



Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference

At the end of the First week of Lent



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Sr Hermenegild Makoro CPS, Secretary General of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference is pleased to announce the appointment of Fr Grant Emmanuel of the Archdiocese of Durban as the incoming Associate Secretary General. He will take up his new post after Easter 2012.

The Associate Secretary General works closely with the Secretary General in the execution of her task of co-ordination of the Departments and Offices of the Bishops' Conference. He will also be responsible for liaison with a number of Associate Bodies. The Associate Secretary General is based at Khanya House in Pretoria.

Name: Grant Gregory Emmanuel

DOB: 03 March 1973

Date of Ordination: 2nd December 2000

Placements

- 2001 – 2003 St. Kizito's Seminary (Oakford) [Formator]
- Assistant Priest Sacred Heart (Tongaat) 2001
- Assistant Priest Our Lady of Good Help (Verulam) 2002
- 2004 – Present St. Michael's Parish Red Hill (Parish Priest)

Qualifications:

- BST (magna cum laude) Urbaniana 2000
- BA (Psych) Unisa 2003
- BA Hons. (Psych) Unisa 2006

How is my offering to the Bishops' Lenten Appeal Spent

This week, the Office for Communication and Media together with the Bishops' Lenten Appeal Office offers some simple explanation of the costs associated with keeping the Church running. We'll focus on one area a week.

This week, we focus on the Formation of Priests.

Higher Education in Southern Africa is a hot topic. We need two extra universities and billions to upgrade and renovate. In the same way, the training of Priests for the future in Southern Africa is always one of the major expenses. There are many constraints. The Seminary Structure of St Francis Xavier in Cape Town (Orientation year) and St John Vianney in Pretoria (Philosophy and Theology) have to be registered with the Department of Higher Education and the Southern African Qualifications Authority in order to issue degrees. Yet, subsidies for Higher Education are inaccessible as the Seminaries are classed as 'Private Higher education institutions'. Students at state run institutions receive up to 50% subsidies on the real costs of education. Students also pay for themselves and can take out student loans or bursaries. As the Students for the Priesthood has no way of repaying the Loan, this is not an option for Seminarians. Most of the Students for the Priesthood come from families that cannot afford unsubsidised tertiary education. Seminaries are therefore one of the major headaches for each bishop.

St John Vianney Seminary in Pretoria is projected to cost R8.35 Million in R2012. This may seem expensive, but as a stand-alone institution, this is realistic. There will be approx. 120 students resident this year, giving a cost per student of R69 500. Each Bishop pays R 40 000 per year per student.

This leaves a shortfall of R 29 500 per student (or approx R3.54 Million) that must be found. In 2011, St John Vianney received a grant from the Bishops' Lenten Appeal of R 2.1Million. A small grant is received each year from the Pontifical Mission Society's Opus Sancti Petri Trust (in 2011 R500 000) leaving a deficit of nearly R900 000.

The story is similar for St Francis Xavier in Cape Town (R 300 000 grant in 2011, Total expenses budgeted for 2012 – R1 85 Million) and St Joseph's Theological Institute in Cedara.

The Seminaries department also pays for or subsidises Priests training overseas for formation and academic work. The Lenten Appeal granted R 25 000 for this in 2011

In addition to the formation of future priests, Priests also need careful ongoing formation. The Ongoing formation committee under the care of Fr Vincent Brennan, former Secretary General of the SACBC, received R 50 000 from the Lenten Appeal. This committee is responsible for Sabbaticals, Coolock House renewal (R50 000)and diocesan ongoing formation programme co-ordination.

Total Grants from the Lenten Appeal spent on Formation of Priests: R 2 425 000

Total raised in the Lenten Appeal 2011: R 8 365 609

Formation as a percentage of the Lenten Appeal: 29%

The Lectionary - an Update

1. The Lectionary – an Update

We have been informed that the Lectionary printing will only be complete towards the end of MARCH 2012. Factoring in Shipping, clearing and distribution, we don't anticipate the Lectionaries being available before mid MAY. This delay is completely out of our hands, but we are primed to get stock out as soon as possible. We apologise saying that the Paulines Africa were co-publishers. They are not.

2. In discussion with the Paulines in JHB yesterday, the SUNDAY Missal should be in country by the end of March. Please place your orders with the Paulines.

3. As parishes have been told to change over when they receive the new Lectionary, you can anticipate that the demand will increase from End of March.

1. One of the benefits of the delay in the finalisation of the Lectionary is that the BOOK OF THE GOSPELS will ship in the same container – Pre publication special Cost per Book +-R1000 and to be ordered through Diocesan Chanceries

2. A Booklet for Concelebrants is in the final stages of preparation. This will include all the Eucharistic Prayers and extracts from both the General Instruction and the Pastoral introduction to the Missal pertaining to concelebrations. These will be available in the next 10 days in time for the Masses of the Oils in various.

Diocese. We hope to have it under R50 per copy.

3. A book of the Passion readings is also in preparation. Given the delay in the Lectionary, this is not such a priority. This will be available from the publications Office.

