

**A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF FALSE BAY
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
WORLD SUICIDE DAY 10 SEPTEMBER**

Every hour, somewhere in the world, thousands of persons, including children and young people take their own lives. Recently the Chapter of the Diocese noted with much sadness, the increase in the number of suicides that our Clergy have to deal with. It is hoped that at our forthcoming Clergy School we shall give thought and deep prayer to the complex issue of suicide.

May I respectfully ask that each parish publishes the following prayer in their Pew Leaflets / Pew News this Sunday?

Gracious God

**you have perfect understanding of the complexities
of the human condition.**

**We lift to you those who feel so troubled, that taking their own lives
seems the only way to relieve the sorrow and chaos of their spirit.**

**Show them your mercy and compassion,
comfort family and friends who are left behind with
brokenness and debilitating regret.**

**Help us become a community that deeply cares for each other
and walks alongside those troubled in body, mind and spirit;
we ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord who offers us the fullness
of life even here and now. Amen**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret False Bay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

THE RT. REVD. MARGARET B. VERTUE
Bishop of False Bay