1. Abraham *(Genesis 17:1-4)*
2. Immanuel *(Matthew 1:23)*
3. Lamb's blood *(Exodus 12:21-23)*
4. Judea *(Matthew 2:1)*
5. Three servants *(Matthew 25:14-15)*
6. You shall not make for yourself an idol
in the form of anything... *(Exodus 20:4)*

We are a church in Umhlanga that connects people to God,
to others and to the needs of the world.

We're glad you're here.

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17th JANUARY 2021 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

BIBLE READINGS

1 Samuel	3:1-10	OT	Pg	321
Psalms	139:1-6,13-18	APB	Pg	780
1 Corinthians	6:12-20	NT	Pg	246
John	1:43-51	G	Pg	139
Canticle	14	APB	Pg	353
Creed	Baptismal	APB	Pg	59
Eucharistic	Prayer	APB	Pg	122

COLLECT: Heavenly Father, by your grace alone you accepted us and called us to your service: strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR OUR CONTINENT God, bless South Africa and Africa, guard her children, guide her leaders and give her healing and peace; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen*

*The words printed here are
concepts. You must go through the
experiences.*



GOD'S PROMISE:

Remember that God made you. God loves you. And that God is with you.

FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS



O God, my Father, silence everything in me that would keep me from hearing what you have to say. Control my mind, that all my thoughts may be concentrated on you. Help me find here a light to shine upon my path and strength to walk in it through Jesus Christ my Lord.

THE SICK (JAMES 5:13-16)

For our Parishioners: Barry Lambert, Anand Rapiti, Stan Bromley, Mike Sturgess, Don Attwood, Laurelle Barnett, Marcus Smidt, Barbara Crossley, Maeve Pearce, Di Aiken, Shirley McMullen, Wendy Heffer, Rob Stock

For family and friends: Courtney Hunt, Theo Prinsloo, Jessica Wilson, Caleb Camp, Natasha Heffer, Roy Dunster, Alex Whitehead, Belinda Irmscher, Chloe Sherwood

Please can you keep Kerry updated on your progress via email and if you are sick at home or are going into hospital, please also inform her.

Pray for the Parish of St Mary, Richmond with Indaleni, Byrne & Mid-Illovo; and in our Archdeaconry, the Parish of St Margaret-on-the-Hill, Newlands and their Rector Rev Tim McGowan

For Your Prayers & Reading of Scripture this week

Sunday 17 th	Parishioners Birthday John	Roger & Elspeth Bond Gail Gore 1:43-51
Monday 18 th	Parishioner Birthday Years Mind Matthew	Colleen Bowie Tshegofatso Grace Lekgetho Mary Gamble, Walter Moir 16:13-19
Tuesday 19 th	Parishioner Birthday Anniversary Years Mind Mark	Candice Bowker Khanyi Radebe Robert & Brenda Thorpe Michael East, Thomas Johnston 2:23-28
Wednesday 20 th	Parishioners Birthday Mark	Phil & Brenda Bradbury Sophia Kerr 3:1-6
Thursday 21 st	Parishioners Birthday Mark	Noel & Ruth Bradbury Jerry, Chigwande, Heath Mommson, Glynis Richardson 3:7-12
Friday 22 nd	Parishioners Birthday Anniversary Mark	Ken & Lorraine Braum Justine de Kock, Debbie Lambert, Brenda Thorpe Chris & Kerry Tattari 3:13-19a
Saturday 23 rd	Parishioner Birthday Anniversary Years Mind Matthew	Marlene Briant Claudio Lehman, Yvette Quin Harry & Wendy May Patrick Davoren, Hugh Townsend 10:16-22

COVID 2021 – ONLINE MINISTRY (SERVICES)

SUNDAY 10th JANUARY 8am EUCHARIST

SUNDAY 17th JANUARY 8am EUCHARIST

NO WEEKDAY SERVICES FROM 4th to 18th JANUARY AS FR MARTIN IS ON LEAVE

COVID-19 PRAYER

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES:

Church Services

Your Parish Council has taken note of the second wave of the Covid pandemic and has reluctantly decided to cancel all Services, until the week of Monday, 18th January 2021, to be reviewed. During this period there will be online Sunday Services on the 10th & 17th January at 8am, as outlined above.

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St Michaels Church,
ABSA 4068992982
Umhlanga Ridge, 632005

From the Rector's Pen –

My beloved Family of St Michael's,

I pray for each one of you daily and I ask God's blessing and protection upon you. I pray for your faithfulness to His church and that we all live by His Kingdom's values.

During the past year we were forced into isolation and were unable to worship freely and join in fellowship at the church. That, however, has not prevented us from being united in prayer and worship through our online ministry. I thank you for joining me online, and I also thank you for your faithful financial generosity which has sustained our commitment to the ministry of our parish, enabling us to feed the hungry and bring joy to those in need.

As the pandemic gains momentum, and many more folk are infected and succumbing to the disease, there is an urgency for us all to pray more intensely.

Pray for your family, our communities, our social and religious leaders, all frontline workers, those infected with the virus, those whose livelihoods have been affected, those who choose not to keep to Covid protocol. Pray for our parish family and the elderly folk especially at Twilanga, Ridgewood, Pioneer Park, Rolling Hills and Somerset Park. Lastly pray for yourself and do so with thanksgiving.

Our President has asked all of us to light a candle in memory of those who have succumbed to the virus. For me that memory is to also thank God for His faithfulness and loving kindness, for without Him things might have been worse.

Please take heed to my request for us to pray, let's not be like the proverbial ostrich, burying our heads in the soil and wishing the crisis away. God honours the prayer of the faithful as we take heed in the words of 1 Thessalonians 5:24: "He who calls you is faithful, and He will do it."

To you and your loved ones, a blessed and happy New Year and may 2021 be God's gift of Emmanuel.

Fr Martin

SEASON AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on 6 January

The liturgical colour for the Feast of the Epiphany is white; the colour of the Season after the Epiphany is green. If the whole of the Incarnation Cycle is observed, the colour will remain white until the Feast of the Presentation on 2 February, after which the colour becomes green. The colour for the Sunday of the Transfiguration, the last Sunday after the Epiphany, is white.

The focus of the readings reveals the trust that Christ is manifested to humankind, to the world, to the entire creation. In them we catch a glimpse of the cosmic dimension of the work and achievement of Christ. They also express the challenge for all Christians to reveal that truth through their own lives.

The Sunday themes:

Epiphany

1st Sunday after Epiphany

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

4th Sunday after Epiphany

2nd February

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Last Sunday after Epiphany

Magi come to adore the Christ Child

The Baptism of Jesus

The Call of Philip and Nathanael

The start of the Galilean ministry

The healing in the synagogue at Capernaum

Feast of the Presentation - End of the

Incarnation Cycle – 40 days after Christmas

Good news spreads to all of Galilee

The Transfiguration



St Anthony of Egypt

(born 12th January 251 – died 17th January 356) Egyptian hermit. Born at Coma near Memphis in Egypt, Anthony underwent an intense religious experience while listening to the proclamation of the gospel at mass at the age of 20. He responded to this by giving away all his considerable possessions and taking up the life of a hermit in a hut just outside Memphis, dedicating himself to prayer and contemplation and resisting the torments and temptations of daily life. After 15 years there he felt the need for greater solitude and withdrew to an isolated mountain in the Libyan desert, thus becoming one of the founders of the monastic tradition. Aged 55 he gathered around him a community of like-minded hermits and founded a loose community of monks who met for worship and teaching. Becoming widely respected for his piety and wisdom, Anthony was often consulted for his advice and from time to time he entered Alexandria in order to lend his support against various heresies. He is said to have died at the age of 105. His emblem is a pig.

Feast Day 17 January



Unity ~ 18th January

Psalm 122; Genesis 24:1-53; Colossians 3:16-4:1

Be of the same mind. Have the same love. Be in full accord. *Philippians 2:2*

The spread of Christianity to diverse cultures posed this question: How do Christians remain united?

St Paul gave the advice above. Cyprian, a second-century church leader, urged Christians to think of themselves as members of a choir, whose conductor was the bishop.

Anthony was sought out for advice by Christians of very different backgrounds – peasants and politicians, army officers and teachers. His secret of unity was to live the simplicity of the Beatitudes – the beautiful attitudes which Jesus recommended in Matthew 5. We learn that so many people followed Anthony's way of life in the desert that their cells in the hills were like tents filled with divine choirs -people chanting, studying, fasting, praying, rejoicing in the hope of future boons, working for the distribution of alms, and maintaining love and harmony among themselves. It was as if one truly looked on a land all its own – a land of devotion and righteousness. For neither perpetrator nor victim of injustice was there, nor complaint.

The Life of Antony, Athanasius

One secret of unity for Celtic Christians was to make themselves one with the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and to make themselves one with the people among whom they lived. In this way they experienced unity in diversity, unity without uniformity. When we make ourselves one we want what is good for the other. In order to make ourselves one we must empty ourselves, as Jesus emptied himself. This brings about a universal love. The attitude of making our selves one in all things except sin should be the basis of our relationship with everyone, with those in authority and with those who have nothing.

Perhaps you are sometimes caught speaking disparagingly of Christians of another church? Remember, you do not have to agree with them to be of the same love. Whenever you find yourself doing this, decide to make yourself one.

Father, I make myself one with you.

Jesus, I make myself one with you.

Spirit, I make myself one with you.

Christians of every church, I make myself one with you.