



ST. BERNARD MIZEKI MEN'S GUILD
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

www.bernardmizeki.org.za
bmmgsecretary@vodamail.co.za
+27 79 506 1460



PEXCO REPORT TO PCM

1. DIOCESE OF ST. MARK

During the Conference in 2017, it was reported that support has been provided to the Diocese of St. Mark, the Diocese was launched in 2013 and not enough support was provided to make sure that they are fully developed in understanding the processes and the objectives of the Guild. That has led to a point where the Diocese became *almost* dysfunctional. PEXCO then requested the Diocese of Johannesburg together with the Treasurer to attend to the challenges faced by the Diocese and the George PCM resolved that the Diocese of Johannesburg, Pretoria and Highveld to support administratively and otherwise on behalf of PEXCO and the Guild at large until such time that the Diocese can prove that it can function on its own. The following were the key areas identified as lacking in the Diocese and the aforementioned Dioceses were meant to assist on outlining:

- a) *The responsibilities and functions of each Portfolio*
- b) *The responsibilities and functions of the Diocesan Executive*
- c) *The relationship between the Diocese and Parishes*
- d) *The relationship between the Province and the Diocese*
- e) *The culture and traditions of the Guild*

Unfortunately, the progress has been very slow to almost non-existence as the guild in the Diocese was in a state of collapsing. As it stands now the Diocese of St Mark is in arrears in terms of financial commitments in the Province. Upon reviewing the progress of the Diocese, we have resolved as PEXCO to propose to this PCM for the write-off of outstanding dues to the Province up to end of 2017.

We are pleased to report to the PCM that St Mark has elected a new DEXCO, which seems to be functional and they have joined us as the Diocese in this sitting. As part of monitoring the progress in the Diocese, we have advised and encouraged the Diocese to attend the Diocesan conferences that took place after the K&K Conference. The Diocese deployed its members to the Diocese of Highveld and Pretoria Conferences to observe the proceedings. The feedback was very positive. Furthermore, we have assigned SRO & Secretary to journey with the Diocese in ensuring that it becomes fully-fledged and strong enough to stand on its own as per the recommendations given during the PCM in Lesotho.

2. MEETING WITH THE ARCHBISHOP

During our PEXCO Meeting in Cape Town, we had an opportunity as PEXCO to meet with Archbishop Thabo and the following emanated from the discussions:

- **Liaison Bishop**

The role of the Liaison Bishop was clarified as part of the PEXCO and should be part of our gatherings. An invitation was extended to the Liaison Bishop but no response received. Amongst other things, Liaison Bishop is a representative of the Guild in the Synod of Bishops and Provincial Standing Committee. It is the responsibility of the guild to update him of the Guild's activities so that he can give an updated report to the SOB/PSC. We intend to build and strengthen the relation between the Liaison Bishop and ourselves.

- **Representation of the Guild at Provincial level**

His Grace reiterated that as a guild at Provincial level we ought to be represented by the President and Chaplain or either one of them. Any missed invitations in the past meetings could be attributed to administrative error.

- **COTT Appeal**

Archbishop was very excited to learn that we will be contributing to the College and he encouraged us to do more. Furthermore urged us to;

- Continue supporting the College
- His Grace urged the guild to encourage more members who have a calling so that more students can attend COTT and in that way it will be sustainable as more work needs to be done in the College in order to keep the doors opened - +60 students needed for sustainability.
- Encourage our Diocesan Bishop to send more students for the same reason mentioned above.
- Encourage the Eastern Cape Cluster-Dioceses to visit the College from time to time for worship, evangelise, revival and pray with the college members and staff and we; as the Guild should pray for the leadership team.
- “Be critical, be visible, the voice of the guild must be vocal in our church and society, be impactful but in an amicable way without fighting”.

- **2020 Provincial Conference**

We have invited the Archbishop in our conference in 2020 hence the dates are on the 2nd week of October (07th – 11th October 2020). His office accepted the invitation; further details in terms of Archbishop's participation during the conference will be defined in due course.

- **Junior Mizeki**

His Grace conveyed his excitement on seeing Junior Mizeki in some Dioceses and encourage the guild to continue on instilling growth in the church at an early age.

- **Bernard Mizeki Pilgrimage**

The Archbishop will be attending the pilgrimage in Zimbabwe (14th – 16th June 2018) and he will be preaching. He uttered that it is his wish to see members of PEXCO and of the guild in this Province in Zimbabwe during the Pilgrimage.

▪ **Constitution**

His Grace suggested to the guild to consider the constitutional amendments on issues where there is a clash between the practise and the constitution. *“Is it desirable as a guild to have a president who is a clergy?”*

▪ **Cannon Law Council**

His Grace urged the PEXCO to make use of the Cannon Law Council on legal matters pertaining to the guild and if possible, the guild can send the Legal Officer to represent the guild on the next CLC seating. Such requests should be sent to the CLC via the PEO.

3. GUILD’S BOOK PROJECT

Following the Provincial Conference in 2017, we have not made any progress as yet; this is one of the assignments that the PEXCO will undertake. From the previous work that has been done; the key points of actions were the following:

- The book will be about the life of the Guild not about the person – *Bernard Mizeki*.
 - How it was formed
 - When was it formed
 - Where was it formed
- The PEXCO’s views and recommendations are as follows:
 - *The Chairman will draft the terms of reference.*
 - *Dioceses must provide names of people who have a history about the guild to the Secretariat as soon as possible.*

4. PENDING GUILD’S PROPOSED DOCUMENTS

As PCM is aware that there were documents that were disseminated prior the conference with the view of discussing and adopting them during the conference were never considered and adopted during the conference as it was anticipated. The Legal Advisor is pursuing the finalization of these documents. The *Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures* were presented by the Legal Advisory Commission in the Lesotho PCM and they were referred back to the portfolio for content review. The procedures in subject includes are:

- Grievances
- Disciplinary
- Motions
- Conference Elections.

5. DIOCESAN CONFERENCES

Diocesan Conferences have convened in most of the Dioceses and new leadership was elected. Out of 21 Dioceses in the Province, 17 Dioceses have convened with two Dioceses (Mthatha in June 2018 and Grahamstown – soon after this PCM) yet to convene. Although there is no exact compulsion according to the constitution in terms of the duration at which these conference must be held; given the fact that there is only one PCM per year it might be a challenge for some of the DEXCO members joining the term halfway in terms of them understanding and aligning themselves with the guild’s program during the term.

PEXCO was deployed across the Province observing the conference proceedings and assisting during the elections and in some Dioceses chairing the electoral session. Although this was a costly adventure, which was not initially budgeted for; PEXCO wish to

highlight that it was an eye opening and desirable for PEXCO to know and understand the processes and practices in various Dioceses. A lot has been learnt during this process with some processes as a revelation while some raising concerns. PEXCO further emphasize that this was not a policing exercise but rather an oversight activity ensuring consistent application and implementation of the current constitution of the guild is upheld. PEXCO has referred some of the observation to the commissions for recourse.

6. DIOCESE OF PORT ELIZABETH

As the incoming Executive, we were mandated by the Conference to attend to the issue of the Diocese of PE election of a layperson as a President which was and still inconsistent with the guild's constitution. Once again, the Diocese of PE elected a layperson during their Diocesan Conference in December 2017. We have managed to secure an appointment with the Diocesan Bishop for better understanding on the rationale behind this act. The meeting is schedule for 12 March 2018 at 12H00. This meeting will be followed by an engagement between DEXCO and PEXCO, which is scheduled for the 13 March 2018. Only then, this PEXCO will have a progress report on the matter.

7. PROPOSED YEAR PLAN

Following the Conference resolution on reducing the number of PCM's per year, PEXCO has implemented this ordinance. PEXCO would like to bring it to the attention of the PCM that it is not feasible to have one PEXCO Meeting per year and PEXCO Meeting convening a day before the PCM. Due to availability and practically, this is not viable and the fact that the PEXCO members are dependent on their Dioceses for travelling to the PCM's.

8. SERVICE BOOKLETS

During K&K Conference in 2017 a new service booklet for the guild was launched which comprised of six languages (Afrikaans, English, Tswana, Zulu, Xhosa and Sotho). Concerns were raised regarding the translation of some languages like Afrikaans and the general sequence of the book. Up to date the PEXCO has not yet managed to get Afrikaans to be properly written. An editable version of English could not be found at the time of going print as a result these two languages could not be included on the current production. PEXCO wish to reiterate that these languages have not been excluded altogether on the book. On the next edition that will commence as soon as these languages are concluded; they will be included with an addition of Sepedi. Because of logistics, eagerness from the members and urgency of getting these books to the Dioceses, PEXCO decided to order a sum of 700 copies for now. The response from the Dioceses based on orders has been very encouraging. Books are expected to arrive any minute from now and the Dioceses will be informed once they are available. This is a work in progress and any view or opinion is much welcomed.

9. TRAINING MANUAL

The Training and Development Officers of Cape Town, Natal, Lesotho and St. Mark were tasked with language translation of the manual, which was meant to be presented at the Lesotho PCM in March 2017. The PEXCO felt that the training manual as it is now is far from being completed; there is not enough content in it and a lot still needs to be done in terms of contextualizing it. A copy of the draft manual has been circulated to the Dioceses for comments and input. PEXCO wish to state that the current document in subject has provided a very good foundation for the initiation of the manual.

10. COTT APPEAL RESPONSE

It will be implemented as per conference resolution. Treasure's report will outline the contribution made by the Dioceses to this effect and shortfalls if there any. Furthermore, PEXCO wish to matter to the PEXCO for review.

On behalf of PEXCO
Thank you.