

The Rev. Lubabalo Livingstone Ngewu
Canon Chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral, London

The College of Transfiguration
P.O. Box 77, Grahamstown, South Africa
ngewu@intekom.co.za



Lubabalo Livingstone Ngewu is Rector of the College of the Transfiguration, an institution that prepares men and women for the ordained ministry in the Anglican Church.

The mission of the College is to prepare learners to be Christ-like agents of transformation in the specific communities (churches) in which they will be serving on completion of their ministerial formation.

Livingstone sees that transformation to include *inter alia*, the need for those who will have received their ministerial formation at the College of the Transfiguration to work alongside the powerless and the poor in the alleviation of poverty. Ministerial formation in Grahamstown takes place against the backdrop of grounding poverty as manifested by no less than 60 percent unemployment rate in the city.

Staff members as well as students at the College grapple with the application of Christ's word in John 10:10, "I came that they may have life and have it in abundance." How can we implement Christ's words and assist those for whom life is attenuated for its least possible dimensions?

From our interaction with local communities we have realized that (1) there are no indigenous survival strategies; (2) in order to deal with poverty, some people employ unacceptable survival strategies like illegal trade in alcohol and other substances; (3) the HIV/AIDS pandemic is taking its toll among members of the community, particularly the youth.

Livingstone is running a vegetable garden on campus and the idea has been embraced by the learners who are running a vegetable garden in the local TB hospital.

It is the sine qua non of the religious sector to relieve global poverty, because Christ had a preferential bias towards the poor. We all share a common humanity and when one member of that body suffers, all experience the pain.