

125th Centenary Celebrations 1885- 2010

ST SYLVESTER'S PARISH – NORTHERN CAPE - KIMBERLEY

Formed under the leadership of the **Berlin Mission Society** and **Rev J Arndt**, the congregation was named after St. Sylvestri, the Congregation of Rev. Arndt's father Rev .Dr Julius Carl Arndt in Wernigerode, Germany.

Land was made available on which a start was made with the erection of a spacious corrugated iron dwelling devoid of most of interior walls so that it could be used as a hall. Rev. Carl Meyer dedicated the hall on **08th November 1885**.

In **1888** work was begun on the construction of a Church which was consecrated on **13 Jan 1889**.

For 75 years this Church was home to the Lutherans in Beaconsfield and surrounding areas, until the Group Area's Act came into being and people were forceably resettled in other areas, mainly Florianville and Colville.

An alternative place of Worship was needed and the present plot was allocated on which a Church Hall was built. The **Church Hall** was consecrated on **31st July 1960**.

The Church in Study Street, Beaconsfield was still used, mainly for Weddings, Confirmations, Christmas Services, Easter Services and Communion Sundays. It was finally demolished in 1977.

The present Church is an extension to the Church Hall built in 1960, **50 years ago** this year.

In **1993** building of the Church as it is today was started under the leadership of the late Dean M. Heradien.

The Building was completed under the leadership of the Present Dean A. Matthys and was consecrated on **1 March 1998** by the Rt. Rev. A. Fortuin.

All ministries are active in the Parish. We are especially proud of the Sunday School, Praise and Worship Team and the Youth, who in spite of adverse influences and waning numbers are prevailing in their endeavors to serve the Lord.

St Sylvester's is still the preferred place of Worship for Lutherans from all parts of our Country. Many visitors from both local and abroad frequently attend; students and the like are all welcomed also.

St Sylvester's has lost none of Her shine and still is a beacon for worshippers in Recreation Road, Florianville.

New Years Eve is testimony to this when Lutherans and other non Lutheran congregants gather here in a packed Church to welcome the New Year.

The following calendar relates to the immediate celebrations. Feel free to visit is on any of the days and join us in celebrating 125 years of worship.

EVENT DATE AND TIMES

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| Monday 8, November 2010 | 18.30 Thanksgiving Service |
| Tuesday, 9 November 2010 | 18.30 Book Launch |
| Wednesday, 10 November 2010 | 18.30 Music Evening |
| Thursday, 11 November 2010 | 16.00 Fun day for children / youth |
| Friday, 12 November 2010 | 18.30 Variety Activities (Make the circle bigger) |
| Saturday, 13 November 2010 | 09.00 Bazaar |
| Sunday, 14 November 2010 | 09.00 Sunday Service with Holy Communion. |

Our Centenary celebrations will last until 2 December 2010. For more information, do not hesitate to contact the following persons.

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| Dean A. Matthys | 0725171509 |
| Mr. Ross | 053 -8711002 |
| Mr. Damoense | 084 472 5448 |