

pay off the debt on the Rectory; Quiet Days, Parish Days, and weekly Communion services were initiated; and a new church was built in the location in Nylstroom, St Stephen's. (It is noteworthy that Charles and Colin Baber must have been two of the Lay Readers; since 1966 their names appear in the Service Register for the Vaalwater/24 Rivers/Ellis Ras areas more than 87 times). Three children (Angela, Valerie and Patrick) were born to the Verryn family before they left Nylstroom for Pietersburg towards the end of 1966.

From that time we were without a priest but Rev. Ian Carrick conducted services until Rev. Frank Hartwig was inducted on 5/8/67. He married Muriel (a nurse from Jane Furse) and it was typical of their hospitable attitude that they spent their wedding cheque from the parish on "tea cups and an urn so that the Parish family could meet at their home", which they hoped would become the community centre of the Parish.

During Rev. Hartwig's stay in Nylstroom, in 1968 the Rectory was cleared of debt and blessed; a daughter Clare was born; new kiasat pews were installed in St. Michael's; and in 1969 Mary Davidson was made a member of the Order of Simon of Cyrene, in recognition of over 70 years of loyal service and worship in the Waterberg. Financially 1969 was a historical milestone, as it was the first year in the church's history that it met all financial commitments without support from the SPCK.

Another milestone was the ordination on 10/10/71 of Norburne G. Kirby, a retired bookkeeper at Naboomspruit, to the office of Auxiliary (self-supporting) Priest - another "first" for the Waterberg. He was appointed Assistant Priest in 1972 and took services in the Parish when the Hartwigs left for Bloemfontein at the end of that year.

In May 1972 the Parish purchased the land on which the church and Rectory of St Michael's Nylstroom stands, from the State, for R7000.

Rev. John Hannah arrived in the Parish in 1974; he began to hold European services for the first time at Ellisras in the home of Mr E. Gill (whose service to the Parish in connection with transport, purchase of Parish cars, and maintenance, was mentioned in minutes for the next 10 years). During August 1974, a Christ Healing Fellowship Mission led by Rev. Don Martyn was to have far-reaching consequences. Because of their contact with Mr G.W. Pitout, Linga Longa later became the headquarters of the Christ Healing Fellowship on 1st February 1977 under the able leadership of Eddie, Joyce and Thelma Lerwill. The whole Parish has been greatly blessed by having this caring community in our midst; their influence (non-racial, undenominational) has spread throughout South Africa, as a result of their healing missions. Before Rev. Hannah left in 1975, the new form of service Liturgy 1975 was introduced.

8. Michael Nuttall: 1976-1981 and 9. Richard Austin Kraft : 1982 -

There was no Priest-in-charge of the Waterberg Parish from 1975 although Rev. Norburn Kirby and his wife Molly moved into the Rectory in Nylstroom and continued as Acting Rector till 1977.

Rev. Theo Schmidt came at the end of 1977 with his wife Val (who held the post of Parish Secretary for 8 years) and teenage children Alan, Vanessa and Ingrid. Fr. Kirby went to Louis Trichardt the same month.

During the next 8 years the Church Hall in Nylstroom was built; a system of tithing Parish income was introduced; weekly Bible studies began in most centres; and after the death of Re. Don Martin, Rev Schmidt was made Warden of the Christ Healing Fellowship. The Chapel of the CHF was built and consecrated in 1980. Fr. Denis McConnell in 1981, and Rev. Michael Hall (1982) assisted in the parish, being accommodated at Linga Longa by the CHF.

Rev John Ruston was consecrated Bishop-Suffragan of Pretoria in/...