

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT
Masithuthukisane/St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Steering Committee
June 14. 2015

Pope Francis said: "Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God."

Chair: Mickey Sanders, Fr. Alfredo Monacelli, Lorraine Calderwood-Parsons, Mark Cammiade, Barbara Strong, Brian Douglas, Cherie Caillet, Paula Henchion, Shannon Hryhoryshen, Peter Daniels, Jamie Zwicker, Moira King, Michele Sanders, and Bheki Jama (the Masithuthukisane project manager) in South Africa.

The Mariannhill Masithuthukisane project is an organic farming project run by the Diocese of Mariannhill in South Africa. The major goal of the project in South Africa is to train and hire local unemployed women and men to work in the cooperative, to feed a population of 3,500 people, many of whom are undernourished. The good news is that eventually, with training and knowledge, diocesan land will be offered to local people.

PROJECT AGREEMENT

- Agreement between the Dioceses of Victoria and Mariannhill - Completed. \$5,000 forwarded to the Project for year 2015.

VISION AND MISSION OF OUR NEW STRATEGIC PLAN (See attached document)

A number of parish and school activities are either in place and others being considered.

SJTW VISION

Sowing seeds... connecting people

MISSION

Our mission, together with the people involved in the Mariannhill Masithuthukisane Project, is to assist their goal of self-sustaining organic farming through personal connections, educational, spiritual, and financial support.

PROMOTION

Telescopic Banners:

- Recycled two quality parish retractable (telescopic) banner stands. Kudos to Ted Corpus for his talent, skills and graphic support. Kudos to Ted Corpus for his talent, skills and graphic support. Other funds to cover print production of the artwork for the parish and one for the school will be covered from the Masi funds.

FUNDRAISING

K of C and CWL Spaghetti Dinner

- Half the money raised went to the Masi project last September 2014.

Spring Fling 2015

- Funds raised in April (\$7300 to date, were split with the school and 50% (\$3,650) donated to the Masi project.
- Masi information table was set up with African fabrics, photos, banners, maps and handouts.

Fund Raising Sub- Committee

- In place to lead the upcoming fundraising requirements to meet the balance of \$40,000 over 4 years.
- 2016 church envelopes will include a donation envelope for the Masithuthukisane project every 2nd month.

ORGANINC FARMING

- Peter Daniels is taking an organic farming course.
- Cost: \$695 – Masi funds to cover 50% of the course

PETER'S TRIP TO MARIANHILL

- PD travel plans: Sept 26 leaves Victoria for Ontario to spend some time with his family. October 14 he flies to London & on to South Africa. He can only stay 3 months because of current Visa restrictions. He plans to be in Cape Town and Johannesburg at Christmas. He will fly back mid-January if Visa restrictions are not changed.
- Will visit South Africa to visit and spend time on site with Mariannahill/ Masithuthukisane project manager Bheki Jamma
- Suggested that Peter take Pen Pal stuff with him for Bheki as the mail there is a bit hit & miss.

LITURGY

Celebration Mass sendoff: Mass times on Saturday & Sunday, September 19th & 20th. Peter could explain his purpose and intentions to parishioners at the 3 Mass times. FA will give a blessing. FA is available- just let him know the details.

MARIANHILL RESULTS

- 15-20 Masiththukisane children entered the Organic Farming course.

Respectfully submitted: Mickey Sanders, Chair