



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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TO BE READ ON SUNDAY 01 FEBRUARY 2026 IN CHURCH

29 January 2026

To the Faithful of the Diocese of the Highveld

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Intervention Task Team wishes to share a brief pastoral word following our time in the Diocese of the Highveld from 16–18 January 2026, during which we met with a number of affected parties across the diocese.

We are deeply aware that this has been a season marked by strain, uncertainty, and, for many, real pain. We have listened carefully to a wide range of voices and experiences, and we do not underestimate the personal and communal cost of this period. We are grateful to all who engaged in the process with honesty, courage, and restraint, even where emotions remain raw.

We write not to pre-empt outcomes, but to instil a grounded sense of hope; hope that is neither naïve nor rushed, but rooted in faithful process, careful discernment, and a shared desire for the well-being of the Church. Meaningful and lasting healing takes time. It requires patience, truthfulness, and a willingness to remain engaged even when answers are not immediate.

As a Task Team, we reaffirm our commitment to a sustainable intervention, guided by the process entrusted to us. Our work continues with attentiveness to what has been shared, respect for proper ecclesial procedures, and a deep concern for reconciliation, accountability, and renewed trust across the diocese. No single voice stands alone; all are being held together as we discern a way forward.

We ask the Diocesan Family to continue holding this work in prayer, for wisdom in difficult decisions, gentleness where relationships are bruised, and courage to remain faithful to the Gospel in both word and deed. We hope that through patient discernment and honest engagement, space may yet be made for healing, restoration, and a renewed sense of common purpose.

With assurance of our prayers and continued commitment to this work,

Yours in Christ

Luke Pato (Chair)
Retired Bishop

On behalf of the **Intervention Task Team**

cc PEO