



Founded by  
Mrs. Elizabeth Townsend  
May 1874 and established  
1 January 1875

**MOTTO**

*'Bear one another's burdens; so as to fulfil the law of Christ.' Gal 6:2*

**WORLD EXECUTIVE TEAM**

- President: Ms Thembeke Pama
- Vice President: Lay Canon Val Gribble
- Treasurer: Ms Nokwanda Benya
- Coordinator: Ms Bekiwe Gijana
- Secretary: Ms Pumeza Magona
- Youth Officer: Ms Kundai Matikiti

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Website: [www.gfsworld.org](http://www.gfsworld.org)



: GFS Worldwide

From World President: Thembeke Pama

Greetings from the warm and sunny New York, which is one of the states I am visiting before attending the GFS US National Assembly taking place in Pennsylvania from 30 June to 6 July. It has been such a pleasure being hosted by the different leaders and other members who are great supporters of GFS within the US. Thanks to Lois and Margaret and their hardworking team for the wonderful itinerary whilst visiting the country. Let us keep them in our prayerful thoughts as they will be deliberating on issues of interest and how to grow GFS in their country under their assembly theme: Grow in Action & in Love.



This quarterly newsletter has a bit of a twist as we have prioritized the GFS World Council 2020 matters and brought them to the front of the newsletter as there are deadlines that need to be taken into consideration. As communicated with the leadership in the June Presidential Chat, we are starting the countdown to the World Council in South Africa. We would really appreciate that these dates get disseminated as soon as possible to members especially the World Travel Grant form which closes on **9 July 2019**. Please bare in mind that we are aware that travel agents might not have the actual cost for the travel dates at the moment, please do get an estimated cost for the return trip to Johannesburg (OR Tambo International Airport or Lanseria International Airport). Our preferred airport of arrival, which is more central, is the OR Tambo International. We are



also arranging shuttle service from Pretoria and Johannesburg train station for those who would be traveling by train or bus.

During the month of May I visited the Democratic Republic of Congo where a new branch has been formed. It was such a wonderful launch and commissioning service of the GFS National President Ms Ursule Tshama Mbuyi of Katanga Diocese and Ms Clementine Bolangi the Diocesan GFS President from Kisangani Diocese. God's blessings to Ms Phyllis Yambayamba, the Zambia GFS National President who also joined the service of 400 new members. Bishop Mwale Subi Bertin presided over the service.

We thank God for his grace and the people of DRC Congo for the enthusiasm they have shown in growing children in the love of God and guiding them to be the model citizens of their country.

Thank you World Executive for your continuous support.

Until next time, remain blessed. *Jhembeka*

### *Editors Note*

Peace be with you

We are in the middle of winter and climate change is really showing its ugly head through the very cold weather that we haven't experienced before. It might be just me as I have relocated to my hometown which I left 24 years ago, so I might be struggling a bit to adjust.

Elections have come and gone. We thank God for the positive spirit of the people of South Africa though others have lost faith in our government and opted not to exercise their right to vote. It was the most highly contested election, with 48 parties at National and varied between 9 and 28

parties across the 9 provinces. We have seen a higher number of youth members being sworn in as members of parliament for the first time in the history of our 25 years of democracy and the 6<sup>th</sup> Administration.

Thank you to all countries that have submitted their reports and beautiful photos. We have taken the liberty of choosing one or two photos per event from each country and we will forward others to our website administrator to load them and be available online. All submissions for next newsletter are to be submitted between 16 August and 01 September 2019. We are extending the date as most countries submit their reports a week or so before the publication date.

**It would be helpful if the GFS National Presidents collected the GFS World Conference Fees from their members and sent one wire transfer with all the funds with a list of names, instead of having each individual send their own wire transfer.**

Here are the most important deadlines that are mentioned by the President that we need to take into consideration:

- GFS World Council Travel Grant – **09 July 2019**
- 2020 Pat Franklin Foundation – **31 August 2019**  
<https://gfsaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Pat-Franklin-Foundation-Application-Form-2019.pdf>
- Initial World Council 2020 Conference Fee Deposit – **31 October 2019**
- Application to become Host Country in 2026 - **09 January 2020**
- Short/Long Term World Project (2020 – 2023) - **09 January 2020**
- Final World Council 2020 Conference Fee payment - **31 March 2020**
- World Council 2020 D-Day – **9 July 2020**

*Lots of Love - Jumeza*



**GFS WORLD COUNCIL  
9-19 JULY 2020  
SOUTH AFRICA**



**WORLD COUNCIL JULY 2020 INFORMATION SHEET**

If you intend to register to attend World Council in South Africa you should read this Information sheet carefully.

**REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON 31 OCTOBER 2019**

World Council will be held at ATKV Klein Kariba Lodge, Bela-Bela which is 1-hour drive from Pretoria and 1.5-hour drive from Johannesburg. The website is <https://klein-kariba.co.za>. *No enquiries are to be made to the Conference Centre. All enquiries are to be made through Pumeza Magona – [gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com).*

**1. TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS:**

All delegates are expected to either land at OR Tambo International Airport; Lanseria International Airport (domestic), Johannesburg Park Station and Pretoria Station. Shuttles will be arranged based on arrival times at these various arrival points and taken to Emseni Christian Centre. *(Please see NOTE 13 for detailed information)*

**2. TO REGISTER:**

Complete the paper-based form and return via e-mail with copy of your **Passport** and or **Identity Document** to [gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com).

**3. COST OF COUNCIL:**

Total cost of Council is R13,500 (South African Rand). Deposit of R5 500 must be paid before 31 October 2019 to enable registration to be accepted. Second payment of R8,000 due by 31 March 2020 (or full payment can be made at registration).

**4. APPROVAL FROM YOUR COUNTRY LEADER**

Your country leader must sign the Registration form and/or send an email/letter to [gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com) confirming that you are a GFS member.

**If you are under 18** – you require the approval of your country leader along with your parent/guardian to sign the form and provide the details of the person who will be responsible for your care while you are at World Council.

**5. BANK ACCOUNT DEPOSITS:**

The GFS World Account details are on the form and you can organize a bank transfer. Make sure that you describe your payment as **SURNAME WC2020**. It is important your surname comes first as often banks truncate this information.

**6. PAYMENT DETAILS:**

*Name of Ac Holder:* GBFS-ACSA  
*Bank Name:* First National Bank  
*Account Number:* 625 374 988 19 Centre  
*Branch Name:* BALFOUR PARK  
*Branch Code:* 212217  
*Swift Code:* FIRNZAJJ

*Physical Address:*  
FNB Balfour Park  
Shop 229, Balfour Park Shopping  
Athol Road, Highlands North  
Telephone Number: (+27 87) 5759404  
Email address: [info@fnb.co.za](mailto:info@fnb.co.za)

## 7. PAYMENT BY PAYPAL:

- 7.1. <https://www.paypal.com/webapps/mpp/send-money-online>
- 7.2. Click on send money
- 7.3. Click pay for goods or services
- 7.4. Enter e-mail address: [gfsworldsecretary2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsecretary2020@gmail.com) and press enter
- 7.5. Insert amount in US Dollars
- 7.6. Below that enter your Surname and Initials – WC2020 and press continue
- 7.7. Confirm transaction

**(Once we have received the money and converted to SA Rands, we will advise you of your balance).**

## 8. REFUND POLICY:

1. Deposit paid only	Cancel by 31 March 2020	Refund of deposit less R500
2. Full payment made	Cancel before 30 April 2020	Refund whole less R500
3. Full payment made	Cancel before 30 May 2020	Refund of 75% of full payment.
4. Full payment made	Cancel up to commencement Of Council	Refund of 50% of full payment
<b>No refund will be paid to anyone who does not attend Council and has not advised that they are not attending. There will be opportunity to discuss other options in difficult circumstances, particularly in relation to visas.</b>		

## 9. VISAS:

Those attending should check if they require visas to enter South Africa and to be aware of the time frames given to apply for a visa. Members holding passports from Australia, Botswana, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Tanzania (90 days per annum), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (only ordinary passport holders); United States of America (90 days per annum), Zambia (90 days per annum) and Zimbabwe. do not require visas.

## 10. TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Everyone is expected to have travel insurance.

## 11. MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Once your registration is processed you will be sent a Medical Information Sheet. This must be completed in full, placed in a sealed envelope with your name and country on the front (in large letters) and brought to Council. It will be kept sealed and in a secure place during Council. It will only be opened in an emergency and will be returned to you at the completion of council.

## 12. TRAVEL FORM:

Once your registration is processed you will be sent a Travel Form. This should be completed as soon as you have made your travel arrangements.

## 13. DEPARTURE DATE – 19 JULY 2020

### 14. PRE-ARRIVAL DAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020

- 14.1 All delegates arriving before the 9<sup>th</sup> of July to be accommodated at Emseni as a central point and will pay for the night's accommodation. 011 973 5126 [info@emsenchristiancentre.co.za](mailto:info@emsenchristiancentre.co.za)
- 14.2 Emseni Christian Centre – current price: Dinner, B&B @ R600pp.
- 14.2 Transport will be provided from the airport and the stations to Emseni Christian Centre.
- 14.3 Delegates arriving on 9 July 2020 before 10h00 will join other delegates at ECC.
- 14.3 All delegates to move from Emseni Christian Centre to Council venue at 11h30

## 15. OTHER MATTERS:

Any queries should be directed to Pumeza Magona at [gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com).



**WORLD COUNCIL JULY 2020 REGISTRATION FORM**

**FULL NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MI TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PREFERRED NAME FOR NAME TAG

FEMALE  
 MALE

**ADDRESS :**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT/UNIT #

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY STATE ZIP CODE

PHONE: (+ ) EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ ID/PASSPORT NO: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INDICATE YOUR ROLE DURING COUNCIL:**

SENIOR DELEGATE  JUNIOR DELEGATE  CHAPLAIN  OBSERVER

HOME LANGUAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ LANGUAGES READ: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY RELEVANT HEALTH OR MOBILITY MATTERS: (e.g. use of stairs, use of a top bunk bed, allergies, mobility aids, other mobility, hearing or visual considerations)

\_\_\_\_\_

LIST ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN GFS IN YOUR COUNTRY?**

(e.g. Executive Member, Group Leader. Please give a short statement regarding your GFS involvement.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON 31 OCTOBER 2019**

**COST OF COUNCIL: R13 500.00**

**2019**

**DEPOSIT: R5 500 to be paid by 31 OCTOBER**

**BALANCE: R8 000 to be paid by 31 March 2020**

**PAYMENT DETAILS:**

Payment details for World Council are listed on the information sheet. See Note 6 for banking details and Note 7 for PayPal payment instructions.

**SIGNATURES:**

Those registering to sign part 1, country leader to sign part 2, Parent/Guardian of applicant under 18 years of age to sign part 3.

**1. Signature of Applicant:**

\_\_\_\_\_ (My signature also gives/does not give permission for any photo of myself to be used for any promotion or media coverage relating to GFS world-wide and for my name to be used/not to be used.

**2. Name and Signature of Country President/Coordinator/Leader**

I \_\_\_\_\_ country leader of GFS in \_\_\_\_\_  
**FULL NAME**

agree that this applicant is a member of GFS in the BRANCH of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE**

**3. Signature of Parent/Guardian: (for applicants under 18 years of age as at 9 July 2020)**

I \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the 2020

**World Council in South Africa and nominate**

\_\_\_\_\_ as the adult responsible for the care of my child during this event and give/do not give permission for a photo of my child to be used and named for any promotion or media coverage relating to GFS Worldwide.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN** **DATE**

Please carefully read the Information Sheet which accompanies this registration form.

**This form is to be forwarded to the World Secretary: Pumeza Magona - [gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldsec2020@gmail.com) by 31 October 2019.**





**WORLD COUNCIL 2020 APPLICATION FOR TRAVEL GRANT**

The following clauses from the GFS World Rules relate to the Travel Grant

**6. World Travel Fund / Grant**

- The World President will be responsible for promoting and managing the World Travel Fund and seeking monies to assist with the travel costs for delegates to attend World Council.
- Only one delegate from any country seeking assistance will be supported with a grant and only to the level of funding as decided by the World President.
- Applications to the World Travel Fund should be made in writing via the application form (appendix 4 and printed below). The closing date for applications is one calendar year prior to the World Council meeting. It is not necessary to name the delegate at this stage.
- Where possible all applicants to the Travel Fund will be advised within six months prior to the World Council Meeting. Grants will be made available at the discretion and timing of the World President.
- Tickets may be purchased by the host country or monies submitted to the applying country.
- Tickets should be purchased in advance in order to receive the most economical rate.
- Grant funds will only be made available to the delegate once they have registered and paid a deposit for the World Council.
- Delegates receiving a grant will be required to seek the most economical route of travel.
- The grant will only be available for the most economical air, train/bus travel costs. The delegate must meet the financial costs associated with attendance at the World Council (e.g. registration, accommodation, etc.).
- Each delegate is strongly encouraged to have travel insurance. In the event of the delegate not being able to attend the Council, any monies received from the cancelled travel should be refunded to the World Travel Fund.

**APPLICANT:** .....

**COUNTRY:** .....

**SIGNATURE:** ..... **Country President/Leader**

This form is to be accompanied by the following:

- 1 A quote from a Travel Agent for travel from the home town of the Delegate to Johannesburg, South Africa.  
Return to World President [gfsworldpres2020@gmail.com](mailto:gfsworldpres2020@gmail.com) no later than 9 July 2019.

## COUNTRY NEWS – Honduras

**Our gratitude:** We thank our Lord for the GFS Program in the diocese of Honduras for our girls who are growing in his grace his love and in his word. During 2017 to June 2019 we have been working with 4 branches of GFS, in each of them the coordinators are responsible for working with girls both in the formation of values as well as in the knowledge of the word of God to guide them in their daily walk. The four branches have continued with their lessons in Christian education, learning much more from the word of the Lord.

**San Juan Evangelista Church from Colonia Villanueva en Tegucigalpa - 15 members**



**San Miguel Arcangel - 7 members**



**Cristo Redentor - 5 members**



**San Pedro cerca del Rio - 7 members**



### Major highlights and joys:

#### **At the congregational level:**

- ❖ Our branches meet twice a month to pray together, learn more about the word of God through biblical stories, dramas, as well as share a time of fun among them, strengthening their bonds of friendship. They also carry out activities to help their neighbor fulfilling their verses with the motto of Galatians 6: 2.



- ❖ Collect food in their congregations to give to a family in need in their communities.
- ❖ Making cards with a message of hope and love and give these to patients during a visit to a hospital, and nurses thank you cards for their service and love.
- ❖ Visits to the sick.
- ❖ Greeting cards to the dads and moms in their day.
- ❖ Prayer time at each meeting, celebration of the day of prayer, once a year go out to the streets to pray for the people who are walking or in their vehicles.
- ❖ At least once a year they participate in retreats in their congregations.
- ❖ Twice a year all the branches meet to learn a new theme, share together through dramas, songs, time of worship and praise.

### Activities at the diocesan level:

In May of 2018 there was the first diocesan revival attended by our President Bishop and our GFS paraded with their banner, they were very proud to be present in this blessed event.



- ❖ Celebration of Earth Day in the month of April.
- ❖ The girls of the different branches participate as a team in the events called: "Happening" and "New Beginnings" for this event they are preparing their selves for 3 to 4 months.



Figure 1 New Beginnings 2017



Figure 2 New Beginnings 2018



Figure 3 New Beginnings 2019

### OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- We meet with the coordinators every 3 months to plan the work for that period, they provide quarterly reports.
- We have met with the other branches to have a time together sharing the word of God with the knowledge acquired, their experiences of serving the neediest and also having a time of fun.

### Major challenges: Main activities carried out in the planning of the triennium:

- ❖ We continue promoting the program with other clergy so your girls can be a part of this blessed program.
- ❖ We also pray for the most vulnerable people around the world, for those who have suffered losses due to hurricanes, persecuted Christians, victims suffering oppression, hunger, injustice and for the peace of Honduras.
- ❖ We are preparing the next regional GFS meeting where will invite girls from a new congregation and introduce them this ministry. We plan to do it outside the urban area and have time to admire respecting and valuing mother nature and our environment.

**SHARING**

Thank you Lord, for your presence midst of us blesses all women and girls who are part of this ministry.



**PRAYER TIME**



*With gratitude, Rev. Canon Connie Sanchez+ - Honduras Diocese.*

***South Sudan***

Dear President and GFS Worldwide, greetings to you in the mighty name of our Lord and savior Amen! We would like to register our sincere thanks to the Almighty Lord for his love to us, and would like also to say thank GFS worldwide for your prayers for GFS around the world, under the leadership of madam Thembeke the worldwide president and her encouragements to South Sudan GFS. Below are the photos of GFS Yambio. We are planning to open another branch and request a launch afterwards.





*Thanks, Amb. Mama Aida Wandé*

### ***Papau New Guinea:*** Popondota Diocese

PNG has been hit by heavy rains which have caused flooding and landslide during the past few months. The Diocesan Bishop, Rt Revd Lindsey Ihove assisted us with transport to visit the children's wards that were affected by the heavy showers. This mission was led by our Diocesan President Vivian Jirega, her secretary Mouna Inivi, branch leaders and the members of GFS. GFS members brought gifts such as small children's clothing, toiletries, and prepared lunch. BFS played a couple of praise and worship songs followed by a prayer by one of the branch leaders. Scripture reading from Isaiah, 58.1-12 was read out and shared by diocesan President Vivian Jirega. After the sharing of the word GFS members went in to two groups and visited the children's bed, spoke to them and gave guidance followed by a gift. Carers and parents of the children were very happy with the visit. One of the parents openly spoke on behalf of the children's ward and thanked the BFS and GFS members for the visit. The day was closed with prayer by the secretary.

With much love and prayers PNG GFS Secretary. Mouna Ijivi.

### ***Democratic Republic of Congo***

The Democratic Republic of Congo has been faced with an ethnic violence between the Hema, who are cattle herders and Lendu, the agriculturist for more than a decade and there is United Nations Peacekeeping Force stationed within the country as tens of thousands of people had been killed.



Within that conflict between the two, we managed to give certificates to 150 ladies who completed their training on sewing. The Lendus and Hemas coped very well with each other during the classes. This is very encouraging as they have learnt a skill that they can use in their life and help them to add value to their lives.

Our center has received more displaced women and children as we are facing another ituri (armed) conflict. Bunia town is la vile morte, which means that no shops are opened except for hospitals and pharmacies.

At the time of writing this report, 4 Lendus had been killed for revenge and the Lendus' in return have killed more people in a place called Kobu and this conflict has led to us stopping all activities as we are also faced with roads that have been blockaded. There is calm in Bunia but we have stopped the activities in the meantime.

If anyone would like to help us to build peace, please we need your support to manage the conflict between the two ethnic tribes as they blame each other for the conflict. Training the youth could be key to help us to make the two tribes understand and stop the conflict. Now we have more displaced, even in our home we have more, please we need your prayers and assistances, not just for the center, but also for our homes and the refugee camp. Anyone who would like to give us a helping hand can contact me directly or via WhatsApp on: +243 82 032 2571.

God bless

Rev Bisoke Balikenga  
The National Youth worker for D.R.  
Congo

### **World President visit and and official launch of GFS in DRC**



*Official launch of GFS by Bishop of Katanga Diocese Mwale Subi Bertin in presence of World President and National President of*

### *GFS Zambia*



*Admission of 400 GFS Members from different parishes.*

Events leading to the official launch of GFS in the Katanga Diocese.

- Formation of GFS Diocesan Committees
- Formation of local parish committees.
- Meeting with all pastors within the 4 archdeaconries, leaders of different organisations including the Youth Ministry, Mother's Union, GFS Leaders and the members.
- Received 2 volunteers – Natasha and Jessy – from Zambia on 11 May 2019. They came to assist us to prepare for the launch ceremony.
- Arrival of GFS National President of Zambia – Ms Phillis Yambayamba – 14/05/19
- Arrival of World President – Ms Pama on 15 May 2019.
- Conference with all members from different parishes being addressed by the World President – 17 May 2019.
- Holy Communion and formal launch of GFS by Bishop Mwale Subi Bertin on 19 May 2019.
- Commissioning of National Presidents, Ms Ursule Tshama Mbuyi – Katanga Diocese; MS Clementine Bolangi – Kisangani Diocese.
- Admission of 400 members from different parishes across DRC.

Thanks, and may God bless you.  
Ms Ursule Tshama Mbuyi

## *News from Australia*

In Australia we are moving into our winter and it has been cold enough for some of our people to experience their first good snow falls of the season. I live in Queensland and so here it doesn't get as cold although the place where I personally lives does get frost. Today has been very overcast and cold and my husband Ross is currently building the fire which will warm our house for the night.

I love all this as it reminds me that there is a season for everything. That God's creation is at the heart of all of this. This afternoon as I looked out over our property; with trees turning yellow and orange, I spied the first young kangaroo, they love to eat the soft shoots on these afternoons. They are now old enough to venture away from their mums and begin to explore their world.

Here in Australia we have been working to the theme; To seek Justice, to Love mercy and to walk humbly with our God. I see this too as reflecting the various seasons. There are many terrible acts of terrorism and horror being perpetrated across the world and indeed here at home for us. We think of Sri Lanka and today America. We pray that we will always be able to seek Justice, and love mercy; always preferring this to revenge.

You will see below we have had the privilege of selecting our Junior World Delegate and now hope to walk with all our world members as they prepare to gather to continue the work and ministry of GFS.

The other area we have been focusing on is Orange Day and helping, we hope, to walk with those suffering from domestic violence. It is helpful again for us all to be

reminded of the great need for Justice and Mercy as we pray for those affected in this way. We pray that they will find another season in their lives, one of hope and a promise of new life.

### **Junior Delegate**

We have chosen our new Junior Delegate to represent Australia at the next World Council. Choosing a delegate is always a decision made with prayerful consideration. Our chosen representative is Stephanie Stewart. Stephanie comes from Perth, where she joined GFS at the age of 5 and has been involved ever since. When she was a teenager she started helping at camps, Holiday Clubs, Mother and Daughter High Teas and loves the Caravan trips to the country areas. Currently she is studying at TAFE, and working full time at Miss Maud's in Perth. Stephanie loves to care for the customers she meets.

Stephanie was part of World Council in Perth and is looking forward to meeting up with friends from this council and finding ways to extend their Next Gen group in Perth, inspiring them with news of GFS throughout the world.

***(Stephanie is pictured with Thembeka in Perth, 2017)***





**Orange Days** We have embraced the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to remember those affected by violence against women. Each diocese has taken on a month to focus and highlight this issue in various ways. In Rockhampton an Orange Afternoon Tea was held on 25th May. Those attending were encouraged to wear something orange and to bring a decorated orange! There were lovely gifts given for a Multi Draw and an afternoon tea full of orange cakes and decorations. The Director of Central Queensland Anglicare, Ms Suzie Christiansen, was the Guest speaker who highlighted the frightening domestic violence statistics both nationally and in our own area and some of the work Anglicare is doing to support survivors. The profit of \$688 was given to Anglicare to assist with their work in the DV area.



In Brisbane the GFS members are collecting items to be placed in an orange basket to go to women who are ready to leave the refuge centre. The items are to help set up a new home – one that will be a safe haven for the woman and her children when they leave and hopefully start a new life.

*In GFS love and prayers,  
Reverend Cheryl*

### *Sierra Leone*

Dear GFS World,

Please find attached photos of two of our recent programs organized by the GFS Sierra Leone. The first one is our annual Fellowship Lunch which took place in May and the other is our Leaders and



Secretaries Consultative Forum which took place on the 4th June, 2019.

Though we're facing very huge challenges, but we are trying to see how we can find strategies to move the GFS Forward in Sierra Leone.

We would love to join the World Team next year, but I can't hide it, we are not strong to even send one member to the World Council next year. We really need assistance from the World Council for Sierra Leone to represent.

We need your prayers for strength because we are not going to relent.

Hope to hear from you soon.

God bless your all.

*Best regards,  
Hannah  
Sierra Leone President*

### *Rwanda*

Greetings from GFS Rwanda. We still have the good memories of our togetherness during the previous GFS African event that was held in KIGALI-Rwanda towards end of 2018.

It has been a busy time but the Lord is always good even in such moments. GFS Rwanda had a series of events and we

wish to share some of key highlights as put forward:

We had a planning session for the GFS activities to be carried out in 2019 and strategies for further outreach ministries.

We thank God the final copy of the International Day of prayer guide, the celebration of St. Michael and all angels has been shared to all GFS Worldwide



*Relaxing after developing the first draft of the World Day of Prayer guide, the celebration of St. Michael and all Angels.*

We were so glad to visit one of our GFS branches in Kigali Diocese in the Parish of Gahanga. GFS were so excited to be recognised in their church.



*Gahanga parish priest with GFS Diocesan and National presidents*

Another exciting moment is when we visited GFS in Byumba Diocese. Concrete information is that this Diocese has 308 members of GFS from 14 branches out of 50 that make the Diocese. We need your prayers to be able to reach out to the

remaining 36 branches. They have a mentor from Mothers Union who supports the Diocesan president to train and bring new members to GFS. She helps them to organise and engage themselves in different activities like weaving, knitting and carrying out peer learning activities within the active branches. During the inauguration of new gfs members, we were blessed to be with the Bishop who has the compassion with GFS.



*Jeanne d'Arc, The Diocesan president in dark blue above with new GFS members*



***Grace and Peace  
Ruth Mukabaranga***

## *The Girls Friendly (Gfs) Melanesia (Si & Vanuatu) News*



### **“Magnify Christ thru GFS Melanesia by prayer, Word and Deed”**

Briefly, The theme for this year’s training of Trainers was for us a good inspiration and is very appropriate as we gather together to learn not only about the work of the GIRLS friendly Society (GFS) but also to equip ourselves for the work that is ahead of us as leaders and Trainers, to magnify Christ to all people, through proper teaching by way of regularly talking with God (*praying*), teaching the truth of the gospel of Christ (*Word*) and acting or demonstrating (*Deed*) on how to live a godly life.

The Girls Friendly Society is a Worldwide Organisation and is a ministry in the Anglican Church and if it’s God’s plan that this ministry must spread throughout Melanesia who can be against it. Having being trained and equipped (empowered) as Trainers we must therefore reach out to all people everywhere and where we live, and bring them to the Family of Christ (ACOM) through our GFS Melanesia Work plans and Activity Programmes.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the following organizations and Communities for their friendly support to make our training programme such a success;

The Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM) for the financial support, Australian Embassy, GFS World Council through GFS Australia for funding and providing Trainers for the training, Gail

Orchard and Julie Smith from GFS Australia for your personal commitment to help GFS Melanesia, PMU Office for the Administrative support, Provincial Cathedral, Dean and the Administration staff for participating in our church programmes and the use of your great facilities for the trainings.

The Mothers Union members of St. Barnabas Provincial Cathedral for wonderfully hosting and catering work during the training, MU and GFS members in the Diocese of Guadalcanal for the great day out and invitation to take part in your admission service and field activities.

***God be with you all in your work.  
Betty Kesaka***

### *Greetings from Japan*

This is Nami Matsuzaki. I belong to Kyoto branch which GFS was started in Japan.



On 11<sup>th</sup> Feb,2019 we held the general meeting of GFS JAPAN, then I was elected as the president.

Since we celebrated 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of GFS JAPAN in 2016, we got the chance to know the history of GFS JAPAN deeply. In these days, most of the leaders of each branch are getting old, so that the power of young women is much expected. And



this time, 20s to 30s leaders were elected as the president, vice president and secretary of GFS JAPAN.

Now I work as a nurse and this is very hard work. But I would like to serve for GFS, get together with the sisters of GFS World and study and feel a lot of things.



from the left, Sayaka(secretary) Ayumi (vice president) and Nami

I pray for GFS and the peace of the world.

Nami Matsuzaki  
GFS President – Japan  
(Translated by Haruko)

*Out and about in South Africa*

**Diocese of Port Elizabeth:**

High Tea fundraising towards Provincial Conference in September 2019.



**Diocese of Mthatha:**

GBFS and their leaders participating in sports on Holy Saturday. This day is set aside every year for youth activities.



Members of GBFS as part of the Servers Guild.



**Diocese of Mzimvubu:**

Admission of new members, retreat service and sporting event.



Handwork Gifts made by South African branches for the World President on her visit to the US branches and National Assembly.

**Diocese of Free State**



**Diocese of Mthatha**



**Diocese of Mbashe**



**Preaching Scarves from Provincial Youth Chaplain**



**Upcoming events:**

US GFS National Assembly  
30 June to 06 July 2019

Mbashe Diocesan Conference  
St Matthews Parish - Mpozolo  
Willowvale  
05-07 July 2019

GBFS Provincial Conference  
Diocese of Mthatha  
19 – 22 September 2019

**Snippets from the US visit**



The World President got an opportunity to meet Bishop John Taylor and his wife who committed to fully support GFS and youth of the Diocese of Los Angeles. The GFS pull party was hosted in his beautiful home. We thank God for these blessings of GFS Worldwide. GFS USA National President warmly welcomed the GFS World President and the GFS World President program is progressing very well in USA GFS branches Thanks Lois for your love.





## GIFTS AND DONATIONS TO GFS WORLDWIDE CAUSES

For any gifts to the GFS World Emergency Fund please send to GFS Australia who hold the funds in this term. Account details below:

Account Name: GFS World Account  
Banking Institution: ANZ Bank  
Address: Shop 67, Whitford City, Cnr Marmion & Whitford Avenues  
Hillarys – WA 6025  
Code: BSB 016 494  
Account Number: 392526836  
Swift Number: ANZBAU3M

For all other gifts and payments (World Project, World Travel, World President's Travel, etc) please send to GFS South Africa

Account Name: GFS World Council  
Bank: First National Bank  
Branch: Balfour Park  
Branch Code: 250655  
Account Number: 62720797953  
Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ  
Branch Address: Shop 229 Balfour Park Shopping Centre,  
Highlands North, 2192

### For GFS World Council Conference Fees Payments:

Payment Details: Name of Account  
Holder: GBFS-ACSA  
Bank Name: First National Bank  
Account No.: 625 374 988 19  
Branch Name: Balfour Park  
Branch Code: 212217  
Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ  
Physical Address: FNB Balfour Park.  
Shopping Centre, Athol Road, Highlands  
North,  
Telephone No: (+2787) 5759404  
Email Address: info@fnb.co.za

5. Insert amount in US Dollars
6. Below that enter your Surname and Initials- WC 2020
7. Confirm transection

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