



Archbishop Denis Hurley is pictured with a bust of himself at the St Joseph Theological Institute.

PHOTO: FILE

Paying tribute to Hurley

ARCHBISHOP Njongo Ndungane, former Anglican archbishop of Cape Town, will be the opening speaker at a two-day colloquium titled, “Community serving humanity and beyond — the legacy of Archbishop Denis Hurley OMI”.

Hosted by the University of KwaZulu-Natal’s Conflict Transformation and Peace Studies Programme, the colloquium will commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hurley’s death.

It will be held at the Innovation Centre on the Howard College campus, on February 12 and 13.

Hurley, a chancellor of the university and Catholic archbishop of Durban, was a campaigner for justice and peace.

While he was chairperson of the Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference, the slogan “Community serving humanity” was chosen to promote its pastoral plan in apartheid South Africa during the eighties.

“Ten years after the passing of Denis Hurley, who steered both the university and his archdiocese through the stormy years of transition and change, it seems

appropriate to re-visit this slogan,” says event organiser Alain Tschudin.

“To what extent do we live in community? Are these communities of service? If so, whom do we serve — humanity, sectarian interest or individual self-promotion?”

The two-day programme commences with an opening address by Ndungane, in conversation with a group of Hurley’s close friends and discussion from the floor.

Round tables follow on “Human Dignity and Community” and “Serving Humanity and Beyond”, with panels comprising academics and members of civil society organisations.

The second day features an interview conducted with Hurley shortly before his death, as well as discussions on how to move from theory to practice.

The event is by pre-registration only. Please RSVP today to Sejal Desai at 031 260 7829, 083 284 9333 or desai.sej@ukzn.ac.za, or to Alain Tschudin at 031 260 1583, 083 284 9333 or Tschudin@ukzn.ac.za. — Witness Reporter.