

September 2022 News from St Benedict's

Clergy from the Archdeaconry of Constantia were at Volmoed on retreat through the beginning of September. They joined us for chapel prayers and Eucharists, and we met with them individually for conversation about their spiritual lives and ministries.

The Brothers went with John de Gruchy for a day at the Andrew Murray Centre in Wellington, where we received a warm welcome and were graciously hosted. After sharing about our personal journeys, we enjoyed conversation together about such matters as the aesthetics of liturgy and the connection between spirituality and life in the world.

Br Roger represented the Order at our Holy Cross School in Makhanda for events on Holy Cross Day, 14 September, that included the announcement of the new principal, the very capable Nicci Hayes. He was glad to be there to experience the flourishing life on the property and in the school. It was a privilege to sit in on some of the classes and witness the teachers interacting so effectively with the students.

We continue to have interesting interactions with some of the guests who come to Volmoed. A woman was referred to Volmoed and advised to meet with one of the Brothers by someone who had been here before, which she did and which seemed to be helpful to her. She intends to return for a longer period of retreat soon. A young couple from Cape Town were looking for a monastery, found us, though Volmoed was fully booked, so found accommodation nearby and joined us for chapel prayers during that weekend. Seeming to have found what they were looking for, they say they will be back.

Br Luc returned to our Holy Cross Monastery in upstate New York in the US on 15 September. While there, he hopes to make further progress with the immigration authorities. Please join us in prayer for success in his efforts.

Br Daniel continues his sabbatical. He is well into the pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago. He continues to be blessed with experiences of beautiful places and interesting people. Please continue to pray with us for safety and good health for him.

Edwin Kriel has settled well into life with the monastic community. His sense of humour is helpful and enjoyed by the community. Please continue to keep him in prayer during this time of transition. On the right are some pictures Daniel has taken on his journey.

