



FROM THE ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN

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Dear People of God,

I greet you all in the name of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I send greetings too, on behalf of Bishops Garth, Raphael and Margaret here in Cape Town.

Anglicans Ablaze Provincial & International Conference
5 to 8 Oct. 2016 - Bishops College, Rondebosch, Cape Town
“Vulindlela – Open the Way!”

The 2014 Anglicans Ablaze conference was an apt place of unity, grace and rich encounter. It was a “wow moment” as we encountered Christ as we engaged with each other! Everyone was there - all races, varied languages and different ages. High-Church and Low-Church, Anglo-Catholics, Evangelicals and Charismatics, that is, if these artificial divides matter to you. God’s ever present presence was among us in a special way. Our common life was enriched by our diversity – even if some of us found some of the expressions of worship different to what we are used to! It was an amazing celebration of God’s love pouring through us, transforming us into a holistic life of evangelism, discipleship, integral mission and social justice. This breath-taking aesthetic of Anglicanism shone through as we allowed God’s inspiring love to weave gloriously into our different threads and enveloped us. We were privileged to host the Archbishop of Canterbury who preached and shared his vision with us.

So, as your fellow servant in Christ, it delights me to invite you to the
“Anglicans Ablaze 2016 International Conference”
to be held here in the Western Cape!

Bishop Martin Breytenbach, the Anglicans Ablaze Liaison Bishop, met with Bishops Garth, Raphael and Margaret from the Cape Town region to seek their input and to ask for local support. They gave valuable guidance and have assured him of their presence.

I have invited Advocate Thuli Madonsela to be a guest speaker and I sincerely hope that she can come. We also have an impressive list of speakers and workshop leaders lined up. So come in your numbers. This conference is not just for ‘leadership’ - it is for EVERYONE! But you must book early as there are only 1500 places. It is my sincerest hope that clergy, lay-ministers, lay leaders, parishioners and young people in particular, will join us at Anglicans Ablaze, along with members of our various organisations and ministries like the MU, AWF, Bernard Mizeki, Iviyo etc. too many to mention all.

There will be a special track designed for young people. Together we will worship and celebrate the common life we all share in Christ.

In all its planning and offerings, we truly desire Anglicans Ablaze to be God's conference. So whether or not you are able to join us, I appeal to you for prayer – for God to shape and mould the conference. Pray for the organisers of this event – Basil Davids, Xola Mlandu and Denver Heugh, with support from a large committee, and in partnership with Growing the Church.

Some of the people from the north are negotiating with the railways to make a coach or coaches available for Anglicans Ablaze travellers – at about R1500 return per person. That should be fun. They will already be “blazing” by the time they get to Cape Town! More news will follow.

Detailed information about the conference will be sent out shortly. But look out for bi-weekly email updates providing fuller information about the event as from early March. All available information can be found on the Anglicans Ablaze website: www.anglicansablaze.org I am looking forward to seeing you all at Anglicans Ablaze in a few months' time. **Do book early and please share this information with others.**

God bless you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thabo Cape Town". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Most Revd Thabo Makgoba
Archbishop of Cape Town.