

## Confirmation Services

December 2009



14 from Church of Christ the King of King, Nunukan were confirmed on 15th December.



40 from Christ the Cornerstone, Tarakan were confirmed on 15th - 17th December.



37 from St Augustine's Mission District, Merotai were confirmed 18th December.

## Appointments & Deployments

- ♦ Rev James Yap as Deacon-in-charge of St Peter's Church, Tenom.
- ♦ Rev Jeremiah Liew as Priest-in-charge of St Matthew's Church, Semporna.
- ♦ Rev Johnny Mailuhu as Priest-in-charge of St Andrew's Church, Tuaran.
- ♦ Rev Lim Chin Liang as Priest-in-charge of St Stephen's Mission, Silabukan.
- ♦ Rev Anderias Banabas as Priest-in-charge of St Philip's Mission, Segama.
- ♦ Rev Aaron Chang as Priest-in-charge of Logos Anglican Church, Putatan.
- ♦ Rev James Lee as Priest-in-charge of Church of The Risen Christ, Inanam & Church of Our Redeemer, Kolombong
- ♦ Rev Alwi Sanji transferred to Anglican Church in Sipitang.
- ♦ Ps Jemmie Pitah transferred to All Saints' Cathedral, KK.
- ♦ Rev Daniel Losung transferred to Church of The Holy Saviour, Labuan.

### EDITORIAL TEAM

#### Advisor

The Rt Rev Datuk Albert Vun

#### Editors

Beatrice Goh  
Cynthia Kong  
Ps Philip Lo  
Ps Stella Lo  
Ps Susan Tan  
Ps Chong Fui Yun

#### Address

Jalan Lee Tet Phui  
88000 Kota Kinabalu  
Sabah, Malaysia

P O Box 10811, 88809 Kota Kinabalu  
Sabah, Malaysia

#### Contact

Tel: +6 0 88 249296 / 245846 / 264025  
Fax: +6 0 88 261422  
E-mail: dosabah@gmail.com  
Website: www.anglicansabah.org

# DIOCESAN BULLETIN

*Rooted & Built Up In Christ*  
(Colossians 2:7)

Issue No 31  
January 2010

## Easter Message from the Bishop

The Rt Rev Datuk Albert Vun Cheong Fui



My family and I send Easter greetings to all our churches in the Diocese. May the Lord give us spiritual victory in our faith as we follow the risen Christ.

**For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:9-11**

Easter is therefore a celebration of our victories in Christ over sin, death and fear. Because Jesus has risen from the dead, it shows that His substitution for us at the cross is accepted by God and effectual for all who believe. Our sins are truly forgiven, we are justified in Christ, and now we have new life in Him. Where there is victory, there is great joy and unshakeable hope. So I encourage all our members and all our churches to shout for joy and stand firm in hope. ♦

## Children Ministry

It is repeatedly clear that the Lord expects parents to be the main teachers of spiritual truths to their children. The way to teach is not just in the classroom but in daily life. We are to "impress" upon our children the ways of the Lord. **These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deut 6:6-7.** This is the way the Lord has laid out for His people so that faithfulness to God may be passed on to the generations that follow. It is not just circumstantial that parents should be their children's primary teachers. It is stated as God's way to impart wisdom, as in the book of Proverbs: **My son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Pro 6:20**

In obedience to God's way, I am now encouraging ALL our churches to let the children attend the full Sunday Service and not just part of it, and then to apportion time after that to teach the children in children cells or Sunday Schools. It is not the best to have Sunday Schools at the same time as the Sunday

services because it gives the impression that our Sunday Worship is only for the adults. If we persist in this old way, we will end up with an ageing church - unable to "impress" worship and the fear of God to our children. We must let our children see us worshipping. We can lead in worship in various creative ways and be sensitive to children in our sermons. But we must let them see how we fear and honor God. Step-by-step, we will make this change in all our churches throughout the Diocese. I ask all our members to obey the Lord in this because it will go well with us for generations to come.

Furthermore, it has been shown in surveys done of churches, that most of the committed Christians in our churches today made their commitment before they reached the age of 13. Most of our religious and moral values are established before the age of 13. That means the spiritual life of our church in the future is decided by our children ministries in our churches today. One of our key strategies for our churches must be to invest in and to strengthen our children ministries. I will be making plans to do this with the whole of my heart. ♦

## Kokol Prayer Retreat Center Update



## Sunway Faith Academy - New Anglican Academy in the "Mission field" - Part of Sunway Faith Christian Center

The building opposite FCC which will be renovated to be used for a new Anglican Academy, a private school under FCC, to serve the local community and be part of FCC's outreach work in the Sunway area. ♦



## Dedication of Bandar Sri Indah Anglican Vision School

10th January 2010

The Official Dedication of Anglican Vision Schools on 10th January 2010 by Bishop Datuk Albert Vun was truly a glorious and memorable day. Apart from encouraging all who have journeyed this project of faith together, it also served as a testimony of the Anglican Church's commitment to the community.

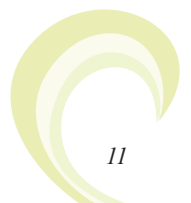
When the schools started in June 2009, 13 students enrolled into our primary and secondary schools respectively. Today, in January 2010, we have a total of 147 students in both schools; 105 students in the secondary school and 42 in the primary school. We currently have 18 teachers for both schools and 6 support staff. We are also expecting a few more teachers in the coming months.

The School gave 20 students either full or partial scholarship based on their good results. Among them, 8 are from our interior churches. We also have 19 students living in

our School Hostels with some of our teachers serving as Wardens. This is the school's effort of ensuring the EFA (Education for All) commitment to the community.

As with any new school, we need to cover for the shortfall of the operation costs. The deficit for our first year amounts to RM500,000. We also need to erect new covered walk-ways from the school blocks to the canteen and washrooms. Sound system and other fixtures have yet to be installed in the new school hall. We encourage you to give to our Scholarship fund as we are committed to help deserving students who face financial constraints. Your continuing and unwavering support for the schools is coveted and treasured.

As we share this with you, our hearts are filled with gratitude both to the Lord and to you. We realize this is just the beginning of a long journey; we need all of us to walk all the way - together! ♦



# Clergy and Pastors' Conference

11th - 13th January 2010



The Diocesan Clergy and Pastor's Conference 2010 was held on 11th - 13th January 2010, at St Patrick's Church, Tawau, under the leadership of our Bishop, The Rt Rev Datuk Albert Vun. 111 members attended the conference, including priests, deacons, pastors and diocesan support staff. The three-day conference was filled with very interest presentations, discussions and a resolution for a renewed commitment towards the ministry and vision of the Diocese.

The conference started each day in the church with morning devotion and Holy Communion to prepare the hearts of the participants. Bishop Albert Vun conducted 2 sessions of retreat whereby he challenged the participants to exercise faith and to enlarge their faith.

Following the retreat, the remaining time in the conference was spent on discussion about statistics, housekeeping and pastoral matters. One of the main topics is on the challenges and hope as our Diocese enters into a new season. Bishop highlighted the challenges facing the clergy and staff and stressed the importance of moving forward with vision, hope and courage.

The conference ended on a high note in the closing challenge where Bishop reminded everyone not to forget that the anchor of their ministry is love. The clergy and staff were encouraged to return to their respective church to love God and love the people in their church. ♦



# Christ the King - New Priest House

We thank God for the church of Christ the King that has recently purchased a house in Kingfisher Park for the priest stationed there. ♦



# Tenom's New Church in Town!

For over 20 years, only people with their own vehicles were able to make it to the existing church building, situated remotely up on a hill away from the Tenom town centre, for services and ministry work at the church. After much effort and prayers, we thank God that the congregation there has finally found suitable premises in town for the church. Renovation works have begun, expecting to be completed by late May 2010. God willing, the church services will begin in early June 2010. Rev James Yap will be sent as the first resident priest to be based in Tenom. He will also look after 2 other outstation churches in Lagud and Lalang. Let us pray and support the beginning of a new chapter for St Peter's Church in Tenom. ♦



# Eagles Leadership Conference 2010

(5th - 7th August)

Contact the information counter at your church to get your registration forms or you can also download them at: [www.anglicansabah.org](http://www.anglicansabah.org)

# Consecration of Membakut Church - St Andrew's

14th March 2010



A new church, St Andrew's, Membakut, was consecrated by Bishop Albert Vun on Sunday, 14th March, 2010. 115 people attended the consecration and communion service which was followed by lunch for all. All glory be to God! **"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain."** (Psalm 127:1-2) ♦



# Youth Vocation Camp (BM - Telupid)

25th - 29th January 2010



Praise God, the Diocesan Vocation Camp 2010 for our BM-speaking school leavers was held successfully from 25th – 29th January 2010 in the Valley of Blessings Training Centre in Telupid. 82 participants from all over the Diocese attended the camp. Most of them were waiting for their SPM/STPM results. There was a working group who either left or resigned to join this camp. 10 of them offered themselves for short term ministry exposure. They were interviewed and commissioned (mainly to the Interior churches) by Bishop Melter on the last evening of the camp. They will return to VOB on 1st April 2010 for further assessment. The rest of them were commissioned to serve in their respective churches. ♦

# Sipitang New Land



# Moore College External Studies Intensive Course

15th - 30th January 2010

The Moore College External Studies Intensive Course (MCESIC) is implemented as one of the training courses in our Diocese to equip the Diocesan workers and ministers.

With strong mobilization among the churches, 54 students enrolled in the 1st and 2nd Modules of the MCESIC (11 Eng, 4 Chi & 39 BM). Most of the students were made up of our full-time workers while the rest were our Lay Readers from various churches.

Students are required to complete 18 Modules in 3 years (6 modules each year) in order to achieve the Certificate in Theology from Moore College. We began with the first 2 Modules this year, namely 'Introduction To The Bible' (for Eng, Chi & BM) and 'New Testament 1' (Eng & Chi). Introduction To The Bible gives an overview of the entire Bible. It shows how the messages of the Bible unfold God's salvation, judgment and His grace upon His creation from the beginning to the

end. New Testament 1 particularly looks at the Gospel of Mark. Rev Yong Thiam Choy, Rev Tan Chor Kee, Ps Lydia Chang, Ps Chong Fui Yun and Ps Grace Thien were the tutors for these 2 Modules.

The teaching sessions or tutorial classes for each Module were conducted for 5 days from 9am-5pm. Students were given 1 day of revision before the examination on the 7th day to complete one Module of the MCESIC.

The MCESIC has greatly benefited our full-time staff. Students learned with a great sense of interest and were very inquisitive during tutorial. We trust that the MCESIC will greatly impact the ministries in our churches.

The Diocese will start the enrolment for the 3rd & 4th Modules in March. The tutorial classes will begin in August. Subjects for the 3rd & 4th Modules are 'Old Testament 1' and 'Prayer Book' for English, Chinese and BM. ♦

# Provincial Synod in Singapore

2nd - 4th February 2010



# Youth Vocation Camp (Chi & Eng)

25th - 28th January 2010



**Third row from left:** Samuel Chong, Tai Cheh Sheng, Yansen Agustinus, Benedict, Mitchell Chong, Christdee, Samson Jethrow, Jeremy Ng, Julian, Terry Kong, Samuel Loh, Clement Chong, Paul Tan, Raymond Koo. **Second row from left:** Elaine, Yvonne, Michelle, Rebecca, Zerwion, Sapphire, Shen Ling, Jaclyn, Liew Mei Ying, Winnie Chong, Rosmee Aming, Sharey Kong, Chynthia Lo, Victoria, Ida Nyap, Connie Tai. **First row from left:** Cynthia Kong, Rev James Yap, Rev James Lee, Bishop Datuk Albert Vun, Archdeacon John Yeo, Rev Timothy Sng, Ps Fong Soo Jean, Rev Eric Ling.

We thank God for the 32 participants who signed up for the camp. Out of these, 6 responded to serve full-time in their respective churches. Some made commitment to go full-time upon completion of their higher education. The final group decided to serve God through their profession.

They were personally inspired and enriched through the various topics covered by the speakers, which included our Bishop who gave powerful messages during the opening and closing sessions. We would like to thank all the Priests and Pastors in-charge for mobilising the young people from the various churches, as far as FCC, KL!

Let us pray continuously as the Lord Jesus Christ teaches us in **Matthew 9.37-38: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."**

Unless we pray and seek out those called by the Lord, we will be facing a shortage of manpower. We'll reap by sowing into the lives of the next generation so that the Lord will impress upon them His highest call; we pray that they will be guided to respond appropriately towards God's mission here in Sabah and beyond! ♦

# Pastors Training Module 1

8th - 11th March 2010

About 90 clergy and pastors from all over Sabah gathered together at All Saints' Cathedral from 8th – 10th March 2010, for the Diocesan Pastoral Training Module 1. The purpose of this training is specifically aimed at training and equipping pastors for effective ministry. It is to guide and to provide the tools to pastors for powerful and practical ministry which will greatly benefit their churches and congregations.

Bishop Albert Vun in his opening address reminded all workers to be focused on the vision of the Diocese and to strive to achieve

what God has called them to do. In response to the challenge many of the pastors reaffirmed and renewed their vocation as priests, deacons and pastors of the Diocese.

During the training we were charged to continue the effort to promote Cell and Alpha ministries as effective tools for growth in our church. The most fun and enjoyable part of the training was the mock wedding and mock cell meeting. The mock wedding was hilarious, especially when the "bride and bridegroom" appeared. Everyone enjoyed a time of camaraderie and great friendship. ♦

# Ordination Service

7th March 2010



Thirteen clergy (7 deacons and 6 Priests) were ordained on 3 March 2010. The bishop preached from Ezekiel 37:1-14, challenging the clergy and church members to build a strong army for God. The service was attended by more than 900 people and ended with a celebration dinner. ♦



# Diocese Mission Trip - Rangsit, Bangkok

25th February - 3rd March 2010



The first Sunday service of the Rangsit Anglican Outreach Center (ROAC) was held on the 28th February 2010. The Eucharist was celebrated by Rev Yee Ching Wah, the Dean of Thailand. Thirty one people were present at the service which included a mission team of five from the Diocese of Sabah, new converts and helpers of the Alpha course and members from Christ Church Bangkok some of whom are considering helping in the start up of the church.

The Right Reverend Datuk Albert Vun preached from Psalm 126. We were reminded that the church in Philippi began in Lydia's house. We are starting small but we plan to be big. We need faith that as we sow, we shall also reap. Secondly, we need courage to sow. The ground may be difficult so the sowing is often with tears. We were exhorted that like Joshua, we are to be strong and courageous and God will restore our fortunes like streams in the Negev. **Psalm 126:5-6 promises that**

those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him. Lastly, God will give us the power to do God's work. We are to tap into the power through prayer. We trust that the power of the Holy Spirit will bring people to Christ.

The primary purpose of the mission team was to minister in the Alpha Holy Spirit weekend and to intercede for the work. Through prayer, the team was able to minister powerfully at the Holy Spirit weekend. We witnessed the ministry of the Holy Spirit in miraculous healings and many were convicted to reach out to their friends and relatives. In the visits that followed, three persons prayed to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. The mission team concluded their visit by praying through the night until it was time to leave for the airport at 4am in the morning.

We are arranging for a clergy from the Diocese of Sabah to visit ROAC each month to assist in the ministry.

Regular mission teams will be sent to ROAC also to support the ministry. We need evangelists, teachers, priests and prophets but we also need language teachers, singers, musicians, technicians, electricians, plumbers, handy-men, cooks, cleaners and general helpers. We can all be involved in the work of mission that is so close to the heart of our Father in heaven. The tentative dates of the mission trips for the year are provided. Speak to your priest or pastor in charge if you are interested to join a team or call the undersigned. ♦

Ps. Philip Lo (Mission Director)

**2010**  
Mission trips to Rangsit

- 13th - 19th May
- 15th - 21st July
- 9th - 14th September
- 11th - 17th November



## DON'T MISS THIS!

Release Evangelism Training (20th May)  
Effective Evangelism Training (21st - 25th June)

Contact the information counter at your church to get your registration forms or you can also download them at: [www.anglicansabah.org](http://www.anglicansabah.org)

