A Visit from Bishop Steve Diseko from the Diocese of Matlosane, South Africa

Bishop Steve Diseko and Brenda with Revd Cath Leighton and husband Paul

On Tuesday evening, we welcomed Bishop Steve and his wife Brenda to the Church of the Holy Spirit. Watching people from across the Diocese arrive and greet Bishop Steve as an old friend, was wonderful to see.

After a wonderful supper shared by all that attended, Rev'd Jeremy Sylvester (Team Rector of Darlaston and Moxley) who leads the Matlosane link group, interviewed Bishop Steve. Questions ranged from what church life is like in Matlosane, to how climate change and covid have affected life and ministry too. Bishop Steve emphasised the deep love and friendship he has with the Diocese of Lichfield and spoke very positively of the support and bond between us. The graveness of the affects of covid and climate change personally, within ministry and across the Diocese were very evident but Bishop Steve was so very grateful for the gift they received at the beginning of the year to financially support the Diocese and be able to provide their priests with full stipends again.

Both Bishop Steve and his wife Brenda extended a very warm invitation for us to go and visit them whenever we wanted to!

At the end of the evening, Bishop Steve was presented with a beautiful handmade 'cope' from St Paul's Church, Croxton as a gift from the Diocese which Bishop Steve was very happy to pose in! In addition, Bishop Steve was gifted a variety of well-loved stoles to give to their priests across the Matlosane Diocese.

A wonderful evening filled with prayer, love, fellowship, old friendships renewed and new friendships formed, not to mention fantastic hospitality.
A huge thank you to all who worked really hard to get the church ready and enabled the evening to flow, not to mention the clearing up afterwards too. You know who you are!

Do let me know if you would be interested in visiting our link Diocese in Matlosane, South Africa in the near future towards the end of 2023/4.

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DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD