



**Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality, Executive Mayor Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the funeral of Florinda Jacobs in Rustervaal, on the 07<sup>th</sup> May 2011.**

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Programme Director;  
Family & Relatives of the late Florinda Jacobs;  
Executive Mayor of Emfuleni Local Municipality: Cllr. SA Mshudulu;  
Emfuleni Council Speaker: Cllr. Greta Hlongwane;  
Members of Mayoral Committees;  
Councillors present;  
People of Rustervaal & Sedibeng;  
Fellow Mourners

It is in great sadness that we were woken up on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April to hear of the gruesome passing of Florinda Jacobs. The entire community of Sedibeng was shocked to find that we still have within our midst mindless killers who still prey on our sisters, mothers and children.

It left me totally speechless to realize that we still have jackals in sheep skins here in Sedibeng just when we thought we have turned the corner on crime in our area.

I come here bearing the condolences of the entire Sedibeng District Municipality. I hope that the family, community and friends will find solace in the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour at this hour of need. It is in his passing on the cross a few weeks ago that we have been redeemed.

In his teachings, Jesus Christ teaches us that: There are many rooms in His Father's house, if it were not so, why would he say so: In this teaching, he seeks to tell us that there is still space and room in our Father's mercy and love. God's love for all of us is without end.

He loved and loves us so much that he gave his only begotten son so that we all can come to Him. Through Jesus Christ our Saviour, we have been given the Light, the Way and the truth.

It is in Florinda's life that we have to find our way to reconnect with our Creator. She chose the path of enlightenment which very few of her peers found enviable. She chose the road less travelled. God through his eternal wisdom called her up yonder to serve from above.

It is the way she was called which will live a lot of sadness in our hearts as family and friends. Her room in our Father's mansion was ready and prepared. As we prepare to say our final rites of passage to the world beyond, the angels are singing to welcome her into the heavenly service above.

Her passing at the hands of unknown assailants, with no guile and a pure heart Florinda is assured a place in the service of God. Only the good die young we are told.

We may not have been ready for her departure to the other world. God was waiting and will welcome her home. We hope that as a community we will be sensitized to the painful aftermath of crime.

I hope that in her passing we will realize the need to find salvation in Christ the King in the same vein that it was in the passing of Jesus Christ that the entire world were brought closer to God our Creator.

To the Jacobs Family and friends, it is said in the Bible "Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted" We know that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd will comfort all of us. Let us all look up to Him for solace. He will not forsake us, he will lead us to still waters.

It is at this time that we must take comfort in the knowledge that: Even though I walk through the valley of darkness, I will fear no evil. For Lord our God will guide us. His rod and staff will protect us.

**In conclusion,** I hope and know that the perpetrators who took the young life of Florinda shall be brought to book. Nothing stays hidden forever. The hand of the law will come to bear on them. I hope that they never find rest or peace in their lives. God our Father will reveal the truth in due course.

On behalf of the entire communities of Sedibeng District Municipality, I bring our condolences and hope the family is comforted.

I Thank You.