

Ilizwi Biblical Centre is a Divine Word Missionaries' educational institute for integral Biblical formation of ministers of the Word of God in the Catholic tradition. We envision a society holistically transformed by encounter with the Word of God.

The Synod called for a particular pastoral commitment to emphasizing the centrality of the word of God in the Church's life, and recommended a greater "biblical apostolate", not alongside other forms of pastoral work, but as "a means of letting the Bible inspire all pastoral work". This does not mean adding a meeting here or there in parishes or dioceses, but rather of examining the ordinary activities of Christian communities, in parishes, associations and movements, to see if they are truly concerned with fostering a personal encounter with Christ, who gives himself to us in his word.

Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Verbum Domini 73

"The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the body of the Lord, since, especially in the sacred liturgy, she unceasingly receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life from the table both of God's word and of Christ's body"
(Dei Verbum, 21).

"The Bible cannot be just the heritage of some, much less a collection of books for the benefit of a privileged few. It belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words"
(Aperuit illis, 4)



Location: Ilizwi Biblical Centre, 64B Plumtree Town
100 km from Bulawayo; 10 km from Botswana boarder.

Biblical - Pastoral Course for Missionary Disciples of the Word

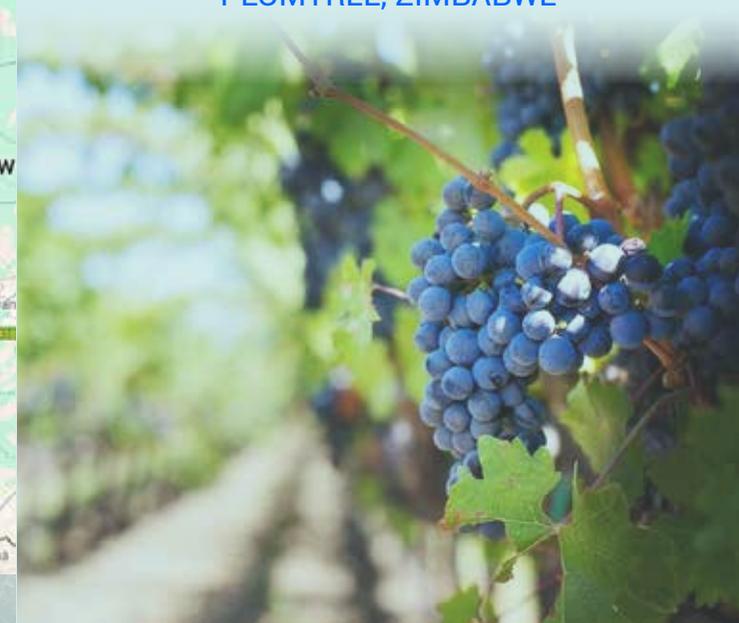


Remain in my Word
(Jn 8:31)

Dei Verbum Course

22 July - 16 August 2024

ILIZWI BIBLICAL CENTRE
PLUMTREE, ZIMBABWE



International Bible Course

Short History of the Dei Verbum Course

The original idea for the Dei Verbum course was to start a biblical-formation program for those engaged in the Biblical apostolate. The first Dei Verbum Biblical-Pastoral Course was launched on August 9, 1987, open to lay people, religious and priests from all over the world in Nemi, Rome.

As a joint venture between the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) and the Catholic Biblical Federation (CBF), 28 courses with more than 640 participants have been formed to date.

The meeting of the Biblical Pastoral Ministry coordinators of IMBISA that took place in Harare in 1995 saw the need of a Biblical Pastoral course in the region and the format of the Dei Verbum Course was adopted.

Consistently, from 1996 till 2010 the course attracted more than 500 participants from IMBISA and AMACEA regions. This success made the course to be offered in Ghana, Togo and Congo.

The goodnews is that the Dei Verbum course will be resumed in a modified form, in Zimbabwe at Ilizwi Biblical Centre in 2024. The focus is the theme of the 2024 Sunday of the Word of God, "Remain in my word" (Jn 8:31). This is an invitation to you, a disciple of today, who would like to remain united with the Incarnate Word and deepen your knowledge of the Scriptures and to learn the skills of its communication to others.

Aim: To form missionary ministers of the Word for engagement in Biblical apostolate and mission animation in the Church.

Objectives

The course looks to provide three main objectives:

(1) accompany in attentive reading and diligent study of the Scripture; (2) enable interiorizing of the Word of God, through introduction to some selected themes, daily common liturgical biblical prayer, and sharing from a mission perspective; (3) inspire to find suitable ways of communicating the Word of God in today's world. The focus is on developing practical skills and insights for service in one's local Church.



Contact Address for Applications and Information

Fr. Joe Ncube, SVD
Director Ilizwi Biblical Centre
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Who Can Apply

The course is open for all who are/will be engaged in Biblical apostolate ministry (priests, religious, and laity – both men and women). Its specific aim is the formation of missionary ministers of the Word.

Conditions of Acceptance

The basic requirements are (1) desire to study and live the Scriptures (2) basic catechetical orientation (3) good command of English. Since the course is primarily for the training of leaders in biblical apostolate ministry, the **formal recommendation** of a bishop/major religious superior/ parish priest / director of a Catholic Church institution who wants to make effective use of the participant's training for future ministry is required.

Fee

The total fee for boarding and lodging for 1 month, as well as course expenses is USD \$100 per participant. It does not include any personal expenses. Mass stipends will be available, on request, for Priests who need to sponsor participants.

Deadline for Registration

All applications must be submitted latest 15 June 2024.



Our Journey with the Word as Missionary Disciples of the Word
DEI VERBUM COURSE – ILIZWI BIBLICAL CENTRE
22 July – 16 August 2024

		COURSE	COURSE CONTENT	FACILITATOR
Week 1	22-26 July	Pastoral Use of the Biblical in Mission Animation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Enthronement • Bibliodrama and Bibliolog • Bible and Liturgy • Praying with the Bible – Lectio Divina, Lumko Methods, Bible sharing methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr. Joe Ncube, SVD (Bibliodrama Facilitator) • Fr. Emile Sebia, SVD (Bibliolog Facilitator - Togo) • Mr Raphel Zulu (Lumko Methods) • Fr. Krystian, SVD (ZCBC Biblical Apostolate) • Sr. Sithwala, CPS (Lumko Methods)
	27 July	Pilgrimage to Empandeni Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first Catholic Mission in Zimbabwe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr. Francis Bhoka (MA in Missiology – Philippines) • Mr Raphael Zulu, Sr. Sithwala, CPS
	28 July	Mass at St. Theresa Mission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Day
WEEK 2	29 Jul – 2 Aug	The Old Testament and Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Old Testament Books • The Pentateuch, Salvation history • The Prophetic mission of the Church • Praying the Psalms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr. Joe Ncube (Licentiate in Sacred Scripture – Biblicum, Lecturer at Catholic University of Zimbabwe and Tangaza University College) • Fr. Mgcini Moyo (Licentiate in Missiology – Urbaniana, ZCBC National Pastoral Director)
	3 AUG	DAY OF PRAYER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Earth: My Home, My Family, My Responsibility – The Franciscan Way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sr. Martha FMDM (Franciscan Spirituality Centre)
	4 AUG	Mass at St. Theresa Mission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Day
WEEK 3	5-9 AUG	The New Testament and Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the New Testament Books • Salvation history through the covenant • Four faces of Jesus and his followers: A comparative study of the Canonical Gospels • St. Paul and Mission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Wojtek, SVD (STD Gregorian, former lecturer at Tangaza University College - Rome) • Fr. Vincent Mwiya, SVD (Licentiate in Biblical Theology – Gregoriana)
	10 AUG	Outing to Matopo National Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr. Francis Bhoka (MA in Missiology – Philippines) • Mr Raphael Zulu
	11 AUG	Mass at St. Theresa Mission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Day
WEEK 4	12-15 AUG	Missionary Disciples of the Word of God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The theology and contextualisation of <i>Missio ad Gentes</i> in the Zimbabwean pastoral context • Empowering Evangelisation in the Digital Age • Methods for mission animation with young people and families in parishes and Small Christian Communities • Presentation of Project Proposals for Biblical Pastoral Ministry and Mission Animation by each participant in their local context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. J. Togarepi (Dean at Catholic University of Zimbabwe) • Fr. Nhundu (PMS Zimbabwe Director) • Fr. Johannes Maseko (ZCBC National Coordinator for the Laity and Youth) • Mrs Mwasangwale (Dei Verbum facilitator) • Fr. Krystian (ZCBC Biblical Apostolate)
	16 AUGUST	Departure		