

SACBC SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE STATEMENT REGARDING THE BISHOPS' PLENARY SESSION (14/1/92)

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference will hold its annual Plenary Session at St John Vianney Seminary, in Waterkloof, Pretoria, From 21-28 January 1992.

The Plenary Session will start with Holy Mass at 17h30 on 21 January 1992. This will be followed by supper. At 20:00 the President of the SACBC, Bishop Wilfrid Napier of Kokstad, will deliver his annual report. Archbishop Ambrose De Paoli, the Apostolic Delegate (the representative of the Pope in Southern Africa) will then address the assembly.

Five commissions, which operate under the auspices of the SACBC, will report at the Plenary Session. These are the Commission for Christian Service; the Commission for Priests, Deacons and religious; the Commission for the Laity; the Commission for Social Communications; and the Commission for Justice and Peace.

There will be a Study Day on 24 January 1992. The subject this year will be 'Our vision of priesthood in South Africa today'. On 26 January 1992 at 17:30, Khanya House, the headquarters of the SACBC at 140 Visagie St in Pretoria, will be officially opened and blessed. A small reception will be held after the blessing for invited guests.

The Plenary Session will end at noon on 28 January 1992 and will be followed by a meeting of the Administrative Board of the SACBC. A Press Conference will be held at 10h00 on Wednesday 29 January at St John Vianney Seminary.

Journalists are cordially invited to attend the opening session on the evening of 21 January 1992, the official opening of Khanya House on the 26th and the press Conference on 29th January 1992. Statements will be issued during the Plenary Session wherever this is deemed necessary.

During the Plenary Session, Mrs Elizabeth Bennett, the press/Information Officer of the SACBC will be at your service. Mrs Bennett can be contacted during the plenary Session at (012) 46 5546.