

MESSAGE FROM THE JESUIT SOUTHERN AFRICA PROVINCIAL  
FATHER LEONARD CHITI, SJ

I thank God our almighty father for this auspicious year in which we celebrate the Jubilee of St Martin de Porres Parish. The Society of Jesus is proud to be associated with the life and ministry of this parish. Over the years, the Jesuits who have lived and worked here have reported growth in their vocations and in their faith. They have found this parish to be a home and a space where our Catholic is alive and lively.

Having assumed the role of Provincial for the new Province of Southern Africa, it is my singular honour and privilege to be part of these celebrations and to pray that our Lord Jesus will shower abundant blessings on this community of faith and continue to provide the graces we all need to be his servants of his mission.

The Society of Jesus in the new province further looks forward to continued collaboration in ministry between the Jesuits and members of your parish. In the next several years or so we are committed to journey together in the following ways:

1. Showing the way to God through the spiritual exercises and discernment
2. Walking with the poor, excluded, marginalised and those whose dignity has been violated in a ministry of reconciliation and justice
3. Accompanying the youth in a quest for a hope filled future
4. Caring for our common home.

In this Ignatian year which begins with the commemoration of the event at Pamplona in 1521 when Inigo of Loyola was seriously injured in battle, we are reminded of our origins. That life changing experience in combat set in motion a conversion process that culminated in the foundation of the Society of Jesus. This year is a fresh opportunity for all members of the Ignatian family to touch base with our roots. The commemoration will culminate in the celebration of the 400 years since the canonization of St Ignatius of Loyola.

During this time, we pray for the grace to 'see all things anew in Christ.' I hope that you will join us to share in the way and manner God is calling us to be his servants both in the new province as well as vocation as servants of Christ mission.

Fr Leonard Chiti SJ

*Provincial*

**Jesuit Province of Southern Africa**