The Year of the - WORD

He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28 | NIV

BIBLE CHALLENGE

(Answers will be in next week's leaflet)

- 1. Who said to Pharaoh, "This is what the Lord, the god of Israel, says: "Let My people go ...?"
- 2. Who led Jesus into the desert after His baptism?
- What did Jesus give the disciples before He sent them out?
- In what country did Isaac find a wife?
- On which day did God create the earth and seas?
- 6. In what language was the New Testament written?

Previous week's Challenge answers

1. Jacob	(Genesis 42:1-2)
2. Zebedee	(Luke 5:10)
3. A staff	(Numbers 17:8)
4. In the upper room	(Acts 1:13-15)
5. Ten	(Genesis 42:3)
6. John	(John 21:22-24, Revelation 1:4)





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

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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24th JANUARY 2021 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

BIBLE READINGS

Psalm 1 Corinthians Mark Canticle	1:14-20 15	OT APB NT G APB	Pg Pg Pg Pg	1083 677 248 53 354
Canticle	15	APB	Pg	354
Creed	Nicene	APB	Pg	108
Eucharistic	Prayer	APB	Pg	124

COLLECT: O God of new beginnings: give us courage to turn and joyfully follow you into new adventures of faithful service; through Jesus Christ our light and our salvation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and 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

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, 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 Alphege, Scottsville with The Resurrection, Camperdown; and in our Archdeaconry, the Parish of St Saviours, Ntuzuma and their Rector Rev Simphiwe Shange

For Your Prayers & Reading of Scripture this week

Sunday 24 ^h	Parishioners Birthday Anniversary Mark	Sean, Laura & Matt Brimacombe Terri Bernstein Michael & Roylene Angel 1:14-20
Monday 25 th	Parishioner Birthday Anniversary Mark	Stan Bromley Anna Hayes, Quentin Le Grange Phil & Adelle Graham 10:46-52
Tuesday 26 th	Parishioner Birthday John	Eve Brown Avril Hobbs 10:1-10
Wednesday 27 th	Parishioner Birthdays Years Mind Mark	Merwyn Brown Dean Fouche, Adelle Graham, Jennifer Highley Ross Robertson 4:10-20
Thursday 28 th	Parishioner Birthday Anniversary Years Mind Mark	Yvette Burford Margaret Beaumont ~ Congratulations 90!, Thomas Fraser Carl & Anne Schonborn Erik Andreasen 4:21-25
Friday 29 th	Parishioner Years Mind John	Karen Burne Nancy Davidson 12:24-26
Saturday 30 th	Parishioner Birthday Mark	Beryl Busby Vukani Chili, Jennifer Sugden, Melissa Tifflin 4:35-41



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.



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 Transfer and the

The Transfiguration

Zapper

The QR Code below is for St Michael's Parish. You can make payments by scanning this QR Code with your mobile. If you are making a payment for anything other than plate giving, please let Kerry in the office know.





Bank Details:

St Michaels Church, ABSA 4068992982 Umhlanga Ridge, 632005



THE CONVERSTION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

St. Paul the Apostle was the greatest of the early Christian missionaries. He first appears in the Acts of the Apostles under the name of Saul. Saul was raised in the Jewish faith as a Pharisee trained in the strict observance of God's Law. He believed the Law should be obeyed by himself and all Jews. Saul was upset by the early Christian Church, believing that the early Christians had broken away from their Jewish traditions. He actively persecuted the Church in Jerusalem. As the first Christian martyr Stephen was being stoned to death, Saul watched the cloaks of the persecutors (Acts 7:58).

Paul then travelled to Damascus to further persecute early Christians. On the road to Damascus Saul had an encounter with the Risen Jesus Christ (Acts of the Apostles 9:1–19, Galatians 1: 13–14). Jesus asked, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Paul replied, "Who are you, sir?" Jesus responded, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9: 4-5). Jesus then sent Saul into Damascus to wait for further instructions. Saul was shaken and blinded by the experience. When a Christian named Ananias came and baptized Saul, his blindness went away. As a result of this encounter Saul became a follower of Christ. He was now convinced that fellowship with the risen Jesus Christ, not the observance of the Law, was all that was needed to receive God's promise of salvation. (Galatians 1:11–12; 3:1–5)

Saul, whose name now became Paul, went to Jerusalem to consult with Peter (Galatians 1: 18). After his first missionary journeys, Paul was called by Jesus to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles. He spent the rest of his life journeying on his missions, establishing local churches, and writing to them when he heard of their accomplishments and failures. Paul's letters are the earliest records of the life and history of the early Church. As inspired by the Holy Spirit Paul's letters are part of the Canon of the New Testament. As a record of the happenings in the early Church they are in invaluable record of the expansion of the Christianity.

Feast Day 25 January



A daily reading

Come to Me with a thankful heart so that you can enjoy My Presence. This is the day that I have made. I want you to rejoice *today,* refusing to worry about tomorrow. Search for all that I have prepared for you, anticipating abundant blessings and accepting difficulties as they come. I can weave miracles into the most mundane day if you keep your focus on Me.

Come to Me with all your needs, knowing that *My glorious riches* are a more-than-adequate supply. Stay in continual communication with Me so that you can live above your circumstances even while you are in the midst of them. *Present your requests to Me with thanksgiving, and My Peace, which surpasses all comprehension will guard your heart and mind.*

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

PSALM 118:24

Also read:

PHILIPPIANS 4:19, 6-7



More sayings from the desert

Psalm 69:19-36; Proverbs 14; Luke 13:31-35

An honest answer is a sign of true friendship.

Proverbs 24:26

If you have a chest full of clothing, and leave it for a long time, the clothing will rot inside it. It is the same with thoughts in our heart. If we do not carry them out by physical action, after a long while they will spoil and turn bad.

Abba Pastor

When someone wants to return evil for evil, they are able to hurt their neighbour's conscience even by a single nod.

Abba Isaiah

As wax is melted before a fire, so is the soul enfeebled by praise, and loses the toughness of its virtues.

Amma Syncletica

Unless a person says in their heart, 'I alone and God are in this world' they shall not find quiet.

Abba Allois

Abba Arsenius was taking counsel with an old Egyptian man. Someone said to him, 'Abba Arsenius, how is it that you, such a great scholar of Latin and Greek, should take counsel from this countryman?' Arsenius answered, 'It is true I have acquired the learning of the Greeks and the Latins, as this world goes; but the alphabet of this countryman I have not yet been able to learn.'

We do not go in to the desert to escape people but to learn how to find them.

Thomas Merton

Infinite One of the wise heart,
Saving One of the clear sight,
Knowing One of the hidden deeps,
may I learn from you as an eager pupil;
may I learn from life as a humble child;
may I learn from night, may I learn from day,
may I learn from soul friends, may I learn from the stillness.