

April 1952

We were very busy making palm crosses, our share being 200. They were taken up to church to the vestry at evensong time.

- 6th - Palm Sunday. We went to church for the 7 o'clock Mass. The Distribution of palms & procession was at 9.0. It looked lovely as the choir processed up with their waving palm branches.
- 7th Monday in Holy Week. High Mass in Church at 8.15. Evensong & address for boarders at 4.30
- 8th Tuesday in Holy Week. High Mass & Evensong as on Monday. Mass in our Chapel at 8.20. Father Superior heard our confession at 4.15. Confirmation candidates' 1st Conf: at 4.0.
- 9th Wednesday in Holy Week. Service as on Monday. Sultiva & Dona went off at 6 a.m.
- 10th Maundy Thursday. No mass in our Chapel but Mass at 6.20 in S. Lucy's Chapel. High Mass at 7.0 in Church followed by the ~~Spice~~ Stripping of the Altar. The girls could not wait for that but managed to get breakfast & get to school by 8.45. Our Altar was stripped by Fr. Gardner at about 9.40. He first fetched the Blessed Sacrament to Church. We stripped the Children's Altar. We began the Watch at 6 p.m. Children allowed in Chapel till 10 p.m. but in dormitories at 8.0. otherwise. Matilda arrived to help with house-work.
- 11th Good Friday. We had Matins, Ante-Communion, Reproaches & Veneration of the Cross at 8 a.m. After Matins we followed the English Missal except for Mass of the Presanctified. Next year we hope to have this also, with an Altar of Repose, if we can have Mass in our Chapel on Maundy Thursday & Easter Day. A few people came but none for the Three Hours, also taken by Fr. Gardner. Evensong at 5.30 finished the watch.

April 1952

12th. Easter Eve. "Tea" at 5.45 a.m. Then prayer time & Prime & Terce at 7.0. A busy morning as the lighting of the New Fire was at 2 p.m. Greetings after Solemn Vespers. Some sisters went to ~~Mass~~ ^{Prayer} at 4.30 p.m.

The Children's Chapel was made ready for Easter.

13th. Easter Day. Mass at Church for us Xosa Communicants at 5.30. At 5.15 we had the rolling back of the stone in the Children's Chapel. They sang one verse of an Easter hymn & then came slotted inside the tomb. We did it in darkness except for the light inside the tomb. Only the Communicants came as the others were not up so early.

At 6.45 we had an English Mass. Breakfast for the children at 7.0. High Mass at 8.30. We had Prime & Terce before the early Mass so as to leave time between the Masses.

His Prior came down to see us at about 11.30. We got ready a basket of sweets for the children, a small one for the Nuns & another for the Kitchen.

There was no Sunday School but Auntie took the girls for a walk instead. After supper we had dancing in the School Hall.

14th. Easter Monday. Mass at Church at 7 a.m. but we thought it was 6.30 & so got half-an-hour's prayer. We went for a picnic with the girls after Morning Tea. We went along the banks to a shady place by the river. Auntie, Irene & Giselda went & Sister Superior, S. Dorothy, S. Bernice & S. Datinie. We returned by about 4.30 p.m. S. M. Antony & S. Evelyn & Angela took the three 3rd year girls by car to Lourdes. They started

April 1952

- at 6 a.m., stayed the night at Clydesdale & came back the next day. We had a buffet supper in the Rm. The children danced again on Monday night -
- 15th Easter Tuesday. The five Housecraft girls started at Sister Alberta's school. They come home at 12.30 so have dinner alone at 12.45 & go back by 1.30. S. Datusi heard of her father's death. The Lourdes party had trouble with the car which brought them home late. They did not bring bread with them as was expected.
- * We had a farewell talking supper for S. Angela. S. Dorothea made two cardboard angels in a boat, for S. Angela & S. Evelyn Angela sailed on July 25.
- 16th S. Angela went off to Irene. Superior took her & took to see her off on the luxury bus. We had mass at 6 a.m. & the sisters said Prime while S. A. & S. S. had breakfast. The bus was punctual & started from the tea-room where all the passengers had breakfast. Sister Datusi went home.
- 17th Auntie went home for the week-end in connection with her divorce case. We got no help in her place except for a woman who looked after the fire on Friday & stayed until the girls got back for their dinner about 3.30. Confirmation class was in S. Mary because it began so late. Miss Saunders took the singing in Miss Alonble's place.
- 18th There was a Teachers' meeting in the evening so all the boarders joined together & danced in the School Hall. At 3 p.m. we had a sale in the Dining-Hall of Lent work & some Housecraft things. A

April 1952

number of women came to buy as well as some European workers & our girls. The best work was sold for Ovaraboland.

20th. There was a Corporate Communion for teachers at 7 a.m. in Church.

At 5.30 a.m. S. Charities started off with Mother Suphemia & S. E. Angela for 6 o'clock Mass at Tolo, breakfast on the way, & then to S. Barnabas' in time for the 8.30 Mass there. S. Charities had a bad head but S. E. A. supplied aspirin. They got back about 5.30 p.m.

There was a concert practice in the Parish Hall at 4.30 p.m. Evelyn arrived - a 2nd year 1.2 B. This Novble returned from her sick leave. Auntie returned only to learn that she had to go to Tolo to see the registrar on Monday.

21st. Lizzy went off by the 8.30 bus to go home as her mother was seriously ill.

Auntie set off about 7.30 for Tolo. She returned about 9 p.m. by bus with S. Dantine.

Dr. Drewe & family went off for their holidays to their camp on the Pondoland coast.

Sister Superior was in retreat.

22nd S. Dorothea was in retreat.

Father Superior came for Sisters' Confessions at 4.45 p.m. as he goes away on the 23rd in the morning.

A wire came from Mrs. Barbara Fayin. She is coming on the 24th. Superior wired to Capt. London to see if the C.R. Sisters can have S. N.A. on May 6th.

We heard that Gupak was not coming.

23rd. Superior Food & Betty Crammoe met Sister

April 1952

Agnes Crystal at T Solo at 5.30 p.m. Her bus was early (5.20) & had already arrived when our car drove in. We got her back in good time & had a talking supper in the Community Room.

24th. Miss Barbour arrived at about 10 a.m. & after tea in the parlour talked to Superior till nearly 12.0. She said that the five girls who have transferred to S. J. B. must still remain on the register & S. Isabella must teach up there in that way the School can remain in being until June 13. She took away with her the list of Department properties & is coming again next week to say what is to happen & etc. She gave us all the things we asked for including irons & dust-pans.

25th. S. Mark's Day. S. Margaret Antony, S. Dorothea & S. E. Angela went to Umtate in the hope of meeting a prospective cook. They returned home for a late tea, S. E. A. having practised in driving on the way. Talked tea in the Community Room.

26th. Dr. Dickson took Superior & S. Dorothea to see Freddy at Naele. We started at 12.0 & got back just after 6 p.m. We had a picnic lunch near Naele. Freddy was very pleased to see us. Piet was not at home but we passed him on our way back, bringing the honey back. We took Freddy some sugar, candles & cocoa & she gave us peaches & pumpkins.

27th. Easter II.

Dr. Dickson & Sister Hope came & tea.

S. Charity & D. Fehsen & S. Datsuni in retreat.

28th. Miriam came to help in the kitchen.

29th. Fr. Superior returned from his round.

30. Fr. Superior heard the Sisters' Confessions & said goodbye to S. R. A.

May 1952

- May 1st S. Philip & S. James. High Mass at 8.15.
After Mass Superior took S. Margaret Antony
& S. Evelyn Angela & Mlookatwana & stayed to
morning tea with Ruriel Drewe. S. M. A. is to
stay there for a week. We took some better eggs.
- 2nd S. E. A. returned and picked up a postulant at
Tolo on the way.
- 3rd Freddy & Piet called & had lunch here. They
had been to Umtata to try to track down their
marriage certificate. Freddy bought an old
treadle sewing machine for £3.
- 4th Easter III.
- 5th Nellie came to the kitchen - maid & Miriam left
us.
- 6th Margaret Watkins arrived & live here.
S. M. Antony went to Durban.
- 8th Nesta & Mellicent ran away.
- 9th Dedication Festival at Church.
Father Superior came to hear the sisters' confessions
& afterwards heard the children as Father Mahlozela
was away.
- 10th The Guide Commissioner came.
- 11th Easter IV. Ann Reeves came & tea.
- 12th Superior & S. Agnes Crystal & S. Hilda Verity went
to Umtata to shop & to have a leak in the radiator
mended. We started about 8.30, had coffee at the
Lounge Cafe, divided out the shopping & finished by
12.30, got the car from the garage, had lunch in
the gardens & started back. We went off to
Lower Jungululu to find Mellicent Balive's home
& see if she were there. Her mother was out but
we got information from various relations & met
the S.S. teacher etc. They all came & expected
us to give them a service. We looked over the church

May 1952

which is rather spoiled by a crooked frontal & crooked picture over the altar. We tried to straighten them but failed.

We got back about 4.30. S.H.V. was due on night duties so got to bed as quickly as she could.

We found Delleciet waiting in S. Bertha's room.

We put her to bed in the Sick Room.

- 13th - Delleciet was examined by Dr. Nurse who proclaimed her perfectly fit. Superior took her back home arriving there at 1 p.m. She talked to the Mother & aunt through Delleciet as interpreter till 2 p.m., then gave the Mfundisi a lift to his next church & arrived home at 3.30 in time to finish her picnic lunch at home & see Father Mahlasela about the Confirmation candidates.

The new Auntie arrived with her little boy David.

- 14th - Auntie went off by the 6.30 bus to Bultworth for the final court case of her divorce. We do not know how long it will take or when she will be back.

Joan Vines & Miss Houghton came to morning tea in the Parlour & again at 2 p.m. when Superior went up to the Guest House to talk to them.

There was a meeting of heads of hostels in Father Gardner's office at St. Joseph's about the raising of fees.

It was agreed to raise all fees to £1.00 per quarter in July except that the apprentices at St. Joseph's would not be raised till January.

The Confirmation candidates were fitted out in white dresses by S. Dorothee.

- 15th - We were told of a water shortage especially Spring water.

- 16th - The Mother's Union arrived for their General Meeting.

May 1952

17th Mothers' Union General Meeting.

Weather not good so expedition of S. S & D. F. was postponed.

18th S. Charities went out with Miss Wheeler after Mass.

Rain came. During Evensong after praying for rain, the storm brought Fr. Gardner's sermon to an end. We were taken home in Miss Wheeler's jeep as we had no cloaks.

19th Rogation Day. There was a Rogation procession at Evensong. Primaries & Industrials went. J.C.s were missing.

20th Rogation Day. J.C.s went to Evensong but there was no procession.

21st Ascension Eve. All went to Sung Evensong. Father Superior heard the Sisters' Confession. Vespers at 6 p.m.

22nd Ascension Day.

There was High Mass at 8.30 a.m. Most of the Communicants made their Communions.

At 11 a.m. began a Concert which lasted with dinner-hour break till 5 p.m. In the morning there was a lecture by Miss Wood from Umatla on Staff Notation - very good - given in Xosa with short English explanations & another lecture upon Drama which was more suited to teachers than children & the lecturer was put off by the need of an interpreter. The choir sang 'Hail Judaea' from Judas Maccabaeus & the School also sang. In the afternoon were the contributions from hostels & private people, some good, some bad. S. Mary's acted a sketch which they did very well. It was taken from the paper 'Ixilongo' & was very moral. They also did Country Dancing. In all this they had been coached by Sister Benta.

May 1952

In the ^{evening} afternoon there was a Film Show for the girls. We gave it them for an Ascension Day treat. Some of the Confirmation candidates made their confession in the afternoon.

23rd Empire Day not recognized any more as a public holiday.

S. Dorothea was in retreat. Confirmation candidates confessing completed.

24th Confirmation Day. Our candidates were in retreat at C.S.I.B. They went up for Mass at 7 a.m. There was a practice in Church at 11 a.m. Taken by Father Mahdassela when they were given their places & their towels. It lasted till 1 o'clock. The Confirmation was at 3.30 & veils were put on in the school at 2.30. S. Dorothea, D. Fehsen, Sister Superior & S. Bertha were in charge of that. The candidates went into Church in time for Evensong at 3 p.m.

Boys & girls were confirmed together & the Father Superior disapproved of what he heard of it. He was away taking a retreat at All Saints.

The day-girl candidates slept down here in the empty dormitories & hut.

25th First Communion at 8.30 a.m.

The candidates here assembled in the dormitory hut to have their veils put on — the rest in the school. After Mass they came back here & we fed them with bread & jam & sweets. In the afternoon our three had a tea party in S. Mary.

S. Datusi & S. Charity were in retreat.

Auntie returned from her case at Butterworth having lost it.

Catherine Mary King (Helen Datusi's baby) was baptised at Evensong at Robertson, C.P.

May 1952

- 26th Miss Barbour came in the morning & saw the Department things in the Cookery Room.
Superior took Auntie to Tolo to see the Asida Magistrate who explained that the children must be given up to the husband & that an appeal against the decision of the Court would cost up to £50.
- 24th Superior was in retreat.
Auntie II & David went home.
- 28th Donald & Eileen went to Umtata.
- 29th We had a day's shopping in Umtata to book seats in buses for three sisters' visits.
- 30th Union Day. We had a hostel picnic up the mountain at the second 'bush'. S. D. painted & sketched. Some of the children went to the top of the mountain; Father Superior went to see Auntie's father-in-law at Mankatwana.
- 31st S. Hilda Venety's Profession Day. She & SAC went out in the car with picnic lunch.
- June 1st Whitsunday. Masses at 5.30, 6.45 & 8.30. We made our Communions at the Xosa Mass at 5.30. Superior took Auntie & fetched her children.
S. D & S. E. went out with Miss Wheeler who were latter from Portwarzo to Lower Jurgelube to Sunday School.
- 5th S. A. C. in retreat, Mothers' Union meeting.
Hospital Committee meeting.
- 6th Our Rummage Sale at 3 p.m.
Miss Preston was in retreat. Minnie Drowe came to stay till Sunday. Films & concert in Parish Hall at 4.30 p.m.
Auntie's husband arrived & fetched the children to Mankatwana.
- 7th Mothers' Union Show & Sale at 2 p.m.
S.A.C. helped to judge the things at 12.0.
S.H. Venety in retreat.
- 8th Trinity Sunday.

Collection Number: AB1751

COMMUNITY OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN 1903-1976

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- **Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand**

Location:- **Johannesburg**

©2012

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a private collection donated to the South African History Archives and Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.

DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- **AB1751-Ca1-2-2**

Document Title:- **Log Book: Sisters Vol.2 August 1949 - February 1953**