



# LOVEMUSTACT

*Partnerships for Sustainable Education*

*"Love Must Act as light must shine and fire must burn."  
-Fr. James Otis Sargent Huntington, OHC*

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## Pro-Poor



I have recently had the opportunity to present in several places and to several different people about what Love Must Act is and does. I found myself relying on an expression we don't use in the United States, but that South Africans use all the time. It is to describe something as "pro-poor." The most interesting thing about this expression to me is how much it grabs peoples' attention and stirs their imaginations, maybe because it sounds so strange to us. I find myself using it more and more.

It is, in fact, in the opening words of the mission statement of Holy Cross School in Makhanda, South Africa, our primary project. Holy Cross is a school founded to serve the poor and administered with that in mind. It's why we honor that our students do not speak English at home and so we teach both in their indigenous language, isiXhosa, and introduce more and more English, the language of economic success, in the later grades. It's why we recognize that we have to

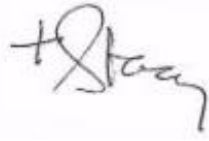
provide services in school that non-poor students might not have trouble accessing from home. Medical and dental care, HIV testing, occupational therapy, are examples. It's why we take special care to make sure our students have books, both at school and at home, which might not otherwise be there. It's why we pay attention to teaching about nutrition and growing food on small parcels of land typical in the townships.

But as much as being pro-poor is something we do for the benefit of our students, it is even more something we do for ourselves. It is, I believe, the lesson of the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Mt. 25:31-46). It is, on the one hand, a parable of judgment, and that judgment relates to how one responds to the poor. Those who give food and drink to those in need, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit those in prison are eternally blessed. "Come, you that are blessed by my Father," the king says, "inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (v. 34). Those who fail to do the same things are condemned. "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

The passage is about more than the care of the poor, the doing of right or the not doing of right. It is about much more than judgment. It is about something that goes to the very heart of faith, of what matters most. It is about how one encounters God in the flesh, Jesus (whether or not that's the name one uses). Those who cared for the hungry, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned among the least have done no less than the same to Jesus, he said (v. 40). It is the same with those who did not. They have neglected Jesus himself. It's not so much about moral behavior and immoral behavior. It is about bringing out in ourselves that which makes us most human, what I would call Jesus, others would call by another name, and some would call by no name. It is of the utmost importance not because it's right but because it makes for the fullest possible life.

The pro-poor attitude of Love Must Act is about making for the fullest possible life for all of us. It is about encountering Jesus in the flesh. That is exactly who we believe we meet in the children of Holy Cross School.

Agape,



Bishop Stacy Sauls  
Founder and President

Bishop Sauls' reflections appear on our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#).

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## Country Fair



Despite all the preparations and efforts, for a moment, it felt as though the Holy Cross Country Fair of 2023 was going to feel a little flat, with load-shedding halting the favorite attractions for two hours.

But thanks to the ingenuity of Mr. Mdu and the DSG

girls, extra, new, energetic games and challenges were soon in place!

With lots to eat and drink and do, the time passed quickly, and when the jumping castle and water slide were back up, they brought welcome relief from the heat.

THANK YOU! To all our staff and volunteers for their hard work, and to the children and parents for their support!



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## Heads of Departments!

Zimkitha Mdingi and Zanexolo Mbaso Klaas, congratulate each other on their recent appointments as Heads of Department at Holy Cross School. They will lead the Foundation Phase and Intersen Phases, respectively.

Zimkhitha is from a long history of educators. Her grandfather was a principal,



and her aunt, Pakama Mdingi, was a well know and respected HOD of humanities at Nombulelo for many years. She is passionate about literacy and has taught across multiple grades in the Foundation Phase.

Mbasa began his career as an entrepreneur in the Arts and started his teaching career in Foundation Phase on the Wild Coast. He later joined Holy Cross as a

Grade 4 and was instrumental in growing the school into the full primary school it is today.

N.Hayes  
Principal  
Holy Cross Primary  
Makhanda



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Love Must Act

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Help Love Last



We hope you might consider a gift of thanksgiving to keep the work going. Gifts may be made [here](#) or by mail to:

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Thank you.

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