

**SPECIAL PASTORAL NOTE TO BE READ IN ALL CHURCHES IN THE
DIOCESE OF FALSE BAY ON SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER
Feast of the Reign of Christ**

[This note is also being sent to all Clergy on the Diocesan database for the sake of information]

Grace and peace to you God's People on this great Feast of the Reign of Christ, final Sunday of the Liturgical Year. May Christ truly reign supreme in our hearts and in the life of the world.

On Friday 24 November, clergy and lay representatives from all the parishes in the Diocese of False Bay met in the Church of St. Joseph the Worker Macassar, with the express purpose of electing a Bishop for the Diocese of False Bay. The day started with the Holy Eucharist, followed by respectful discussion and deliberation. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Assembly, at the third ballot reached the required two thirds majority and the Revd. Canon Stafford Moses was elected. There are a few canonical and procedural things still to happen. Once his election has been confirmed and he has been installed, Canon Stafford will be the third Bishop of the Diocese of False Bay. Thanks be to God!

We are all grateful for the presence and guidance of God's Spirit in all matters related to the Elected Assembly.

As a Diocesan Family, we assure our Bishop-elect together with his wife Yvette, daughters Melanie and Bethany and extended family of our earnest prayers.

We also record our profound gratitude to Ms. Kim Williams, Lay Chair and all who served on the Advisory Committee as well as the Archbishop for so ably presiding over the Elective Assembly.

The next step is that I will post the Si Quis on the door of All Saints Cathedral, where it will remain for fourteen working days, giving anyone the opportunity to object to his election. Thereafter the Archbishop will ask the Synod of Bishops for their prayerful consideration of his election. Only after these processes have been completed, will we be able to share precise details of Canon Stafford's consecration and installation as the third Bishop of False Bay.

I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone across the length and breadth of False Bay, ACSA and the Anglican Communion for their steadfast for the Elective Assembly.

Now a different kind of hard work starts – preparing the Bishop-elect for his consecration and installation, and together as a Diocese tackling the enormous challenges of what it means to be the Body of Christ in a world where many people are excluded, undermined, trampled on, silenced, dismissed and pushed to the side.

God has brought us a shepherd and pastor to lead the flock. Let's all endeavour to strengthen our Bishop-elect's hands and heart so that he may truly be an instrument of God's love and peace. Pray also that God will endue the Bishop-elect with the gifts and abilities needed for so high an office in the Church.

I call on everyone in False Bay to continue to treat each other with utmost respect and work together in a bond of peace to ensure the smooth-running of the Diocese so that God's Kingdom may be built up in this place.

God is ever faithful and gracious. May God bless and watch over our Bishop-elect and the Diocese so that no harm befalls you. Pray deeply that the Diocese of False Bay will prosper and move forward in faith for the sake of Christ and His Kingdom among us here in earth.

REVD. RONALD E. PHILLIPS

VICAR GENERAL

26.11.2024

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name be the praise.

"Non nobis, Domine, non nobis; sed nomine tuo da gloriam.

Psalm 115:1